CIVIL SERVICE BILL A LAW.

GOV. BLACK SIGNS THE LEXOW BILL AND GIVES HIS REASONS.

He Says That the Attacks on the Bill Proceed from People in Whom the Public Long Since Ceased to Confide, Composed Mainly of the Disappointed and Unsuccessful.

ALBANY, May 15.—Senator Lexow's "starchless" Civil Service bill was signed by Gov. Black to-day. This bill was prepared by the Governor in accordance with the recommendation on this subject contained in his annual message. Its object is to secure a return to the spoils system of filling public office, such as existed before a State Civil Service law was enacted in 1883. There is nothing that can be accomplished under this new law in the way of partisan advantage that could not have been secured under the old law. The difference is that the new law directs to be done that which the politicians desire, whereas under the old law those having supervision of its operation were too cowardly to listen to the appeals of party friends.

The new act repeals existing Civil Service laws in conflict therewith and provides that all candidates for office in the State or municipal service shall be examined for "merit" by the State or municipal Civil Service Commission, upon which no rating higher than 50 per cent. shall be given to any person. Lists containing the names and ratings of all applicants found on such examination to be eligible for appointment or promotion for merit so determined shall be made up for certification to the person or persons holding the power of appointment or promotion. The minimum percentage of rating necessary to entitle an applicant to a place upon such list as eligible for merit shall be determined by the State or municipal Civil Service Commission, as the case may be.

The fitness of the applicants certified to be eligible for appointment or promotion for merit, shall be determined by examination to be conducted by the person or persons holding the power of appointment or promotion, or by some person or board designated by the person holding such power of appointment or promotion, and the rating on such examination for fitness shall not exceed in any case 50 per cent. The rating obtained upon the examination for fitness shall be added by the person or persons holding the power of appointment or promotion to the rating given to each applicant certified to be eligible for merit.

Applicants examined shall be preferred for appointment and promotion according to their standing, ascertained by adding together the rating for merit and the rating for fitness determined as in this act provided.

The law provides that examinations shall be competitive as far as practicable, and shall be practical in their character, and shall relate to those matters which shall fairly test the intelligence, competency, suitability, and character of the applicants to discharge the duties of that service for which they seek to be appointed. The State or municipal civil service commissions, as the case may be, with the approval of the Governor, shall determine when examinations are not practicable and when competitive examinations are not practicable.

Eligible lists now in force shall stand until eligible lists are secured under this new law; provided, however, that the ratings therein given shall relate exclusively to the merit of the applicants therein named, and shall be revised by the respective civil service commissions on the basis of the rating for merit as provided by the new law, and the fitness of such applicants shall then be determined by examination and their standing ascertained according to the new provisions of law.

It is provided that the new law shall not be construed to deprive any person of the right to advancement or promotion where such right to advancement or promotion is now or shall hereafter be given by law, nor of the rights heretofore secured both as to appointment and upon discharge from employment, to honorably discharged Union soldiers, sailors, and marines.

Gov. Black filed a memorandum giving his reasons for signing the bill, which is a scathing denunciation of the civil service methods practised by ex-President Grover Cleveland, as well as a terse arraignment of civil service reform theorists. Gov. Black says:

"Many wise and fair-minded citizens are opposed to this measure, but their opposition has been expressed with thoughtfulness and candor. Their opinions have had great weight with me and I am reluctant to disagree with their conclusions. The bill has also been savagely attacked by those who are neither wise nor fair-minded. These attacks proceed from sources in which the public long since ceased to confide. For this latter class I have no respect. It is composed mainly of the disappointed and unsuccessful, aided now and then by some decrepit figure who, having once enjoyed the rewards and betrayed the confidence of his party, is now and then to explain and justify that betrayal. This justification, when reduced to a sediment, consists of the statement that all public officers are dishonest and should not be trusted. This conclusion is probably natural, if based upon the character and conduct of those who reach it. The American public is long-suffering and kind, but it despises those who hope by slandering others to postpone for a day their own departure into complete obscurity.

"I am in favor of an honest and efficient civil service, and will support any law that seems likely to produce that result. The Republican party is pledged to that course, but that party not only favors an honest result, but it also favors reaching it in an honest way. The people of this country recently witnessed the wholesale removal of trusted officials in Government employ, and the filling of their places with favored friends of different political faith. This manœuvre was followed by putting the places thus filled under the protection of civil service rules. This outrage was nicknamed "civil service reform," and has been praised and justified by every hysterical assailant of this Lexow bill. This fact alone should dispose of their sincerity, for they knew it was not reform, but rank party politics under a pretense meant to deceive.

"Whatever the Republican party believes, it has the courage to admit. It believes in an honest, practical, and competent civil service, stripped of sham and subterfuge, and it has the courage to pass a law by which such service can be attained. Public duties cannot be well performed by those who possess education and nothing else. These duties are varied, important, and exacting. They demand experience, tact, character, and all those qualities recognized by sensible men everywhere as essential to first-class service.

"No man in his private business could hope to succeed if he selected his help in accordance with the present civil service rules. No man in his private business ever does so select, yet it is universally admitted that public and private business should be conducted as nearly as possible upon the same basis. Why, then, should we insist upon a rule in public affairs which we reject in our own? I have been told that the reason is that public officers cannot be trusted to select their subordinates, that corrupt appointments will be forced upon them by political influence. Men who believe this to be true are themselves weak or dishonest. But if it is true, how does the present system remedy the trouble?

"If a public officer having the power of appointment is forced to be dishonest, why would not a public officer having the power of examination be dishonest as well? Both are public officials; both are indebted to some political party for their places. To my mind it seems probable that a civil service examiner would yield to corrupt pressure sooner than the responsible head of a department. For in the case of the examiner he has no responsibility whatever and runs no risk. He may certify to the qualifications of his incompetent and low-bred friends without limit, and send them to the different departments. He pays no penalty for their inefficiency or mischeds, while, on the other hand, the head of every department is responsible for the conduct of its affairs. He is always under bonds, and the penalty for the corruption or stupidity of his subordinates must be paid by him. His own safety demands a careful scrutiny of those who serve under him.

"It is clear to me that a weak or dishonest man is far more likely to produce results harmful to the public service, if he is an examiner with full swing and no risk, than if he were the head of a department, steadied by his bond and the responsibilities of a great bureau. Heretofore the examining board has had full power to select employees and the departments have had sole responsibility of settling for them.

"I have been told, too, that heads of departments have no time to devote to the selection of help. If that is true, how do they spend their time? The selection and supervision of their subordinates is one of the duties for which they are chosen. They are supposed to manage, improve, discipline, and advance in every way the affairs of the department under them. They do little else. If they do not supervise their department to the extent of knowing the character and qualifications of their help, they fail in their most important duty. But the benefits of supervision are only partial unless accompanied by the right of selection. The denial of this right often obstructs the discharge of official business.

"Those who consult their experience instead of their prejudice know that it often happens in great departments that business is seriously hampered by the want of competent help and the inadequacy of the present system to promptly supply it, when if the officer in charge had half the right which private individuals enjoy he could improve both the character of his help and the quality of the work performed. Every head of a department not so cowed by the perennial reproach of the civil service Pharisee that he is afraid to tell the whole truth will declare that he could select better help for his own office than an examination board can select for him.

"It will be observed that those officers who are quoted as favoring the present system seldom say more than that they are glad to be relieved of the duty of selecting their subordinates. They should not be relieved, and a system that has as its highest testimonial the admission of a timid official that he is willing to shirk a part of his duty should not yet be considered sacred nor those who criticise it profane. The weakness of the present system is its failure to determine experience, tact, character, and habits, qualities without which the highest educational tests are of no value.

"This bill makes a proper and necessary modification. It gives to the examining board the right to examine an applicant as to his merit, and the head of a department the right to examine as to his fitness. The examinations of the board shall count for one-half and that of the department for the other. This will mean that the educational or theoretical examination now provided for shall be supplemented by a practical examination, to be given by the department which is in need of help, and which alone has knowledge of the particular duties, if fairly conducted, for which such help is required. Under the old system the recent graduate of the high school or college would be almost certain to be appointed. Under the system provided in this bill the practice, training, habits, tact, and manners of the applicant will be ascertained. Under the proposed method the chances of the practical man for appointment and of the public service for improvement will be greatly increased. If criticism is to be made of the words 'merit' and 'fitness,' that criticism should be addressed not to the Lexow bill, but to the Constitution, from which latter instrument these later words are taken.

"The tendency now is to concentrate power and responsibility in those holding public office. The drift of legislation in recent years has been to clothe Mayors of cities and other important officials with enlarged powers. This tendency has generally numbered among its advocates such persons as now oppose this bill. How can it be consistently urged that the power of these officers, under no pecuniary liability whatever for the acts of their subordinates, should be enlarged, while the heads of departments, responsible in every sense and in every way for their subordinates, should be absolutely stripped of the power of selection?

"The present system is neither just nor practical. I believe the Lexow bill improves it in both respects. If it does not, or if something better can be devised, I am willing to cooperate with those who will in good faith make the attempt to improve it."

MUST NOT WEAR RELIGIOUS GARB.

Public School Teachers in This State Must Dress as Ordinary Men and Women Do.

ALBANY, May 15.—Superintendent Charles R. Skinner of the State Department of Public Instruction to-day handed down his decision in the appeal of Samuel Kennedy and others from the action of the Board of Education of the city of Watervliet in refusing to require the six Catholic sisters acting as teachers in one of the public schools of that city, held in the St. Bridget's parochial school building, to discontinue the wearing in the school room during school hours the distinctive dress or garb of the religious sect or order of which they are members.

Superintendent Skinner sustains the appeal, holding that the teachers in the public schools of the State ought not to wear the distinctive garb of any religious denomination, order, sect, or society, but dress in the usual costume worn by men and women generally; that any other costume or usage is inimical to the best educational interests of the locality and should be discontinued by direction of the local authorities. The Board of Education is directed to require such teachers to discontinue the wearing of such distinctive garb while teaching in the school, and in event of refusal by the teachers to do so, to dismiss them as such teachers, and the public school funds are withheld until such order is complied with.

Liquor Tax Rebates.

ALBANY, May 15.—The State Commissioner of Excise has called on County Treasurers and Special Deputy Commissioners to forward the papers which entitle holders of outstanding liquor tax rebate receipts to payment of refund, that the same may be ready for prompt liquidation as soon as the appropriation therefor is available, which it is thought will be within the next five days. This refers to the receipts which were given for surrendered and cancelled certificates of the series of 1896. The amended law provides for the payment of future rebates within thirty days of surrender, except in cases where criminal proceedings or civil actions have been commenced against the holders of certificates surrendered.

Bills Signed by the Governor.

ALBANY, May 15.—Eleven bills were signed by Gov. Black to-day. Among them were these:

Assemblyman Garby's, prohibiting the operation of railroads on Tompkins avenue and St. Mark's place, in New Brighton, Staten Island, without the consent of a majority of the property owners thereon.

Assemblyman L. E. Brown's, confirming the appointment of Issac C. Tyson on the New York city park police force as a parkkeeper and roundsman.

Assemblyman Bondy's, imposing a State tax to raise $925,500 for ordinary maintenance of the canals during the next fiscal year.

Ex-Senator Hill Repudiates an Alleged Interview.

ALBANY, May 15.—Ex-Senator David B. Hill is angry at the words imputed to him in an alleged interview printed in New York this morning. To-day he gave out this statement:

"I had a brief conversation yesterday [with a reporter of the paper in question] with a distinct understanding that I was not speaking for publication. I was therefore surprised at the alleged interview which appears in that paper this morning. Three-quarters of it is a fake. Much of it is unobjectionable in itself, but even in that portion there are many misstatements and inaccuracies. None of it, however, was authorized by me."

THE CROTON BUG IN FLATS.

Laws of Its Distribution, Concentration, and Special Movements.

"In an ordinary five-story flat," said Mr. Flatdweller, "there might be 5,000,000 Croton bugs, which, under ordinary conditions, would be pretty evenly distributed, about 1,000,000 to a flat. But if anybody moves out, or people go away for the summer, a redistribution occurs, depending upon the number and location of the floors vacated.

"Thus, if the first floor should become vacant, the million bugs there would be distributed about as follows: Second floor, 400,000; third floor, 300,000; fourth floor, 200,000; fifth floor, 100,000. These, of course, would be in addition to the Crotons already domiciled on these several floors.

"If the third floor should move out the Croton bugs there would be distributed about like this: Second and fourth floors, about 350,000 each and first and fifth floors, about 150,000 each. They seem to stop at the first place that affords ample subsistence, and only those push on that have to.

"But the most striking thing happens when folks shut up their flats and go away for the summer. Then it is quite possible that all the Croton bugs may concentrate in one flat. If, for example, four tenants should go away for the summer, the 4,000,000 Croton bugs that had found a home in those four flats would all move to the flat whose occupant remained in town; the whole 5,000,000 would summer in that flat.

"As the people come back in the fall and get settled down and begin buying groceries and things the 4,000,000 Croton bugs from the other flats leave the flat in which they have spent the summer and go back to the flats whence they came, and this movement continues until they are all settled down again and the distribution is again about even—about a million to a flat.

"The Croton bug is not, like the roach, repulsive; it is in fact a sprightly and rather a cleanly little creature; and the manner in which it migrates well betokens its intelligence."

THE YONKERS BANK ROBBERY.

Wally O'Conner and Little Patsey Arraigned for Examination.

Wally O'Connor, the crook, who was arrested in this city several days ago charged with participating in the robbery of the Yonkers Savings Bank on April 12, had an examination before Judge Kellogg in Yonkers yesterday. He was defended by John F. Brennan, while Stephen H. Thayer represented the bank. Lyman Cobb, Jr., the cashier of the bank, was the only witness examined. He positively identified the prisoner as one of the thieves. An effort to break his testimony on cross-examination was unsuccessful. The examination will be continued on Wednesday.

Patrick Flannigan, alias Little Patsey, who was arrested in Elyria, O., on Friday by Pinkerton detectives charged with being one of O'Connor's accomplices, was arraigned late in the afternoon before Judge Kellogg. He declined to make any statement and asked for an adjournment of his case until he could procure counsel. The case was put off until to-morrow morning.

The Pinkertons declined to say whether Flannigan came on from Ohio of his free will or whether requisition papers had been secured. It would have been impossible to get requisition papers if proceedings were not begun until after Flannigan's arrest, but the probabilities are that the Pinkertons had their eyes on Flannigan for several days before they arrested him.

How to Clothe the Children.

BEST & CO
LILIPUTIAN BAZAAR

Special Things
For the comfort, health and good appearance
Of the Children,

Not usually to be found elsewhere, such as

Shoes for weak ankles,
Shoes to prevent "Toeing in,"
Rubber Boots with spring heels,
Ear Caps to correct the disfiguration of protruding ears,
Baby Bath Tubs and Toilet Sets,
Hamper Baskets with trays, for babies' first clothing,
Baby Sweaters in dainty colors,
Weighing Baskets with scales to weigh the baby,
Ironing Boards for babies' clothes,
Safety Straps for baby carriages, and high chairs,
Creeping Aprons,
Model Feeding Bibs,
Wading Drawers, etc., etc.

And by far the largest assortment of all the *usual things* for children, at the lowest prices.

60-62 West 23d St.

A SHAKESPEAREAN FESTIVAL.

Held for Charity in Lawrence Park in "As You Like It" Style.

Lots of folks went out to Bronxville on a special train yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock, expecting that some sort of a Shakespeare pie, a literary imitation of the Washington article, would be served up to them. The circulars that attracted these people to Bronxville whetted their appetites for just such a repast. Here are sections of the programme:

"A special train will put a girdle round the earth in forty minutes." "Tea will be served 'As You Like It.'" "Cicerones at 50 cents an hour will guide Prospero through the woods; chaperones at one dollar (deaf, dumb, and blind) will take Ferdinand and Miranda." "Puck and Ariel on bicycles will take visitors round the Park—'The grace of Heaven before, behind thee, and on every hand enwheel thee round.'—Othello.

"Tickets, at $2, including railway fare and afternoon tea, may be ordered by mail from Mrs. Rollins, Lawrence Park, Bronxville, N. Y.

Is that letter I bade you write sent yet?—Queen Katharine.

We wait for certain money here, sir.—Timon of Athens.

I wish your enterprise to-day may thrive.—Julius Cæsar.

And under your fair conduct
Crave leave to view these ladies, and entreat
An hour of revels with them.—Henry VIII.

For "I never did repent of doing good,
And shall not now."—Merchant of Venice.

"Therefore please send me ..... tickets."

Perhaps some one, following this delicate lure, was disappointed to find the fête something very much in the nature of a simple old-fashioned strawberry ice-cream festival, but, as the publisher's catalogue we say, amplified and enlarged. If so, it was not apparent on a single face that thronged the shaded groves of Lawrence Park, straying aside on the lawns here and there to buy an ice, a great branch of dogwood, a water color, or an autograph copy of a volume of poems. The price of admission included the privilege of seeing Bliss Carman sniff at a fresh-plucked violet and of observing other celebrities in sylvan surroundings. The cicerones, it is worthy of observance, were young Lawrence Parkers in duck trousers and straw hats. Puck and Ariel were invisible. The entertainment was for the benefit of the New York Kindergarten Association and was of material assistance to the treasury of that charity. The committee in arrangements was Mrs. Elizabeth B. Custer, Mrs. Tudor Jenks, Mrs. Wm. B. Lawrence, Mrs. Daniel M. Rollins, Mrs. Edmund C. Stedman, and Mrs. Arthur M. Wellington.

REFUSED BUSHNELL'S DEMAND.

Trustees of a Deaf and Dumb Asylum Prevent Payment of a Political Debt.

COLUMBUS, O., May 15.—Gov. Bushnell has been placed in an embarrassing position before the people of Ohio by the Board of Trustees of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, who refused to carry out the Governor's instructions to remove John K. Pollard as steward, so that he could appoint E. A. Earhart to the place in payment of a political debt.

There was opposition to the reelection of Charles L. Kurtz a year ago as Chairman of the Republican State Committee. Charles Kinney, the candidate for Secretary of State, led the opposition, and not only voiced his own sentiments in the matter, but spoke for Major McKinley and Mark A Hanna as well, who wanted some other man than Kurtz in charge of the campaign in this State.

The members of the State Central Committee seemed to be about evenly divided on the question, and to make Kurtz's election sure patronage was made to play a part. Earhart, as a member of the committee, is said to have been told by Gov. Bushnell that he would appoint him steward of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum if he would vote for Kurtz's reelection. What other promises of favors were made at this time are not known, but it is said to be certain that this deal was made with Earhart. He voted for Kurtz, who was made State Chairman.

Earhart grew impatient at Bushnell's failure to remove Pollard and insisted upon payment of the debt. Bushnell demanded Pollard's resignation, but Pollard refused to resign, leaving the matter in the hands of the Board of Trustees, which is composed of three Republicans and two Democratic members. Bushnell assigned no cause for asking for Pollard's resignation, and the latter appealed to the board to protect him on the ground that his removal at this time would be a serious reflection upon him. For the reason that no fault can be found with Pollard, the members of the Board of Trustees, with one exception, informed the Governor that they would not vote to remove Pollard, and that if he insisted upon Pollard's resignation they would also resign.

BROWN STUDENTS CENSURED.

Editors of the "Liber Brunensis" Went Beyond Bounds with Their Grinds.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., May 15.—Twelve members of the senior class, the editors of the *Liber Brunensis*, the college annual, have called down on themselves the wrath of the faculty and Acting President Benjamin F. Clarke, because they published in the '97 *Liber* "grinds" on members of the faculty and on some of the students. Good-natured drives are always expected in the *Liber*, but the '97 publication surprised and shocked part of the student body by containing a fling at one of the faculty who has an infirmity. The insult was not lightened by the apology made by the editors, who said that the "grind" was inserted by mistake and that it was cut out of the proof.

The faculty is angry, furthermore, because the *Liber* gives a wrong idea of the moral atmosphere of the college community when it says of Maxcy hall, one of the dormitories: "Epicureanism and lust make it more like a tavern or a brothel." There were jibes at students, too, which the authorities are displeased with, such as turning the laugh on a man who stutters. A Providence student, O. C. Horsman, who is a leading spirit in the religious work of the university, is pictured as having his hat kicked off by a nearly nude dancer at the "Sink," which is the college name of one of the theatres in the city.

This, the faculty members say, is immoral, and has no place in a book representing Brown University. The offenders were alarmed by being hauled before President Clarke yesterday. J. H. Deming of Beachmont, Mass., who came here from Columbia in '95, is managing editor of the board. L. M. Dashiel of Lakewood, M. W. Lyon, Newark, N. J.; A. O. Foster, Utica, N. Y., and C. B. Coughlan, Adams, N. Y., are among the culprits. The men were severely censured, and public opinion on the campus backs up the President.

The junior class has been told that a repetition of such stuff in the *Liber* next year will be followed by severe punishment by the faculty, which has hitherto exercised no censorship whatever over the student publications.

CUBA'S FIELDS IN RUINS.

193 SUGAR PLANTATIONS OF AMERICANS UTTERLY DESTROYED.

The Island's Crop Reduced from More Than a Million Tons to Less Than 900,000—A Long List of Estates Destroyed—Damage to Fields, $150,000,000; to Crops, $100,000,000.

Speaking of the possibility of American intervention in Cuba as a result of the damage inflicted upon the persons and property of American citizens there, a gentleman who is thoroughly informed on the situation, but who requested that his name should not be made public, said yesterday:

"It is difficult to give exact figures as to the amount of American interests in the island, but the value of our property there is much larger than is generally believed. As far as I know the following enterprises are either controlled or owned by citizens of the United States:

"The Spanish-American Gas Light Company of Havana, the capital stock of which is $4,000,000, with a bonded debt of $3,000,000.

"The Juraguá, Sigua, Ponupo, and other mining companies, whose properties are worth more than $20,000,000.

"The Sabanilla and Moroto Railroad Company, in Santiago de Cuba, controlled by an American syndicate.

"The Tunas and Sancti Spiritus Railroad, controlled by the Del Valle brothers, all American citizens.

"The sugar estates Caracas and Limones, the annual production of which, before the war, was over 60,000,000 pounds, the property of Frank Terry, now in New York; the estate Juraguá of Antonio Terry, 15,000,000 pounds; the estates Teresa and Cayajabos of Andres Terry, 20,000,000 pounds; the estate Constancia, controlled by a New York syndicate, whose representative in Cuba is the Marquis de Apezteguia, leader of the uncompromising Spaniards, 45,000,000 pounds; the estates Hormiguero, 30,000,000 pounds; Victoria, 24,000,000; Trinidad, 15,000,000; Mapos, 7,500,000, and Tuinucio, 9,000,000, all controlled by New York syndicates; the estates Natividad and San Fernando, 7,500,000 pounds, of F. L. del Valle of 57 Broadway; the estate San Agustin, 5,000,000; the estate Moralitos of M. A. Morales, 7,500,000; the estate Saratoga, 7,500,000; Santa Amalia of Messrs. Taylor & Connick, 7,500,000; Socorro of S. de Armas, 10,000,000; Union, 24,000,000; Precioso of Castro & Larrien, 7,500,000; Maria Luisa of Lobeck, 10,000,000; Unidad of McCulloch, 15,000,000; Santa Ana of Thorndyke, 7,100,000; Santa Ana of Ausá, 9,000,000; San Rafael, 7,500,000; Soledad of E. Atkins, 25,000,000; Cienguita of Fermin Sola, 20,000,000; Carolina of Steward Brothers, 15,000,000; Esperanza, 9,000,000; Teresa of Rigney, 12,000,000, and several more.

"In the ten years' war many prominent people from Camaguey, Sancti-Spiritus, and Cienfuegos came to the United States and were naturalized as American citizens. I do not exaggerate if I say that they now own more than half the land in those districts. In 1894-95 the sugar exports from Cuba amounted to 954,264 tons, of which 94.33 per cent. came to the United States, 2.38 per cent. went to Canada, 2.27 per cent. to Spain, and 1.01 per cent. to England. In 1893-94 the sugar crop was 1,054,214 tons, 1,004,264 in 1894-95, and some 250,000 in 1895-96. This year's crop will hardly exceed 200,000.

"Four hundred and nine plantations manufactured sugar in 1894-95, 39 in Pinar del Rio, 49 in Havana, 17 in Matanzas, 159 in Santa Clara, 4 in Camaguey, and 42 in Santiago de Cuba. Of these the following have since been burned:

PINAR DEL RIO.

Estates and Owners.	*Annual Production in Pounds.*
Meredita, E. A. Longa	5,400,000
San Joaquin, J. Mir	4,500,000
San Juan, Sell & Guzman	5,700,000
San Claudio, E. Delgado	4,500,000
Dos Hermanos, A. Valdes Galiol	4,200,000
Begona, Sell & Guzman	6,000,000
Asentiata, G. de Zaldo	1,500,000
Tomasita, A. Ledesona	3,600,000
Nueva Empresa, A. J. Aldave	2,400,000
San Juan Bautista, Gutierrez & Aldave	3,600,000
Guacamaya, E. Zorrilla	2,400,000
San Gabriel, Conde Lombillo	6,000,000
San Leon, F. Toscano	3,000,000
San Agustin, estate of R. de Lara	5,000,000
Gerardo, V. Cagigal	4,900,000
Santa Teresa, V. Cagigal	3,000,000
Concjal, estate of Colomé	1,200,000
Dos Hermanas, estate of Gener	2,400,000

HAVANA.

San José, C. Lacoste	24,000,000
Teresa, Marqués de la Gratitud	12,000,000
Salvador, Conde Barreto	12,000,000
Casanova, Casanova Brothers	2,500,000
San Antonio, Marqués de Davalos	7,500,000
San Francisco, M. Velazco	7,500,000
San Agustin, F. Casuso	6,000,000
Esperanza, Conde Romero	3,000,000
Luisa, José M. Herrera	3,000,000
Victoria, Viuda de Elejalde	3,000,000
Moralito, M. A. Morales	7,500,000
Herculano, Varela & Cuni	3,000,000
Armonia, Erlman & Alfonso	5,100,000
Alianza, F. Montes	3,000,000
San Miguel, N. Fernandez	3,000,000
Carmen, M. Gonzalez	3,000,000
Emilia, M. Escovedo	2,400,000
Concepcion, C. Mazorra	2,400,000
San Isidro, M. Borrell	1,500,000
Tivo-Tivo, estate of U. Cia	1,500,000
Mi Rosa, Gab iel Camps	1,500,000
Jiquiabo, C. Pedrosa	1,500,000
Carmen, R. Villag lin	1,500,000
Aljobin, Bea, Beltido & Co	1,500,000
San Antonio, N. Varela	1,500,000
San Rafael, E. Hernandez	4,500,000
Cayajabos, A. Terry	12,000,000

MATANZAS.

Carmen, J. M. Crespo	24,000,000
Central Puerto, José F. Blanco	5,000,000
San Joaquin, estate of Ibanez	15,000,000
La Vega, S. Mederos	12,000,000
San Miguel, S. Baró	6,000,000
Diana, estate of C. Baró	15,000,000
Begitia, S. Baró	15,000,000
Manuelito, Conde de Diana	7,500,000
Atrevido, M. Peralta	7,500,000
Santa Rosalia, Castaner sisters	7,500,000
Armonia, Costa & Cuadra	6,000,000
Dolores, Maribona, Perez & Co	6,000,000
Sta. Barbara, M. M. Coronado	4,500,000
Laberinto, S. Mederos	9,000,000
Dos Hermanas, F. Sardinas	4,500,000
Nieves, estate of Freville	4,500,000
San Lorenzo, R. Arroyo	5,700,000
San Francisco, estate of Mantilla	3,000,000
Lima, M. Borrell	4,900,000
Saratoga, Drake Bros	4,500,000
Carlota, M. Juantorena	6,000,000
Arco Iris, L. D. Uzurrum	3,600,000
Petrona, Garcia, Liana & Co	3,000,000
Jesus María, Vinda de Lluria	4,500,000
Esperanza, J. Y. Dominguez	3,000,000
Indiarra, Conde Morales	3,000,000
San Antonio, Julian Gomez	2,400,000
Capitolio, estate of Ulacia	1,200,000
Piedad, A. Garcia	1,500,000
San José, R. Zanetti	4,500,000
Alcancia, estate of San Fernando	7,500,000
Cármen, C. Heckmann	10,500,000
Magdalena, J. P. Dinigo	5,000,000
Victoria, estate of Ugarte	7,500,000
Soledad, Galbis & Sevalier	12,000,000
Santa Rosa, J. de Mier	12,000,000
Vista Hermosa, J. Rojas	7,500,000
Santa Ana, N. Guerellan	4,500,000
Santa Isabel, C. de la Rosa	12,000,000
Santa Leocadia, P. Raurell	7,500,000
San Vincente, Rosa C. Ferro	3,000,000
San Juan, E. Heidegger	3,000,000

SANTA CLARA.

San José, Caciedo & Co	2,400,000
San Antonio, Caciedo & Co	900,000
San Antonio, V. Abren	9,000,000
Luisa, N. Mol ner	3,000,000
Olallita, D. Betharte	2,400,000
Teresa, A. Terry	8,000,000

SANTIAGO DE CUBA.

Chaparra, Antonio Maiquez	1,500,000

"A few more have also been burned, but I do not remember the names. In all 125 sugar factories have been totally destroyed. Other estates have suffered more or less damage to machinery, but have their buildings still standing; and, finally, most of them have had all their cane fields reduced to ashes. The value of buildings, machinery and cane fields destroyed may be estimated at $150,000,000, and that of the lost crops at over $100,000,000.

"Most of the coffee and tobacco plantations, as well as those devoted to minor agricultural products, have been destroyed all over the island.

"There were about 4,000,000 cattle in the island when the war began. Not one-third are now left.

"The railway lines are all in a most desperate condition. More than half of their rolling stock has been destroyed by fire and dynamite, and nearly all the station houses outside of the cities have been burned."

SPAIN BUYS MORE CANNON.

A Number of Steel Mountain Guns Purchased from Krupp for Use in Cuba.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—Information comes to the Navy Department of the purchase by the Spanish Government from Krupp of a number of steel mountain guns for use in Cuba. These guns are of 2.95 inches calibre, with progressive rifling and fixed ammunition, fired by lockstrings. The carriages, also of steel, are so constructed as to be quickly and easily dismounted.

For transportation the gun and carriage are arranged in four packs. The first mule carries the gun, the second the body of the carriage, the third the trailpiece and shafts, and the fourth the axles and wheels. Two boxes of six cartridges each are carried by each ammunition mule.

The New York Not Ordered to Key West.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—Secretary Long tonight said there was no truth in the report that the flagship New York, now anchored off Tompkinsville, had been ordered to Key West. The vessel, he added, would be ordered to Boston in about two weeks, where she would take part in the celebration to be held there.

PRICES THAT STRONGLY DEMONSTRATE THE
Power of Spot Cash Purchasing.

Money-Saving Items for the Multitudes—Seasonable Furniture Bargains!

Articles Most Needed at this Time of the Year are the Kind of Goods we are offering AT SACRIFICE PRICES!

Owing to limited quantities, mail orders will not be filled on the following furniture items at these prices.

Hand-Carved Antique Oak Sideboards, with large heavy bevel glass, double swell top, 3 drawers and double closet. Worth $16. Special price, $7.49

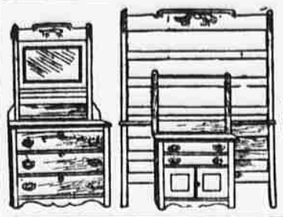
White Enamelled Dresser, with large 30x24 in. heavy bevel glass, double swell top. Worth $20. Special price, $9.89

SOLID MAHOGANY FINISHED FRAME PARLOR SUIT, Covered in handsome Silk Tapestry coverings, hand-carved frames, highly polished; worth $35.00. Special price, $14.69

Antique Oak, Embossed Back, Wood Seat CHAIRS, Worth 60c. Special price, 35c.

WHITE ENAMEL BEDS

With brass trimmings, Worth $6.00, $2.98. No Mail Orders Filled at This Price. Send for Catalogue.



Three-piece Solid Oak BEDROOM SUIT, With French plate glass, shaped top bureau and washstand. Worth $15. Special price, $9.98. No Mail Orders Filled.

ANTIQUE OAK REFRIGERATORS. Zinc lined, heavy galvanized shelves, mineral wool filling; worth $10.00. Special price, $4.87 Send for Catalogue.

TUFTED CORDUROY COUCHES Spring edge, fringe all around. Worth $12. Special price $4.98

A CLOSING OUT OF ALL SMALL LOTS IN
CARPETS AND IN MATTING
GIVES YOU THE GREATEST OPPORTUNITY FOR BARGAIN-GETTING EVER KNOWN.

FREE All Carpets over 55c. a yard purchased during this Sale will be sewed and the best wadded lining furnished.

New Spring Ingrains, only enough for one room sold to every customer. Sale price 17c

No mail order filled.

Brussels New Tapestry Carpets. Sale price 37½c

Celebrated Roxbury Tapestry Brussels carpets, full 10 wire, never sold under 90c. a yard. Sale price 55c

$1.00 Moquettes, Alexander Smith & Sons' make; soft, rich effects. Sale price 65c

A1 Velvets, in handsome patterns, regularly worth 90c. and $1. Sale price 55c

SEND FOR PRICE LIST.

LINOLEUM.

Good quality LINOLEUM, 2 yards wide; regular value 75c. per yard. For quick sale, per square yard 35c

SEND FOR PRICE LIST.

A LARGE LOT OF MADE-UP CARPETS
Ready to lay at about
50c. ON THE DOLLAR.

Made from short rolls, all handsomely matched and well sewed; beautiful designs and fine qualities. Nothing the matter with them except the price.

BRUSSELS CARPETS, Ready to lay.

Made-up Brussels Carpets, in sizes of 16 to 75 yards; all neatly matched and well sewed; ready for use.

16 to 18 yards at $6.90; worth by the yard 60c. to 90c.

18 to 20 yards at $7.90; worth by the yard 60c. to 90c.

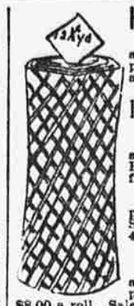
22 to 25 yards at $9.75; worth by the yard 60c. to 90c.

26 to 30 yards at $10.75; worth by the yard 60c. to 90c.

Large size, 30 to 75 yards, at very low prices.

20-YARD ROLLS MATTING—250 rolls of Linen Warp Matting; extra fine goods. 280 ends of Linen inserted patterns; choicest goods made. Rolls of 20 yards. Worth $6 2.99

HIGH CLASS MATTINGS



at the greatest money-saving prices ever known. All as about Half their real Value.

They are the newest designs and very desirable patterns. Here's five prices at random from this Colossal Stock:

Heavy China Mattings, imported to sell at $5 a roll. Sale price, roll of 40 yards 3.50

No mail orders on this lot.

Extra heavy fancy Japanese and China Mattings, assorted patterns imported to sell at $8.00 a roll. Sale price, roll of 40 yards 4.95

Fancy China Mattings, heavy; choice colorings and designs of rare patterns. Imported to sell at $9 a roll. Sale price, per roll 5.75

Straw Matting, good quality; plain and fancy China Straw Matting. Imported to sell at 18c. per yard. Our price 12c

Japanese Cotton Warp Matting, double dyed and Damask patterns. Imported to sell at 20c. per yard. Our price 15c

On Mail Orders $1 extra will be charged for packing and boxing, insuring safe delivery.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE OF BABY CARRIAGES. OPEN SATURDAYS UNTIL 9:30 P. M. CATALOGUES FREE.

THOMAS KELLY, 263 6th Ave. 104-106 West 17th St.

OUR MOTTO—FAIR DEALING.

M'KINLEY'S MESSAGE ON MONDAY.

Americans Entitled to Relief Number About 100—Mr. Morgan's Belligerency Resolution.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—The President and nearly all the Cabinet members being out of town, there were no new developments in the Cuban matter to-day. The next move depends on President McKinley, and he will do nothing until Monday, when it is expected he will prepare his proposed message to Congress recommending an appropriation for the relief of distressed Americans in the island. The official information received by the State Department from Consul-General Lee and the other representatives of the United States in Cuba indicates that the number of persons who will be entitled to this relief is very small. Telegrams from a number of these consular officers came in today, and about all of them have reported on the conditions existing in the localities over which their jurisdiction extends. Up to this afternoon the number of Americans known to consular officers was in the neighborh