dition they should be allowed to substitute or deposit in lieu of the bonds now required as security for their circulation those which would be issued for the purpose of retiring the United States notes and Treasury notes.

The banks already existing, if they desired to avail themselves of the provisions of law thus modified, could issue circulation in addition to that already outstanding, amounting to $478,000,000, which would nearly or quite equal the currency proposed to be canceled. At any rate I should confidently expect to see the existing national banks or others to be organized avail themselves of the proposed encouragement to issue circulation and promptly fill any vacuum and supply every currency need.

It has always seemed to me that the provisions of law regarding the capital of national banks, which operate as a limitation to their location, fails to make proper compensation for the suppression of State banks, which came near to the people in all sections of the country, and readily furnished them with banking accommodations and facilities. Any inconvenience or embarrassment arising from these restrictions on the location of national banks might well be remedied by better adapting the present system to the creation of banks in smaller communities, or by permitting banks of large capital to establish branches in such localities as would serve the people—so regulated and restrained as to secure their safe and conservative control and management.

But there might not be the necessity for such an addition to the currency by new issues of bank circulation as at first glance is indicated. If we should be relieved from maintaining a gold reserve under such conditions that constitute it the barometer of our solvency, and if our Treasury should no longer be the foolish purveyor of gold for nations abroad or for speculation and hoarding by our citizens at home, I should expect to see gold resume its natural and normal functions in the business affairs of the country, and cease to be an object attracting the timid watch of our people and exciting their sensitive imaginations.

CONVERTED INTO DOLLARS.

I do not overlook the fact that the cancellation of the Treasury notes issued under the silver-purchasing act of 1890 would leave the Treasury in the actual ownership of sufficient silver, including seigniorage, to coin nearly $178,000,000 in standard dollars. It is worthy of consideration whether this might not, from time to time, be converted into dollars or fractional coin and slowly put into circulation, as in the judgment of the Secretary of the Treasury the necessities of the country should require. Whatever is attempted should be entered upon fully appreciating the fact that by careless, easy descent we have reached a dangerous depth, and that our ascent will not be accomplished without laborious toil and struggle. We shall be wise if we realize that we are financially ill and that our restoration to health may require heroic treatment and unpleasant remedies.

In the present stage of our difficulty it is not easy to understand how the amount of our revenue receipts directly affects it. The important question is not the quantity of money received in revenue payments, but the kind of money we maintain and our ability to continue in sound financial condition. We are considering the government's holdings of gold as related to the soundness of our money and as affecting our national credit and monetary strength.

If our gold reserve had never been impaired; if no bonds had ever been issued to replenish it; if there had been no fear and timidity concerning our ability to continue gold payments; if any part of our revenues were now paid in gold, and if we could look to our gold receipts as a means of maintaining a safe reserve, the amount of our revenues would be an immaterial item in the problem, and unfortunately all the circumstances that might lend weight to this consideration are entirely lacking.

In our present predicament no gold is received by the government in payment of revenue charges, nor would there be if the revenues were increased. The receipts of the Treasury, when not in silver certificates, consist of United States notes and Treasury notes issued for silver purchases. These forms of money are only useful to the government in paying its current ordinary expenses, and its quantity in government possession does not in the least contribute toward giving us that kind of safe financial standing or condition which is built on gold alone.

THE ANSWER IS EASY.

If it is said that these notes if held by the government can be used to obtain gold for our reserve, the answer is easy. The people draw gold from the Treasury on demand upon United States notes and Treasury notes, but the proposition that the Treasury can on demand draw gold from the people upon them would be regarded in these days with wonder and amusement. And even if this could be done, there is nothing to prevent those thus parting with their gold from regaining it the next day or the next hour by the presentation of the notes they received in exchange for it.

The Secretary of the Treasury might use such notes taken from a surplus revenue to buy gold in the market. Of course he could not do this without paying a premium. Private holders of gold, unlike the government, having no parity to maintain, would not be restrained from making the best bargain possible when they furnished gold to the Treasury; but the moment the Secretary of the Treasury bought gold on any terms above par he would establish a general and universal premium upon it, thus breaking down the parity between gold and silver which the government is pledged to maintain, and opening the way to new and serious complications. In the meantime the premium would not remain stationary, and the absurd spectacle might be presented of a dealer selling gold to the government, and with United States notes or Treasury notes in his hand immediately clamoring for its return and a resale at a higher premium.

It may be claimed that a large revenue and redundant receipts might favorably affect the situation after discussion by affording an opportunity of retaining these notes in the Treasury when received, and thus preventing their presentation for gold. Such retention, to be useful, ought to be at least measurably permanent, and this is precisely what is prohibited, so far as United States notes are concerned, by the law of 1878 forbidding their further retirement. That statute in so many words provides that these notes, when received into the Treasury and belonging to the United States shall be "paid out again and kept in circulation."

REGARDED AS AN EVIL.

It will, moreover, be readily seen that the government could not refuse to pay out United States notes and Treasury notes in current transactions when demanded and insist on paying out silver alone and still maintain the parity between that metal and the currency representing gold. Besides, the accumulation in the Treasury of currency of any kind exacted from the people through taxation is justly regarded as an evil, and it cannot proceed far without vigorous protest against an unjustifiabel retention of money from the business of the country and a denunciation of a scheme of taxation which proves itself to be unjust when it takes from the earnings and income of the citizen money so much in excess of the needs of government support that large sums can be gathered and kept in the Treasury. Such a condition has heretofore in times of surplus revenue led the government to restore currency to the people by the purchase of its unmatured bonds at a large premium and by a large increase of its deposits in national banks, and we easily remember that the abuse of Treasury accumulation has furnished a most persuasive argument in favor of legislation radically reducing our tariff taxation.

Perhaps it is supposed that sufficient revenue receipts would in a sentimental way improve the situation, by inspiring confidence in our solvency, and allaying the fear of pecuniary exhaustion. And yet through all our struggles to maintain our gold reserve there never has been any apprehension as to our ready ability to pay our way with such money as we had; and the question whether or not our current receipts met our current expenses has not entered into the estimate of our solvency. Of course, the general state of our funds, exclusive of gold, was entirely immaterial to the foreign creditor and investor. His debt could only be paid in gold, and his only concern was our ability to keep on hand the kind of money.

On July 1, 1892, more than a year and a half before the first bonds were issued to replenish the gold reserve, there was a net balance in the Treasury, exclusive of such reserve, of less than $13,000,000; but the gold reserve amounted to more than $114,000,000, which was the quieting feature of the situation. It was when the stock of gold began rapidly to fall that fright supervened, and our securities held abroad were returned for sale, and debts owed abroad were pressed for payment. In the meantime extensive shipments of gold and other unfavorable indications caused restlessness and fright among our people at home. Thereupon the general state of our funds, exclusive of gold, became also immaterial to them, and they, too, drew gold from the Treasury for hoarding against all contingencies.

This is plainly shown by the large increase in the proportion of gold withdrawn which was retained by our own people as time and threatening incidents progressed. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, nearly $85,000,000 in gold was withdrawn from the Treasury and about $77,000,000 was sent abroad, while during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, over $117,000,000 was drawn out, of which only about $66,000,000 was shipped, leaving the large balance of such withdrawals to be accounted for by domestic hoarding.

REASSURE THE FRIGHTENED.

Inasmuch as the withdrawal of our gold has resulted largely from fright, there is nothing apparent that will prevent its continuance or recurrence, with its natural consequences, except such a change in our financial methods as will reassure the frightened and make the desire for gold less intense. It is not clear how an increase in revenue, unless it be in gold, can satisfy those whose only anxiety is to gain gold from the government's store.

It cannot, therefore, be safe to rely upon increased revenues as a cure for our present troubles.

It is possible that the suggestion of increased revenue as a remedy for the difficulties we are considering may have originated in an intimation or distinct allegation that the bonds which have been issued ostensibly to replenish our gold reserve were really issued to supply insufficient revenue. Nothing can be further from the truth. Bonds were issued to obtain gold for the maintenance of our national credit. As has been shown, the gold thus obtained has been drawn again from the Treasury upon United States notes and Treasury notes. This operation would have been promptly prevented if possible; but these notes having thus been passed to the Treasury, they became the money of the government, like any other ordinary government funds, and there was nothing to do but to use them in paying government expenses when needed.

At no time when bonds have been issued has there been any consideration of the question of paying the expenses of government with their proceeds. There was no necessity to consider that question. At the time of each bond issue we had a safe surplus in the Treasury for ordinary operations, exclusive of the gold in our reserve. In February, 1894, when the first issue of bonds was made, such surplus amounted to over $18,000,000; in November, when the second issue was made, it amounted to more than $42,000,000, and in February, 1895, when bonds for the third time were issued, such surplus amounted to more than $100,000,000. It now amounts to $98,072,420.30.

Besides all this, the Secretary of the Treasury had no authority whatever to issue bonds to increase the ordinary revenues or pay current expenses.

I cannot but think there has been some confusion of ideas regarding the effects of the issue of bonds and the results of the withdrawal of gold. It was the latter process and not the former that by substituting in the Treasury United States notes and Treasury notes for gold increased by their amount the money which was in the first instance subject to ordinary government expenditure.

WITHDRAWALS OF GOLD.

Although the law compelling an increased purchase of silver by the government was passed on the 14th day of July, 1890, withdrawals of gold from the Treasury upon the notes given in payment on such purchases did not begin until October 1891, immediately following that date the withdrawals upon both these notes and United States notes increased very largely, and have continued to such an extent that since the passage of the law there has been more than thirteen times as much gold taken out of the Treasury upon United States notes and Treasury notes issued for silver purchases as was thus withdrawn during the eleven and a half years immediately prior thereto and after the 1st day of January, 1879, when specie payments were resumed.

It is neither unfair nor unjust to charge a large share of our present financial perplexities and dangers to the operation of the laws of 1878 and 1890 compelling the purchase of silver by the government, which not only furnished a new Treasury obligation upon which its gold could be withdrawn, but so increased the fear of an overwhelming flood of silver and a forced descent to silver payments that even the repeal of these laws did not entirely cure the evil of their existence.

While I have endeavored to make a plain statement of the disordered condition of our currency and the present dangers menacing our prosperity, and to suggest a way which leads to a safer financial system, I have constantly had in mind the fact that many of my countrymen, whose sincerity I do not doubt, insist that the cure for the ills now threatening us may be found in the single and simple remedy of the free coinage of silver. They contend that our mints shall be at once thrown open to the free, unlimited and independent coinage of both gold and silver dollars of full legal tender quality, regardless of the action of any other government and in full view of the fact that the ratio between the metals which they suggest calls for one hundred cents' worth of gold in the gold dollar at the present standard and only fifty cents in intrinsic worth of silver in the silver dollar.

Were there infinitely stronger reasons than can be adduced for hoping that such action would secure for us a bimetallic currency moving on the lines of parity, an experiment so novel and hazardous as that proposed might well stagger those who believe that stability is an imperative condition of sound money.

No government, no human contrivance or act of legislation, has ever been able to hold the two metals together in free coinage at a ratio appreciably different from that which is established in the markets of the world.

RESTORE THE PARITY.

Those who believe that our independent free coinage of silver at an artificial ratio with gold of 16 to 1 would restore the parity between the metals, and consequently between the coins, oppose an unsupported and improbable theory to the general belief and practice of other nations, and to the teaching of the wisest statesmen and economists of the world, both in the past and present, and, what is far more conclusive, they run counter to our own actual experiences.

Twice in our earlier history our lawmakers in attempting to establish a bimetallic currency undertook free coinage upon a ratio which accidentally varied from the actual relative values of the two metals not more than three per cent. In both cases, notwithstanding greater difficulties and cost of transportation than now exist, the coins whose intrinsic worth was undervalued in the ratio, gradually and surely disappeared from our circulation and went to other countries where their real value was better recognized.

Acts of Congress were impotent to create equality where natural causes decreed even a slight inequality.

Twice in our recent history we have signally failed to raise by legislation the value of silver. Under an act of Congress passed in 1878 the government was required for more than twelve years to expend annually at least $24,000,000 in the purchase of silver bullion for coinage. The act of July 14, 1890, in a still bolder effort increased the amount of silver the government was compelled to purchase, and forced it to become the buyer annually of 54,000,000 ounces, or practically the entire product of our mines. Under both laws silver rapidly and steadily declined in value. The prophecy and the expressed hope and expectation of those in the Congress who led in the passage of the last-mentioned act, that it would restablish and maintain the former parity between the two metals, are still fresh in our memory.

In the light of these experiences, which accord with the experiences of other nations, there is certainly no secure ground for the belief that an act of Congress could now bridge an inequality of 50 per cent between gold and silver at our present ratio, nor is there the least possibility that our country, which has less than one-seventh of the silver money in the world, could by its action alone raise not only our own, but all silver to its lost ratio with gold.

Our attempt to accomplish this by the free coinage of silver at a ratio differing widely from actual relative values would be the signal for complete departure of gold from our circulation, the immediate and large contraction of our circulating medium, and a shrinkage in the real value and monetary efficiency of all other forms of currency as they settled to the level of silver monometallism. Everyone who receives a fixed salary and every worker for wages would find the dollar in his hand ruthlessly scaled down to the point of bitter disappointment if not to pinching privation.

SILVER MONOMETALLISM.

A change in our standard to silver monometallism would also bring on a collapse of the entire system of credit, which, when based on a standard which is recognized and adopted by the world of business, is many times more potent and useful than the entire volume of currency and is safely capable of almost indefinite expansion to meet the growth of trade and enterprise. In a self-invited struggle through darkness and uncertainty our humiliation would be increased by the consciousness that we had parted company with all the enlightened and progressive nations of the world, and were desperately and hopelessly striving to meet the stress of modern commerce and competition with a debased and unsuitable currency and in association with the few weak and laggard nations which have silver alone as their standard of value.

All history warns us against rash experiments which threaten violent changes in our monetary standard and the degradation of our currency. The past is full of lessons teaching not only the economic dangers, but the national immorality that follows in the train of such experiments. I will not believe that the American people can be persuaded, after sober deliberation, to jeopardize their nation's prestige and proud standing by encouraging financial nostrums, nor that they will yield to the false allurements of cheap money, when they realize that it must result in the weakening of that financial integrity and rectitude which thus far in our history has been so devotedly cherished as one of the traits of true Americanism.

Our country's indebtedness, whether owing by the government or existing between individuals, has been contracted with reference to our present standard. To decree by act of Congress that these debts shall be payable in less valuable dollars than those within the contemplation and intention of the parties when contracted, would operate to transfer, by the fiat of law and without compensation, an amount of property and a volume of rights and interests almost incalculable.

AS TO BIMETALLISM.

Those who advocate a blind and headlong plunge to free coinage in the name of bimetallism and professing the belief, contrary to all experience, that we could thus establish a double standard and a concurrent circulation of both metals in our coinage, are certainly reckoning from a cloudy standpoint. Our present standard of value is the standard of the civilized world and permits the only bimetallism now possible, or at least that is within the independent reach of any single nation, however powerful that nation may be. While value of gold as a standard is steadied by almost universal commercial and business use, it does not despise silver nor seek its banishment. Wherever this standard is maintained there is at its side in free and unquestioned circulation a volume of silver currency sometimes equaling and sometimes even exceeding it in amount, both maintained at a parity, notwithstanding a depreciation or fluctuation in the intrinsic value of silver.

There is a vast difference between a standard of value and a currency for monetary use. The standard must necessarily be fixed and certain. The currency may be in divers forms and of various kinds. No silver-standard country has a gold currency in circulation; but an enlightened and wise system of finance secures the benefits of both gold and silver as currency and circulating medium by keeping the standard stable and all other currency at par with it. Such a system and such a standard also give free scope for the use and expansion of safe and conservative credit, so indispensable to broad and growing commercial transactions and so well substituted for the actual use of money. If a fixed and stable standard is maintained such as the magnitude and safety of our commercial transactions and business require, the use of money itself is conveniently minimized.

Every dollar of fixed and stable value has through the agency of confident credit an astonishing capacity of multiplying itself in financial work. Every unstable and fluctuating dollar fails as a basis of credit, and in its use begets gambling speculation and undermines the foundations of honest enterprise.

A SERIOUS MENACE.

I have ventured to express myself on this subject with earnestness and plainness of speech because I cannot rid myself of the belief that there lurks in the proposition for the free coinage of silver, so strongly approved and so enthusiastically advocated by a multitude of my countrymen, a serious menace to our prosperity and an insidious temptation of our people to wander from the allegiance they owe to public and private integrity.

It is because I do not distrust the good faith and sincerity of those who press this scheme that I have imperfectly, but with zeal, submitted my thoughts upon this momentous subject. I cannot refrain from begging them to re-examine their views and beliefs in the light of patriotic reason and familiar experience, and to weigh again and again the consequences of such legislation as their efforts have invited. Even the continued agitation of the subject adds greatly to the difficulties of a dangerous financial situation already forced upon us.

In conclusion I especially entreat the people's representatives in the Congress, who are charged with the responsibility of inaugurating measures for safety and prosperity of our common country, to promptly and effectively consider the ills of our critical financial plight. I have suggested a remedy which my judgment approves. I desire, however, to assure the Congress that I am prepared to cooperate with them in perfecting any other measure promising thorough and practical relief, and that I will gladly labor with them in every patriotic endeavor to further the interests and guard the welfare of our countrymen whom in our respective places of duty we have undertaken to serve.

GROVER CLEVELAND.

Executive Mansion,
December 2, 1895.

## CUBA'S SAD CONDITION.

### As Viewed by a Partner of a Boston House Resident in Cuba.

Boston, Dec. 3.—Advices were received yesterday by a Boston mercantile house from their resident partner in Cuba.

The letter comes from Cienfuegos and after stating that the economic and financial situation shows no improvement in any portion of the island, it confirms the published statement that the scenes of destitution in the cities among the poor, deprived of their means of livelihood, are heartrending, and is the one situation which presents the most vital and foremost factor at present in the bringing about of the termination of the struggle and in shaping the result.

The correspondent also goes further in his statements of the general apprehensions of anarchy, and says destruction will become rampant by the pressure for food to which these people are subject unless the situation is relieved almost immediately by the cessation of war.

A feature of the letter is the fact that it tells the story of the battle of Taguasco in the Santa Spirito jurisdiction, near Santa Clara, on November 19 and 20, the heaviest engagement of the war, and states that the Cubans and not the Spaniards were the victors, as the story published in this country declared.

Instead of the rebel forces being routed and practically disbanded, they were emphatically victorious. The Spanish loss was 600 killed and 1,500 wounded or missing.

### Pensioners Make a Big Haul.

Today several hundred thousand dollars will be distributed by Uncle Sam among the worthy men who helped to sustain this glorious government. The first thought that enters the minds of these old heroes, after drawing their money, is that they must lay in a supply of groceries to last for the next three months, as Uncle Sam deals out pensions only four times a year.

"Johnstons," the Seventh street grocers, are always ready for the lion's share when it comes to supplying provisions, so they advertise to cash all pension checks free, and to give four pounds of best granulated sugar to each purchaser of one dollar's worth or over of groceries today.

"Johnstons" are just opening their new stock of imported currants, raisins, nuts, candies, fruits, etc., and are now ready to supply the holiday demand for everything that pertains to the grocery business.

### St. Mark's Case Concluded.

The arguments of counsel in the controversy over the St. Mark's vestry election was concluded yesterday, and it now is now in the hands of the court for decision. The case has been before Chief Justice Bingham for the past two weeks, a large part of each day having been taken up either with the reading of depositions or the presentation of arguments.

An early decision is not anticipated, there being such a large volume of papers to be considered.

### An Unfailing Sign.

"Any amusements in this town tonight?" asked the stranger.

"I reckon there's goin' to be a lecture," replied the groceryman, "I've been sellin' eggs all day!"—Atlanta Constitution.

Beecham's pills for constipation 10¢ and 25¢. Get the book at your druggist's and go by it.

Annual sales more than 6,000,000 boxes.

A TEMPTING BARGAIN,

This Handsome Boucle Jacket is made in latest style, Box Front, Ripple Back and large Mandolin Sleeves. As a very special bargain we sell it at

$3.39

CLARK'S

734-736 Seventh St. N. W.

## WILL GRANT IT IF ASKED

### Congressmen Are Willing to Increase the Police Force.

#### They Have the Interests of Washington at Heart and Realize the Urgent Need.

In these days of bustle and preparation for holiday times the crook loses no opportunity to demonstrate to the public the fact that Washington's police force is inadequate to afford it proper protection. The daily list of robberies is already beginning to swell, and it bids fair by the time the holiday rush really begins to double its present size.

The number of robberies is always larger at this season of the year than at any other, and many of them could be prevented if there were more policemen available for street duty.

**Robert M. Coates of No. 635 L street** northwest, reported that while walking on C street his pocket was picked of a gold ring and a scarf pin.

**George H. Smith of No. 402 First street** northeast, reported stolen from in front of his house a Capital Safety bicycle.

**Dr. Shaw of No. 1453 Rhode Island** avenue, was also robbed of a bicycle.

**Wm. M. Breuninger, the jeweler, of** No. 929 Pennsylvania avenue, reported stolen from his store Friday night a gold scarf pin set with opals and diamonds.

**T. Evans of No. 444 Massachusetts** avenue, reported stolen from Harvey's restaurant a black Kersey overcoat.

**Charles Sisson of No. 739 Second street** was robbed while in Lyon's saloon of an overcoat.

**Benjamin Rankins of No. 304 Jackson** hall alley, reported stolen from his house $27 in cash.

**E. A. Woodward of No. 261 N street** northwest, reported the theft from a bureau drawer in his room of a solitaire diamond ring.

**Wm. F. Huntress of No. 1535 Tenth** street northwest, reported the loss by theft of a black ebony cane with a gold handle.

**Edward Gorman of No. 124 B street** northeast, reported the loss of a black cheviot coat and vest.

**Wm. Carroll of Ivy City Brick Company,** reported stolen from the company's shop two hammers, one anvil, pair of pincers and a set of hinge harness.

**Hon. George C. Pendleton, Texas:** "I am hearty in favor of increasing the police force of the city, if it can be demonstrated that the present force is insufficient to properly cover the ground required of them. It seems to me that if the conditions exist, as set forth by you, the police force is much too small. Every city of any size should be given ample police protection. If 150 men have to cover seventy-three square miles of territory, it does not seem to me that they could do it properly."

**Representative Little, Arkansas:** "If a demand is made for an increased number of patrolmen, and it can be shown that they are actually needed to properly protect the lives and property of citizens, then the demand should be granted by all means. If it can be clearly demonstrated that an increase is absolutely necessary, then I shall favor the measure and give it my support."

**Hon. S. B. Cooper, Texas:** "Yes, certainly. I will support a measure to increase the police force of the District, if it is needed. The number of men now on duty cannot cover the territory of the District, and cover it well. It seems to me, as you say, that the beats are much too large."

**Hon. H. D. Money, Mississippi:** "I will favor an increase in the police force if it can be demonstrated that one is needed. There is no doubt but that the citizens of the District of Columbia should be afforded ample protection."

**Representative Stallings, Alabama:** "If it can be shown that a larger force of men is necessary to properly patrol the city I shall certainly favor it."

**Hon. Richard Bartholdt, Missouri:** "I will favor an increase in the police force if it can be fully and clearly demonstrated that one is needed. If the force is too small to properly protect the city, then it should be increased until a sufficient number is obtained."

**Hon. R. G. Cousin, Iowa:** "If it can be demonstrated that the police force of the city needs increasing I shall favor it."

**Hon. B. D. Dovener, West Virginia:** "If it is possible that the police force is too small in this city, I shall be only too glad to do what I can to remedy the evil."

**Hon. S. M. Sparkman, Florida:** "I would favor a sufficient police force to govern the city. Whether there is one now I do not know, and, of course, I would have to be largely guided by the District committee's report."

**Hon. J. H. Walker, Massachusetts:** "In such a matter as this I would be guided by the District committee, and I hope the committee will give Washington her dues. You know by my past speeches what I think should be done for the District. I think the treatment of the District by the Fifty-third Congress too infamous to mention. They cut off $4,000,000 from the appropriation bill that they should not have done. The people of the District pay half their assessment, and I believe that Congress should stand her half of every cent the Washingtonians see fit to tax themselves. I am an advocate of high taxes of both of individuals and corporations. If Washington wants a large police force and needs it, I would be the last to stand in the way of her having it."

**Hon. S. A. Northway, Ohio:** "I am not conversant with the needs of the city's police force. If there is an insufficient number of policemen to properly patrol the city, I would readily favor means to increase the force."

**Hon. L. W. Royse, Indiana:** "I would be willing to vote for an appropriation to increase the force if it really needs an increase. As to that I am uninformed, and, of course, would not pledge myself until I saw the report of the District committee on the matter."

**Hon. Thomas Settle, North Carolina:** "I, of course, want to see Washington have a police force as large in proportion to its size as that of any other city. If I were convinced that more men were actually needed I would favor an increase in the force."

**Hon. O. W. Underwood, Alabama:** "I am unfamiliar with the size of the police force in this city. If it is not large enough to be efficient I would vote to increase it."

### NOT A SKY-SCRAPER.

#### Only a Five-Story Building Destroyed This Time.

New York, Dec. 3.—The five-story building at 72 Warren street was almost entirely gutted by fire after midnight last night, causing a loss of $50,000.

The third floor was occupied by Bumwalt and Jones, proprietors of the Argo spice mills, who estimate their loss at $30,000.

The other occupants of the building were the St. Clair Rubber Company and Tyson & Totter, California wine merchants. Adjoining buildings were slightly damaged by flames.

### Decrease of Population of Kansas.

The State board of agriculture in Kansas takes a census of the people once every ten years, midway between the years of the federal census. The count of the inhabitants for 1895 shows that the State has lost heavily during the past five years. In 1890 the number of people was 1,427,096; now it is only 1,334,668. Sixty-five of the 105 counties have fewer inhabitants this year than last. These are largely situated in the central and western parts of the State, which have suffered so much from droughts, hot winds and other agencies that have destroyed the crops.

Dr. WALKER'S

$5 A MONTH

Treatment.

Do not experiment with drugs or home remedies when the proper treatment can be had at so little cost. He has practiced in Washington for the past three years. He cures Catarrh, Asthma, Bronchitis, Piles, Neuralgia, Constipation, Indigestion, Rheumatism, Diseases of Women, Private and Delicate Diseases, Varicocele, Stictures, and all Diseases of Ear, Nose, Throat, Lungs, Stomach, Heart, Liver, Kidneys, Bowels, Bladder, Rectum, Blood, or Skin. Lost Manhood restored. Diseases of women successfully treated. Remember, only a fee of $5 a month for treatment, which includes all medicines and appliances, and a guarantee of cure given. Dr. Walker can be seen from 10 a. m. until 5 p. m. daily. Those who cannot make it convenient to call during these hours can see him Wednesday and Saturday evenings from 7 to 8; from 10 to 12 Sunday. His well-known sanitarium is 1411 Pennsylvania avenue, adjoining Willard's Hotel.

ACETYLENE!

A Public Exhibition

—OF—

Acetylene Gas

WILL BE GIVEN AT

No. 734 15th St. N. W.

(Opposite Hotel Page),

BEGINNING

Monday Morning,

Dec. 2,

and Continuing Each Day Through the Week from

10 a. m. to 10 p. m.

This large and fully furnished house, formerly occupied by the German Embassy will afford an excellent opportunity to show the

BRILLIANT QUALITIES

OF THIS GAS

and its effect upon

Paintings, Tapestry, etc

The Electric Light, City Gas and Welsbach burners will be used for purposes of comparison.

Scientists,

Investors,

Gas Consumers

and others interested in this remarkable discovery are invited to examine the light and its installation for domestic uses at this exhibit.

Biggest Things Out.

The most perfect echo in the world is said to be that at Shipley, in Sussex, South England. It will repeat twenty-one syllables.

The largest sponge ever sent to market was from the Mediterranean. It was 10 feet in circumference and 3 in diameter.

It is said that the largest bar of gold ever cast was sent to the Bank of California in 1882. It weighed 511 1-2 pounds.

It is said that the largest crane in the world is in the Krupp Iron Works. It lifts and turns a weight of 150 tons.

The largest cast bronze statue in the world is that of Peter the Great at St. Petersburg. It weighs 1,100 tons.

The largest stick of timber was cut in Washington. It was 150 feet long and an average of 20x21 inches.

The greatest bell is that long famous as the giant of the Kremlin in Moscow. Its weight is 443,722 pounds.

Mr. Reed is most likely to be nominated. He is sure to be elected by almost as large a majority as Gen. Grant had over Horace Greeley, and an administration, faithful to home interests and maintaining the honor of the country in its foreign relations, will supersede the present un-American administration at Washington.—Concord Monitor.

DO YOU WANT CHEAPER GAS?

*If so, sign this coupon and send it to THE TIMES, where it will be added to a monster petition to be presented to Congress.*

*Name*.....

*Address*.....

*You are paying twice what you should.*

Pension Checks Cashed.

Have you started to prepare for Christmas festivities?

We have all things needful for baking cakes, making delicious pies, mincemeat, and all the thousand and one dainties that every lady likes to set on her table. Remember, everything we sell is absolutely pure and of the best quality.

| | |
|---|---|
| 5 lbs. Large California Raisins | 25c |
| 4 lbs. Cleaned Currants | 25c |
| 2 lbs. Leghorn Citron | 25c |
| Papershell Almonds, per lb | 15c |
| Pyles' Mixed Candy | 10c |
| 3 Large Bottles Extract Vanilla or Lemon | 23c |
| 3 Small Bottles do. do | 10c |
| Dunham's Cocoanut, per paekage | 7c |
| 3 lbs. Choice California Prunes | 25c |
| Delaware Table Peaches, per can | 12c |
| California Lemon Cling Peaches | 12½c |
| 4 cans Best Tomatoes | 25c |
| 4 cans Maryland Corn | 25c |
| 3 cans Maine Corn | 25c |
| 3 cans Sifted Peas | 25c |

J. T. D. PYLES,

STORES—414 4th st. s.e., cor. 3d and Md. ave. n.e., 18 7th st. n.e., 1904 7th st. n.w., cor. Washington and Monroe sts., Anacostia.

OPEN TILL 9 EVERY NIGHT.

## FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

New York Stock Market.

| | Op | High | Low | Close |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| American Tobacco | | | | 80¼ |
| Atchison, Topeka, & S. F. | 17⅛ | 17⅝ | 17⅛ | 17¼ |
| Canada Southern | 55¼ | 55¼ | 55¼ | 55¼ |
| Col. Fuel & Iron | 31¼ | 31½ | 31¼ | 31½ |
| C., B. & Quincy | 83⅝ | 84¼ | 83¼ | 83⅝ |
| C. C. C. & St. Louis | 41¾ | 41¾ | 41¾ | 41¾ |
| Chesapeake & Ohio | 18¼ | 18¼ | 18⅛ | 18¼ |
| Chicago Gas | 65⅛ | 65⅝ | 64¾ | 64¾ |
| Del., Lack. & Western | 167¾ | 167¾ | 166¼ | 166¼ |
| Distillers & Cattle Feed | 19½ | 19¾ | 19½ | 19¾ |
| Delaware and Hudson | 127⅝ | 130 | 127⅝ | 128 |
| Erie | 13⅝ | 13⅝ | 13⅛ | 13⅛ |
| General Electric | 81 | 81 | 81 | 81 |
| New Jersey Central | 106½ | 106¾ | 106¼ | 106¼ |
| Louisville and Nashville | 53⅛ | 54¼ | 53¾ | 53⅞ |
| Leather | 17½ | 17¾ | 17½ | 17¾ |
| Leather pref | 64½ | 64¾ | 64½ | 64¾ |
| L. E. & W. | 30¼ | 30¾ | 30¼ | 30½ |
| Missouri Pacific | 30 | 30¼ | 30 | 30¼ |
| Manhattan Elevated | 101½ | 101¾ | 101½ | 101⅝ |
| Northwest | 106¼ | 107¼ | 106¼ | 107¼ |
| N. Y. Central | 100¼ | 100¼ | 100¼ | 100¼ |
| New England | 34½ | 34½ | 34 | 34 |
| N. Y. pfd | 78¼ | 78¼ | 77¾ | 78¼ |
| N. Y. Gas | 46¼ | 146¾ | 146¼ | 146¼ |
| Omaha | 42½ | 42½ | 42½ | 42½ |
| Pacific Mail | 31 | 31¼ | 31 | 31¼ |
| Reading | 10¼ | 10⅜ | 10¼ | 10⅜ |
| Rock Island | 75¼ | 75½ | 75 | 75⅛ |
| Southern | 19¾ | 19¾ | 19¼ | 19¼ |
| Southern pfd | 34¾ | 34¾ | 34¼ | 34¾ |
| St. Paul | 75⅛ | 76½ | 75⅛ | 76¼ |
| Sugar | 105⅛-6 | 106½ | 102⅝ | 103 |
| Tennessee Coal & Iron | 33½ | 33½ | 33¼ | 33¼ |
| Union Pacific | 9 | 9 | 8¾ | 8¾ |
| Wabash preferred | 19¼ | 19¾ | 19¼ | 19¾ |
| Western Union Tel | 87⅞ | 88¼ | 87⅞ | 87⅞ |

Chicago Markets.

| | Op'n. | High. | Low. | Clos. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| WHEAT | | | | |
| December | 58⅝ | 58⅝ | 55¾ | 56 |
| May | 61⅝ | 61⅝ | 60⅝-¼ | 60¼ |
| CORN | | | | |
| December | 25¼-⅜ | 25⅞-⅝ | 25⅛ | 25⅜ |
| May | 29⅛-¼ | 29⅛-¼ | 28⅝ | 28⅝B |
| OATS | | | | |
| December | 17¼ | 17¼ | 16⅞ | 16⅞ |
| May | 20⅝ | 20⅝ | 20 | 20B |
| PORK | | | | |
| January | 8.77 | 8.77 | 8.72 | 8.72 |
| May | 9.12 | 9.15 | 9.12 | 9.12 |
| LARD | | | | |
| January | 5.40 | 5.42 | 5.37 | 5.40 |
| May | 5.65 | 5.65 | 5.62 | 5.62 |
| SHORT RIBS | | | | |
| January | 4.40 | 4.42 | 4.40 | 4.42 |
| May | 4.65 | 4.65 | 4.65 | 4.65 |

Cotton.

| | Open. | High. | Low. | Close. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| January | 8.27 | 8.28 | 8.15 | 8.16 |
| February | 8.33 | 8.34 | 8.20 | 8.20 |
| March | 8.39 | 8.39 | 8.25 | 8.25 |
| May | 8.48 | 8.48 | 8.35 | 8.35 |

Washington Stock Exchange.

Sales—Regular call—American Security and Trust 5s, $1,000 at 102. Washington Loan and Trust, 9 at 119. Capital Traction, 124 at 75. Metropolitan Railroad, 10 at 104.

| GOVERNMENT BONDS. | | Bid. | Ask'd. |
|---|---|---|---|
| U. S. 6's | R. | 110¾ | 111 |
| U. S. 4's | | 111½ | ..... |
| U. S. 4's | 1925 | 120¼ | 121 |
| U. S. 5's | 1904 | 114⅝ | ..... |
| DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BONDS. | | | |
| 7's 1899 "30-year Funding" | | 104 | ..... |
| 6's 1902 "3-year Funding" gold | | 111 | ..... |
| 7's 1901 "Water Stock" currency | | 116 | ..... |
| 7's 1903 "Water Stock" currency | | 118 | ..... |
| 3.65's 1924 "Funding" currency | | 111 | ..... |
| 3½'s Hyg. 2-10's, 1893-1903 | | 103 | ..... |
| MISCELLANEOUS BONDS | | | |
| Met RR Conv 6's, 1901 | | 116 | 117 |
| Met R R Conv 5's | | 107 | ..... |
| Belt R R 5's 1921 | | 85 | ..... |
| Eckington R R's, 1896-1911 | | 100 | ..... |
| Columbia R R's, 1904 | | 114½ | 114 |
| Wash Gas Co, ser A, 6's, 1902-27 | | 112 | ..... |
| Wash Gas Co, Ser B, 6's, 1904-29 | | 113 | 115 |
| Wash Gas Co Conv 5's, 1901 | | 145 | 145 |
| U. S. Elec Light Conv 5's, 1901 | | 128 | ..... |
| Chesapeake & Potomac Tel., 5's | | 97½ | 102 |
| Amer Sec & Trust 5's, 1905 | | 100 | ..... |
| Amer Sec & Trust 5's, 1905 | | 100 | ..... |
| Wash Market Co 1st 6's, 1892-1911 $7,000 retired annually | | 110 | ..... |
| Wash Mark Co Imp 6's, 1912-27 | | 110 | ..... |
| Wash Mark Co Ext 6's, 1912-27 | | 110 | ..... |
| Masonic Hall Ass'n 5's, C, 1908 | | 103 | ..... |
| Wash Lt Infantry 1st 6's, 1904 | | 100 | ..... |
| NATIONAL BANK STOCKS | | | |
| Bank of Washington | | 290 | 300 |
| Bank of Republic | | 215 | ..... |
| Metropolitan | | 245 | 200 |
| Central | | 270 | ..... |
| Farmers and Mechanics' | | 180 | ..... |
| Second | | 134 | 140 |
| Citizens | | ..... | ..... |
| Columbia | | 130 | 140 |
| Capital | | 116 | ..... |
| West End | | 103 | ..... |
| Traders | | 100 | ..... |
| Lincoln | | 98 | 101 |
| Ohio | | 85 | 95 |
| SAFE DEPOSIT AND TRUST CO'S. | | | |
| Nat Safe Deposit & Trust | | 119 | 126 |
| Wash Loan & Trust | | 119 | 125 |
| Am Security & Trust | | 139 | ..... |
| Wash Safe Deposit | | 60 | 75 |
| RAILROAD STOCKS | | | |
| Capital Traction Co | | 74 | 78 |
| Metropolitan | | 102 | 103½ |
| Columbia | | 