

THE EVENING STAR
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(EXCEPT SUNDAY.)
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By WALLACH & HOPE,
Will be served to subscribers in the cities of Wash-
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cent.

Evening Star

VOL. IV WASHINGTON, D. C., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1854. NO. 602.

THE WEEKLY STAR.
This excellent Family and News Journal—containing
a greater variety of interesting reading than
be found in any other—is published on Saturday.
TERMS.
Five copies, per annum..... \$1 00
Ten do..... 2 00
Twenty do..... 3 00
Single copies, in advance.
Single copies (in wrappers) can be procured
at the counter, immediately after the issue of the
paper. Price—THREE CENTS.
POSTMASTERS who act as agents will be allowed
a commission of twenty per cent.

UNDERTAKERS, &c.

CABINET MAKER & UNDERTAKER.
This undersigned would respectfully inform his
friends, acquaintances, and the public generally
that he will continue to execute all orders in his
line of business in the best manner and at the short-
est notice.
REPAIRING neatly and promptly executed.
PUNISHABLES attended to at
short notice. *Best preserved in the most perfect man-
ner, even in the warmest weather.*
A special favor, he will respectfully
request, and will endeavor to meet a continuance of
the same. *WILLIAM J. BUELL,*
Pa. ave., a side, between 9th and 10th sts.
Residence: Mr. Martin's, No. 393, D street, third
house east of 7th street. mar 17-ly

COFFIN WAREROOM, &c.
J. WILLIAM PLANT & Co., UN-
DER-TAKERS—residence 418 Sev-
enth street, between G and H streets. Interments
procured in any amount or cemetery. Coffins, Caps,
Shrouds, Caskets, Hearse, and every article for
interments of the best quality furnished at short
notice, on the most reasonable terms, and at all
hours of the night. Having the exclusive right of
Crump & Patent Coffin Preserver, we guarantee to
keep the dead for any length of time. ce 11-14

UNDERTAKER.
I would respectfully return my thanks to the
citizens of Washington and its vicinity for their
kind notice, and say that, owing to the frequent
calls in the Undertaking branch of my business, I
have been induced to discontinue the manufacture
of Furniture, and turn my attention fully to the
UNDERTAKING. I have spared no pains to have
everything that is required in this branch of my
business, and I am therefore fully prepared to meet
a few moments notice, and I assure those who may
give me a call that I will spare no pains to carry out
their orders to their entire satisfaction.
No. 410, 7th st., between G and H.
mar 2-ly

DENTISTRY.
DR. MUNSON respectfully calls public attention
to his new, patent, and GREATLY
IMPROVED method of setting Artificial Teeth, in
Teeth, with Continuous Gum, the very
PERFECTION OF THE ART. This style
of Teeth has the following advantages over all others:
GREAT STRENGTH, CLEANLINESS, COM-
FORT, BEAUTY, retaining the natural color, and
respects, and some others exceeding. Public in-
terest is respectfully solicited. Please call and see
specimens.
CAUTION—No other Dentist in the District of
Columbia has a right to make this style of Teeth.
N. B.—Teeth constitutionally healthy, plugged
and warranted for life.
Office and house at No. 298 E street, near the cor-
ner of Pennsylvania avenue and 14th street.
nov 15-17

PROF. SCHONENBERG,
TEACHER AND TRANSLATOR OF
Modern Languages and Literature,
No. 257 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.
oct 23-17

THE EAGLE
GAS-FITTING AND
Plumbing Establishment,
No. 607 SIXTH STREET AND
PENN. AVENUE, near the
corner of CHANDLER'S AND GAS FIX-
TURES ever offered to the citizens of Washington,
and at the same time "cheaper than the cheapest."
It is necessary to give a call to be convinced
of this fact. The superior facilities of this house
enables them to sell their goods and do work at a
less rate than any of the retailers in this city.
Thankful for the very liberal patronage of the
citizens of Washington and vicinity, the proprietor
assures them that with the addition of a number of
the best gas fitters and plumbers of Philadelphia
and New York to his present large force, he will be
able to do a work in both branches in the most
superior style, and as before stated, cheaper than the
cheapest. oct 25-17

BOYS' CLOTHING OF ALL QUALITIES.
We have just received an immense assortment
of new and fashionable designs, embracing all qual-
ities of—
Overcoats and Tailors do \$3 00 to \$10 00
Cloth, frock, and sack Coats do 3 00 7 00
Cassimeres do 2 50 5 00
Cassimeres do 2 50 5 00
Cloth Roundabouts, all colors do 3 00 6 00
Do Jackets do 2 50 4 00
School do 1 50 3 00
Black and Fancy Cassimeres pants do 50 2 50
Cassimeres and Tweed do 1 00 2 00
Cloth and Cashmere Vests do 1 25 2 00
Silk and Satin do 1 00 3 00
White and colored Shirts do 37 1 00
Undershirts and Drawers do 27 1 50
Hats and Caps do 25 1 50
Also, Suspenders, Hdkfs, Gloves, Hosiery, &c., &c.,
at low prices, to be found in this or any other city
in the country.
WALL & STEPHENS,
Next door to the Iron Hall,
Pa. avenue, between 9th and 10th sts.
dec 1-17

LIFE IN THE CLEARING; VS. THE
Lush, by Mrs. Moodie, price 60c
Hearts Ease, or the Brother's Wife, by the author
of "Heads in the Clouds."
Jill Journal, by John Mitchell
Red for Life or Oland in Jeopardy
Godey's Lady's Book for December
The Widows' Widows
Pictorial Brother Jonathan, for sale by
E. K. LUNDY,
No. 123 Bridge street, Georgetown, D. C.
nov 25-17

NEW BOOKS RECEIVED AT
SHILLINGTON'S.
Hearings, by the author of the "Life of Reddick"
The Trials of the "Lady Scott," author of the "Her-
oic Heroine."
Blackwood's Magazine for November
Alone; cheap edition
Life in the Clearing, by Mrs. Moodie
Ladies' National Magazine for December
Godey's Lady's Book
Ladies' complete Guide to Crochet and Fancy Knit-
ting
New Books received immediately after published.
All the latest Newspapers, and everything be-
longing to the Stationery line at
SHILLINGTON'S Bookstore,
Corner of Pa. avenue and 4th street.
nov 25-17

OUT DOORS AT IDELWILD; or, the Shaping
of a House on the Banks of the Hudson, by N.
P. Willis
Maxims of Washington, political, social, moral and
religious, collected by Dr. Schroeder
This, That, and the Other, by Ellen L. Chandler
The Laura Greenleaf, or, Life among the Flowers, by
Laura Greenleaf
Beautiful Betha, a new story, by Mrs. Tuthill
Only a Dandelion, and other Stories, by the author
of "The Flower of the Family"
Pray and Work, then God will help, a series of
Story Books for children, by Sarah A. Myers
The Wanders by Sea and Land with other Tales,
by Peter Farley
Yaggs for the Fireside, or, Fact and Fancy, by Pe-
ter Farley
A Winter Wreath of Summer Flowers, by S. G. Good-
rich.
We are now receiving our stock of Family and
Pocket Bibles, Prayer Books, superbly bound cop-
ies of the Psalms and other standard and Illustrated
works for the holidays.
GRAY & BALLANTYNE,
Booksellers, No. 498 Seventh street
dec 4-17

MUSIC FOR BALLS, PARTIES, &c.
L. F. W. WEBER
RESPECTFULLY INFORMS HIS FRIENDS AND
former patrons that he continues to attend
BAND PARTIES, &c., with his well organized
BAND of scientific Musicians.
He will introduce all the new and fashionable
Music
Accomplished Pianist furnished if desired.
Orders left at Hibbard's, Hiss's Music Depot,
Gautier's, or Miller's Confectionery Store, or at my
residence, near Gen. Henderson's, Navy Yard, will
meet with prompt attention. nov 25-17

25 PICES BLACK SILKS, VERY
rich and cheap
95 98 Parametta Cloth, at 25 cts., cheap
French Merinos, all shades, 75 cts.
Rich Merino Plaids
700 yards 44 French Chists at 16 cts., a little
damaged
Together with many other great bargains for cash.
WM. K. RILEY,
Corner Eighth st., opp. Central Market.
nov 21-17

OFFICIAL

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, August 26, 1854.
Notice is hereby given to the holders of the fol-
lowing-described stocks of the United States, that
this department is prepared to purchase, at any
time between the date hereof and the 20th day of
November next, portions of those stocks, amounting
in the aggregate to \$3,340,000, in the manner and
on the terms hereinafter mentioned, to wit:

In case of any contingent competition, within the
amount stated, preference will be given in the or-
der of time in which said stocks may be offered. The
certificates, duly assigned to the United States, by
the parties who are to receive the amount thereof,
must be transmitted to this department; upon the
receipt whereof, a price will be paid, compounded
of the following particulars:

1. The par value, or amount specified in each cer-
tificate.
2. A premium on the stock of the loan authorized
by the act of July, 1846, redeemable November 12,
1856, of 3 per cent. on the stock of the loan au-
thorized by the act of 1842, redeemable 31st Decem-
ber, 1862, of 11 per cent. on the stock of the loan
authorized by the acts of 1847 and 1849, and redeem-
able, the former on the 31st December, 1867, and
the latter on the 20th June, 1863, of 10 per cent.; and
on the stock of the loan authorized by the act of
1850, and redeemable on the 31st December, 1864
(commonly called the Texan indemnity), six per
cent.

3. Interest on the par of each certificate from the
1st of July, 1854, to the date of receipt and set-
tlement at the Treasury, with the allowance (for the
money to reach the owner) of one day's interest in
addition.

Payment for said stocks will be made in drafts
of the Treasurer of the United States, on the assistant
treasurer at Boston, New York, or Philadelphia, as
the parties may direct.

But no certificate will be entitled to the benefit of
this notice which shall not be actually received at
the Treasury on or before the said 20th day of No-
vember next.

JAMES GUTHRIE,
Secretary of Treasury.

The time during which the above named stocks
will be purchased by this department upon the
terms above specified is hereby extended to 31st Decem-
ber next, inclusive.

As the transfer books will be closed on the 1st
December, when the current half year's interest be-
comes vested in the stockholder at that date, all
certificates of inscribed stock must, in addition to
the usual assignment to the United States, have an
express assignment of the interest made by the
stockholder thereon. Where the interest is not so
assigned, or where the coupons payable on the 1st
January next, in cases of coupon stock, are not
transmitted with the certificates, the premium and
one day's interest only (less interest from the time
of redemption to 1st January) will be included with
the principal in the settlement.

JAMES GUTHRIE,
Secretary of Treasury.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Nov. 18, 1854.
nov 20-17

CARTER'S

SPANISH MIXTURE.

The Great Purifier of the Blood!
Not a Particle of Mercury in It!

As a REMEDY for Scrofula, King's Evil, Rheu-
matism, Ointment, Cutaneous Eruptions, Pimples,
Blisters or Pastules on the face, Blotches, Boil-
Cancers, Sores Eyes, Ring Worm or Tetter, Scald
Head, Enlargement and Pain of the Bones and
Joints, Stomach Disorders, Syphilitic Disorders,
Lymphatic Complaints, and all the diseases
arising from an impure state of Mercurial Im-
purity in life, or Impurity of the Blood.

THIS valuable medicine, which has become cele-
brated through the number of extra-ordinary cures
effected through its agency, has induced the proprie-
tors at the urgent request of their friends, to offer
it to the public, which they do with the utmost con-
fidence in its virtuous and wonderful curative prop-
erties. The following certificates, selected from a
large number, are, however, stronger testimony than
the mere words of the proprietors, and are all
from gentlemen well known in their localities, and
of the highest respectability, many of them residing
in the city of Richmond, Va.

Dr. MINGE, a practicing Physician, and to me fully
acquainted with the merits of this medicine, says he
has witnessed in a number of instances the effects of
Carter's Spanish Mixture, which were most truly
surprising. He says in a case of Consumption, de-
pendent on the Liver, the good effects were won-
derful.

SAMUEL M. DRINKER, of the firm of Drinker &
Morris, Richmond, was cured of Liver Com-
plaint of three years standing, by the use of two
bottles of Carter's Spanish Mixture.

GREAT CURE OF SCROFULA.—The Editors of
the Richmond Republican had a servant employed
in their press room, cured of violent Scrofula, com-
bined with Rheumatism, which entirely disabled
him from work. Two bottles of Carter's Spanish
Mixture made a perfect cure of him, and the Editor,
in a public notice, says "cheerfully recom-
mend it to all who are afflicted with any disease of
the blood."

ANOTHER CURE OF SCROFULA.—I had
a very valuable boy cured of Scrofula by Carter's
Spanish Mixture. I consider it truly a valuable
medicine. JAMES M. TAYLOR, Conductor on the
R. F. and P. R. Co., Richmond, Va.

SALT RHEUM OF TWENTY YEARS STANDING
CURED.
MR. JOHN THOMPSON, residing in the city of
Richmond, was cured by three bottles of Carter's
Spanish Mixture, of Salt Rheum, which he had for
nearly twenty years, and which all the physicians
of the city could not cure. Mr. Thompson is a well
known inhabitant in the city of Richmond and his
name is most remarkable.

WM. A. MATTHEWS, of Richmond had a servant
cured of Syphilis, in the worst form, by Carter's
Spanish Mixture. He says he cheerfully recom-
mends it, and considers it a very invaluable medi-
cine.

EDWIN BURTON, commissioner of the revenue,
says he has seen the good effects of Carter's Spanish
Mixture in a number of cases of Syphilis, and says it
is a perfect cure for that horrible disease.

WM. G. HARWOOD, of Richmond, cured of old
Sores and Ulcers, which disabled him from work-
ing, took a few bottles of Carter's Spanish Mixture,
and was enabled to walk without a crutch, in a short
time permanently cured.

Principal Depots at M. WARD, CLOSE & Co., No.
88 Maiden Lane, New York.
T. W. DVOIT & SONS, No. 182 North Second st.,
Philadelphia.
BREWSTER & BERRIS, No. 125 Main street, Rich-
mond, Va.
And for sale by CHARLES STOTT, Washington,
D. C.; HENRY PEELE, Alexandria, and by Druggists
every where.

A new 51 per bottle, or six bottles for \$5;
sent 1-ly

ENGLISH Bibles and Episcopal Prayer Books, a
large assortment in rich and elegant binding,
just received and for sale at very low prices by
E. K. LUNDY,
Bridge Street, Georgetown.
nov 1

**JOB PRINTING NEATLY AND EXPED-
ITIOUSLY EXECUTED AT THE EVENING
STAR OFFICE.**
p 2-17

EVENING STAR.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

This is an exceedingly able and interest-
ing document. As an exhibit of the
affairs of this Department, it presents a
condition of things of which he may justly
feel proud.

During the last fiscal year, there have
been 11,070,935 acres of the public lands
surveyed, and 8,190,017 acres brought
into market. Within the same period,
7,035,735 acres were sold for cash, bring-
ing \$9,285,533 58 into the Treasury,
being 5,952,240 acres more than were
sold during the preceding year. During
the last fiscal year, 3,416,802 acres were
located with bounty land warrants—11,
033,813 selected for the States, as swamp
lands, and 1,751,962 for railroads, &c.
Thus showing that, while there has been
a large increase in the number of acres
sold for cash, a sensible diminution is felt
in the various other modes in which the
lands are disposed of.

The quantity of land sold during the
first and second quarters of the present
fiscal year was 3,826,619 acres, and the
amount received therefor was \$3,642,-
496 44 more than during the correspond-
ing period of the last year. The quan-
tity of land located in satisfaction of
bounty land warrants issued for services
rendered in the various wars since the
year 1790 is 31,427,612 acres. To satisfy
Virginia bounty land warrants under the
act of 31st August, 1852, scrip has
been issued covering 837,356 acres, and
to satisfy the remaining warrants, it is
supposed that about 200,000 acres more
will be required.

The introduction of the graduation
principle into our public land system,
engrafts upon it a new and important
feature. The Secretary considers the law
as it is very difficult of execution, and
that fully to accomplish the objects con-
templated by its passage, material modifi-
cations must be made.

He adheres to his previous views re-
specting the policy of granting alternate
sections of land in aid of the construction
of great leading highways, where such
works are likely to be undertaken and
completed in good faith, and prove ben-
eficial to the public at large, and not
merely to adventurers and speculators.
To show the necessary guards and re-
strictions around such grants, he makes
some practical suggestions, but submits
the matter to the wisdom of Congress.

The applications to Congress at its last
session, so far as they were brought to
the attention of the Department by the
committees, contemplated the construc-
tion of about 5,056 miles of railroad;
and allowing six sections to the mile,
they would have required about 20,000,
000 acres.

In anticipation that some of these
grants would be made, the Department,
upon the urgent solicitation of the dele-
gations in Congress, reserved the lands
from sale along the proposed routes of
these roads to an extent approaching
to about 30,000,000 acres. The Depart-
ment has carefully reconsidered the pol-
icy of this course, and come to the deter-
mination not to make such reservations
hereafter until the grants shall have been
actually made by Congress. The reasons
for this determination are, in part, that
such reservations are of doubtful legal-
ity; that they retard the settlement of
the country; the difficulty of ascertain-
ing in what cases it is likely the grants
will be made; and the fear of injuring
the section of country in which the im-
provement is contemplated by turning
thence the tide of emigration.

The Secretary reiterates his recommen-
dation that the officers connected with
the survey and sale of the public lands
be prohibited by law from becoming in-
terested in its purchase.

After the passage of the act of Septem-
ber, 1850, granting the swamp and over-
flowed lands to the States in which they
are situated, many of such lands were
taken up by purchase or location as agri-
cultural lands. The act of 1850 being a
grant in present to the States, the Govern-
ment cannot make titles to the indi-
vidual purchasers or locators, and many
difficulties have grown up under this
head, to settle which and afford the nec-
essary relief the Secretary recommends
remedial legislation.

The Secretary also recommends, as in-
dispensably necessary to the comple-
tion of the vast amount of business be-
fore it, a continuation, for another year,
of the commission to settle land claims
in California. The commissioners have,
by their great assiduity, accomplished a
great deal, and there is still much to be
done. They have adjudicated 397 claims,
which is less than half the number pre-
sented. Of those adjudicated, 294 were
confirmed for about 736 square leagues
of land, and 103 rejected, covering about
383 square leagues.

The Secretary adverts to the irregular-
ities and inequalities produced by the
numerous and dissimilar existing pension
laws, and recommends some important
modifications with a view to uniformity,
and also to restore the system somewhat
to the original design of its projectors,
and to increase its benefits and restrict
its operation to those who are really and
legitimately deserving objects of govern-
mental favor and protection.

He renews his recommendation of a
biennial examination of invalid pension-
ers, and cites the singular fact that,
while applications are numerous and con-
stantly being presented for an increase of
pension on account of alleged increase of
disability, but two instances have oc-
curred of a voluntary acknowledgment of
a diminution of the disease or wound for
which the pension was originally granted.

The Department has been eminently
successful in ferreting out and bringing
to punishment the perpetrators of frauds
on the Pension Bureau. Up to the 30th
of September last, and since the 4th of
March, 1853, 30 persons have been in-
dicted. Of these, 11 have been convict-

ed; 9 have forfeited their recognizances
and fled; 1 has died; 1 committed suicide;
2 have eluded the officers of the law, and
6 await trial.

We are surprised to learn that in so
large and important a department as
that of the Interior, no appropriation
legers were kept therein, by which the
financial condition of the Department
could be ascertained, until the present
head of the Department took charge of
it. We do not see how its affairs could
have been intelligently managed without
having this information readily at hand.

It now appears that an admirable
and economical system has been devised
and is in successful operation, (requiring
but one disbursing clerk instead of three,
which the law allows,) by which uniform-
ity and promptitude are secured in the
disbursement of the public moneys, and
advances to disbursing officers regulated
by the wants of the public service and
the means of the Department to meet
them.

On the 31st March, 1813, the enormous
sum of \$948,475.80 was in the hands of
agents for paying pensions alone. This
new financial system has enabled the
Secretary of the Interior to call in this
amount, so that on the 30th of June last,
those agents only had on hand the aggre-
gate sum of \$393,801.20—an amount am-
ply sufficient for the prompt payment of
pensions liable to be called for until other
advances are made.

It was supposed until recently, that
the new line of boundary between the
United States and the Republic of Mexi-
co would be completed within the time
and amount estimated at the last session.
Recent intelligence, however, indicates
that a further appropriation may be nec-
essary, but the Secretary still hopes that if
made, its use may be avoided.

The Secretary recommends the demar-
cation of the boundary line between the
United States and the British Posses-
sions on the Northwest, and particu-
larly that portion of it which forms the
northern boundary of the Territory of
Washington, and also the settlement of
the claims of the Hudson's Bay and Puget
Sound Companies, before difficulties
grow up between the citizens of the two
nations, and create greater embarrass-
ments for the future.

He makes some judicious suggestions
respecting the laws and organization of
the Patent Office, so as the better to se-
cure the rights of inventors, and increase
the efficiency of the office in proportion
to the rapidly increasing business devolv-
ing upon it.

He also recommends the creation, in
connection with the office of Attorney
General, of a law department of the Gov-
ernment, the increase of salaries of the
judges of the district courts of the United
States, and certain modifications of the
fee bill of 1853.

A large amount of discretion being in
the head of the Department, respecting
judicial expenses of various kinds, the
Secretary deems it best and safest, and
as practicable, to be regulated by law.

A thorough examination of the sub-
ject has resulted in showing that the ex-
penses incident to the office of coroner of
the District (amounting to about \$9,000
per annum) are not legally chargeable to
the United States, and the drafts upon
the Treasury on this account have con-
sequently ceased. The Clerk of the
United States Courts in this District has
also been required to conform to the law
—in some respects heretofore neglected—
regulating the fees and emoluments of
other clerks of United States courts in
the several States and Territories, and
a considerable saving of public money has
thereby effected. It seems that two hun-
dred and twenty-three terms of the courts
are annually held at eighty-eight differ-
ent places, and in alluding to the causes
which yearly demand larger appropri-
ations for the support of the judiciary,
the Secretary very pertinently suggests
whether the business transacted in the
courts justifies these numerous terms. It
appears that for the western district of
Virginia courts are held at six different
places, in the northern district of New
York at eight, in California at six, in
Louisiana at six, and in Florida at five.
The Secretary seems inclined to the idea
of holding courts at but one or two
places in each State, and of erecting suit-
able buildings at those points for their
accommodation, and with a view of
making them independent of the State or
other local authorities.

The Census statistics called for by the
separate resolutions of the two Houses of
Congress at the last session are now ready
to be laid before Congress, and the work
having been completed, the clerical force
retained for that purpose has been dis-
banded. The Secretary, we are glad to
perceive, recommends liberal appropri-
ations for improvements of the Federal
metropolis, and also the erection of fire-
proof buildings for the accommodation of
the State, War, Navy, and Interior De-
partments, and suggests that a better
application of a portion of the large
amount now in the Treasury cannot be
made. He also suggests the propriety
of donating to the city authorities for
educational purposes all the vacant city
lots which may not be needed for public
purposes.

The work on the Little Falls bridge,
and likewise the Insane Asylum, has
been vigorously prosecuted under the able
and accomplished officers respectively in
charge of them. The latter will soon be
ready to receive the patients for whose
accommodation its erection has been au-
thorized. The affairs of the Penitentiary
are noticed, and an appropriation
asked to free it of an old indebtedness.

The Secretary conceives that his Chief
Clerk was overlooked, when, by an act
of the last Congress, the salaries of cer-
tain Government officers were increased;
and justly appreciating the value of his
services, which, he says, are equally as
arduous and important as those of the
Assistant Secretaries of the other depart-
ments, he recommends that his compen-

sation be increased accordingly, and
that he be made, *ex officio*, Assistant
Secretary, in the absence of the Secretary
of the Department.

Within the past year fourteen Indian
treaties have been negotiated, all of
which evince a just and liberal spirit
towards the poor Indian. The Secretary
considers the annuities provided for
therein amply sufficient for the purposes
intended, if properly and judiciously ap-
plied, to effect which every effort is being
made. He regards it as one of the
highest and most solemn duties of the
Government to see that its engagement
with these unlettered children of the
forest, who are rapidly passing away,
are executed with the most scrupulous
good faith, and that mild and persuasive
measures should be employed to induce
them to abandon the chase and become
a settled and agricultural people, as the
only remedy against their early and total
extinction, and that force or coercion
should not be employed except in the
last resort. The just and humane senti-
ments of the honorable Secretary respect-
ing these wild and barbarous, though in-
teresting people, do equal credit to his
head and heart, and his report on this
subject will, we cannot doubt, be read
with interest and commendation by
every statesman, philosopher, and phil-
anthropist.

SECRETARY OF WAR'S REPORT.

We learn from that document that the
authorized strength of the army is 14,216;
the actual strength is only 10,745. The
ranks, however, are rapidly filling up
under the inducements offered by the law
passed the 4th of August last, increasing
the pay of the soldiers.

The troops have been kept actively em-
ployed in preserving peace among the
Indians, but the army is too small to
enable the Department to prevent or
punish outrages. In the West, several
causes conspire to render extended hos-
tilities more probable, and when they
occur, more formidable. An increase of
military force is absolutely necessary.
In Texas, authority has been given to
call out militia; but the necessity is con-
stant, and the Constitution and laws in
giving the President authority to call out
militia to repel invasion and suppress in-
surrection, did not design that he should
keep on foot a permanent force of the kind
now required. An increase of the regular
army is therefore recommended. The
recommendations for an increase in the
pay of the officers, for pensions to their
widows and children, and for retiring,
such as are disqualified for service, are
renewed.

In Florida, little has been done in re-
moving the Seminoles. The trade with
the whites has been cut off, and means
are being taken to construct roads in
their country, and acquire a thorough
knowledge of its topography, with a view
to ulterior operations should they not
peaceably remove.

The most important part of the report
is that which recommends a revision of
the laws regulating rank and command,
and fixing the organization. Much diffi-
culty arises from Brevet commissions,
giving many officers double rank; cir-
cumstances determine whether the brevet
commissions shall take effect, and each
officer is to judge for himself whether the
circumstances have occurred which puts
his higher rank in force. Still greater
difficulty arises from doubts whether the
staff are entitled to command troops. So
many contradictory decisions by the
higher authority have been made, that
nothing short of legislation can regulate
the subject. With regard to brevet rank
it is proposed that it shall take effect in
no case, except when specially ordered
by the President. To propose a law as
to the Staff regulating command, is a
matter of much embarrassment. On the
one hand it is manifestly improper to ex-
clude from command officers of high rank
whose duties are of a military character,
while it is scarcely less so to give the
right of commanding troops to officers
whose whole time has been devoted to
special duties separate from troops. It is
proposed, therefore, to break up in a
great measure the exclusive Staff corps,
and entrust their duties to officers de-
tailed from the troops.

A concise account is given of the re-
cent improvements in fire arms, which
are said to have increased their effective
range threefold. Experiments made by
order of the Department, have confirmed
this statement, and the opinion is ex-
pressed that smooth-bored arms will
cease to be used as military weapons.
No more muskets should therefore be
made; but attention should be turned to
the improved pattern.

The report on the Pacific Railroad can-
not be completed for a month or two yet,
and no results are yet stated; some par-
ties are yet in the field, and others will
be sent out next spring.

At the Capitol, the marble work has
been retarded by deficiency of supply.
The brick work has gone so far that
the two wings will be under roof this
winter.

The remainder of the report is occupied
with details of minor importance.

REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR OF THE TREASURY.

This report shows that the whole num-
ber of suits brought during the year un-
der the direction of the Solicitor of the
Treasury is 586; that of these 46 were
on Treasury transcripts; 218 for the re-
covery of fines, penalties, and forfeitures
under the revenue laws; 144 of a mis-
cellaneous character; 178 on custom-
house or ware-house bonds in California,
and 3 for the recovery of land purchased
by the United States and reserved for
light-house purposes. Of these 586 cases,
it appears that 286 have been tried and
finally decided; that 48 have been either
discontinued or remitted by the Presi-
dent and Secretary of the Treasury, and
of these undecided cases, it appears from
the tables that the greater portion of

them have been recently brought, and
the trial term has not yet been reached.

The amount of money which appears
to have been collected on suits brought
during the year is \$118,526 11; the amount
collected during the year on suits brought
previous to its commencement is
\$232,709