Hon. John F. Hartranft, of Pennsylvania, and Hon. Alfred M. Wilson, of Arkansas, and organized on June 29 last. Their first conference with the representatives of the Cherokees was held at Tahlequah, July 23, with no definite result. Gen. John F. Hartranft, of Pennsylvania, was prevented by ill health from taking part in the conference. His death which occurred recently is justly and generally lamented by a people he had served with conspicuous gallantry in war and with great fidelity in peace. The vacancy thus created was filled by the appointment of Hon. Warren G. Sayre, of Indiana. A second conference between the commission and the Cherokees was begun November 6, but no results have yet been obtained, nor is it believed a conclusion can be immediately expected. The cattle syndicate now occupying the lands for grazing purposes is clearly one of the agencies responsible for the obstruction of our negotiations with the Cherokees. The large body of agricultural lands constituting what is known as the "Cherokee outlet" ought not to be and cannot long be held for grazing and for the advantage of a few against the public interests and the best advantage of the Indians themselves. I cannot but believe that the advantageous character of the offer made by the United States to the Cherokee nation for a full release of these cards as compared with other suggestions now made to them will yet obtain for it a favorable consideration. Under the agreement made between the United States and the Muskogee or Creek nation of Indians, an absolute title was secured by the United States to about three and one-half million acres of land. Section 12 of the general Indian appropriation act, approved March 2, 1889, made provision for the purchase by the United States from the Seminole tribe, of a certain portion of their land. The delegates of the Seminole nation having first duly evidenced to me their power to act in that behalf, delivered a proper release and conveyance to the use of all the lands mentioned in the act, which was accepted by me and testified to be in compliance with the statute. By the term of both the acts referred to all the lands so purchased were declared to be a part of the public domain and open to settlement within the homestead law. But the land embraced in these purchases, being in the aggregate about five and a half million acres, had already under the terms of the treaty of 1866 been acquired by the United States for the purpose of settling other Indian tribes thereon and had been appropriated so that purpose. The land remaining and available for settlement consisted of 1,887,796 acres surrounded on all sides by lands in the occupancy of Indian tribes. Congress had provided no civil government for the people who were to be invited by my proclamation to settle upon these lands except as the new court which had been established at Muskogee or the United States courts in some of the adjoining states had power to enforce the general laws of the United States. In this condition of things I was quite reluctant to open the lands to settlement, but in view of the fact that several thousand persons, many of them with their families, had gathered upon the borders of the Indian Territory with a view of securing homesteads on the ceded lands and that delay would involve them in much loss and suffering, I did, on the 23d day of March last, issue a proclamation declaring that the lands therein described would be open to settlement under the provisions of the law on the 22d day of April following, at 12 o'clock noon. Two land districts had been established and the offices were open for the transaction of business when the appointed time arrived. It is much to the credit of the settlers that they very generally observed the limitation as to the time when they might enter the territory. Care will be taken that those who entered in violation of the law do not secure the advantage they unfairly sought. There was a good deal of apprehension that the strife for locations would result in much violence and bloodshed, but happily these anticipations were not realized.

Oklahoma Towns.

It is estimated that there are now in the territory about 60,000 people and several considerable towns have sprung up, for which temporary municipal governments have been organized. Guthrie is said now to have a population of 5,000, eleven schools and nine churches have been established and three daily and five weekly newspapers are published in this city whose charter and ordinances have only the sanction of the voluntary acquiescence of the people from day to day. Oklahoma City has a population of 5,000 and is proportionately as well provided as Guthrie with churches, schools and newspapers. Other towns and villages have populations of from one hundred to a thousand settled over the territory. In order to secure the peace of this new community in the absence of civil government, I directed General Merritt, commanding the department of the Missouri, to act in conjunction with the marshals of the United States to preserve the peace and upon their requisition to use the troops to aid them in executing warrants and in quieting any riots or breaches of the peace that might occur. He was further directed to use his influence to promote good order and to avoid any conflict between or with the settlers, and believing that the introduction and sale of liquors where no legal restraint or regulations existed would endanger the public peace, and in view of the facts that such liquors must first be introduced into the Indian reservations before reaching the white settlements, I further directed the general commanding to enforce the laws relating to the introduction of ardent spirits into the Indian country. The presence of the troops has given a sense of security to the well-disposed citizens and has tended to restrain the lawless. In one instance the officer in immediate command of the troops went further than I deemed justifiable in supporting the de facto municipal government of Guthrie, and he was so informed and directed to limit the interference of the military to the support of the marshals on the lines indicated in the original order. I very urgently recommend that congress at once provide a territorial government for these people. Serious questions which may at any time lead to violent outbreaks are awaiting the institution of courts for their peaceful adjustment. The American genius for self government has been well illustrated in Oklahoma, but it is neither safe nor wise to leave these people longer to the expedients which have temporarily served them.

Alaska Considered.

Provision should be made for the acquisition of titles to town lots in towns now established in Alaska, for locating of townships and for the establishment of municipal governments. Only the mining laws have been extended to the territory and no other form of title to lands can now be obtained. The general land laws were framed with reference to the disposition of agricultural lands and it is doubtful if their operation in Alaska would be beneficial. We have fortunately not extended to Alaska the mistaken policy of establishing a reservation for the Indian tribes and can deal with them from the the beginning as individuals with, I am sure, better results but my disposition of the public lands and my regulations leading to timber and to the fisheries should have a kindly regard for their interests. Having no power to levy taxes, the people of Alaska are wholly dependent upon the general government to whose revenue the seal fisheries make a large annual contribution, an appropriation for reductions should neither be overlooked nor stinted. The smallness of the population and the great distances between the settlements offer serious obstacles to the establishment of the usual territorial form of government, perhaps the organization of several sub-districts with a small municipal council of limited power, for each would be safe and useful.

Attention is called in this connection to the suggestions of the secretary of the treasury relating to the establishment of another port of entry in Alaska and of other needed customs facilities and regulations. In the administration of land laws the policy of facilitating in every proper way the adjustment of honest claims of individual settlers on public lands has been pursued.

THE SETTLER'S TITLE.

Delays in the Acquirement of Land Should be Remedied.

The number of pending cases heard during the preceding administration has been greatly increased under the operation of orders for a time, suspending final action in a large part of cases originating in the west and northwest, and by the subsequent use of unusual methods of examination. Only those who are familiar with the conditions under which our agricultural lands have been settled can appreciate the serious and offentiful consequences to the settler of a policy that puts his title under suspicion or delays the issuance of his patent. While care is taken to prevent and expose fraud, it should not be imputed without reason. The manifest purpose of the homestead and pre-emption laws was to promote the settlement of the public domain by persons having a bona fide intent to make a home on the selected lands. Where this intent is well established and the requirements of the law have been substantially complied with, the claimant is entitled to a prompt and friendly consideration of his case; but where there is reason to believe that the claimant is the mere agent of another who is seeking to evade a law intended to promote small holdings and to secure by fraudulent methods, large tracts of timber and other lands both principals and agents should not only be thwarted in their fraudulent purpose but should be made to feel the full penalties of our criminal statutes. The law should be so administered as not to confound these two classes and to visit penalties only upon the latter. The unsettled state of the title to large bodies of land in the territories of New Mexico and Arizona has greatly retarded the development of those territories. Provision should be made by law for the prompt trial and final adjustment before a judicial tribunal or commission of all claims based upon Mexican grants. It is not just to an intelligent and enterprising people that their peace should be disturbed and their prosperity retarded by these old contentions. I express the hope that differences of opinion as to methods may yield to the urgency of the case.

THOSE WHO WORE THE BLUE.

Every Soldier Who Fought for the Union Entitled to a Hearing.

The law provides a pension for every soldier who was mustered into the service of the United States during the civil war and is now suffering from wounds or disease having an origin in the service and in the line of duty. Two or three necessary facts, viz: Muster and disability are usually susceptible of easy proof, but the third, origin in the service, is often difficult, and in many deserving cases impossible to establish. That very many of those who endured the hardships of our most bloody and arduous campaigns are now disabled from diseases that had a real, not traceable, origin in service, we do not doubt. Besides these are another class composed of men, many of whom served on enlistment of the three full years and of re-enlisted veterans who served a fourth year of service, who escaped the casualties of battle and the assaults of disease, who are always ready for any detail, who were in the very battle line of their command and were mustered out in sound health, and have since the close of the war, while fighting with the same indomitable and independent spirit the contests of civil life been overcome by disease or casualty. I am not unaware that the pension rate already involves a very large annual expenditure; neither am I deterred by that fact from recommending that congress grant a pension to such honorably discharged sailors and soldiers of the civil war as having rendered substantial service during the war are now dependent upon their own labor for a maintenance and by disease or casualty are incapacitated for earning it. Many of the men who would be included in this form of relief or now dependent upon the public aid and it does not in my judgment consist with the national honor that they shall continue to subsist upon the local relief given indiscriminately to paupers instead of upon a special and generous provision of the nation they served so gallantly and unselfishly. Our people will, I am sure, very generally approve such legislation, and I am equally sure that the survivors of the union army and navy will feel a grateful sense of relief when this worthy and suffering class of their comrades are fairly cared for.

There are some manifest qualities in existing laws that should be remedied. To some of these the secretary of the interior has called attention. It is gratifying to be able to state that by the adoption of new and better methods in the war department, the calls of the pension office for information as to the military and hospital records of pension claimants are now properly answered and the injurious and vexatious delays that have heretofore occurred are entirely avoided. This will greatly facilitate the adjustment of all pending claims.

THE FOUR NEW STATES.

The New States Have Patriotic, Intelligent People With Great Resources.

The advent of four new states, South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, and Washington into the Union under the constitution in the same month, and the admission of their duly chosen representatives to our national congress at the same session is an event as unexampled as it is interesting. The certification of votes cast and of the constitutions adopted in each of the states was filed with me as required by the eighth section of the act of February 22, 1889, by the governors of said territories respectively. Having after a careful examination found that the several constitutions and governments were republican in form and not repugnant to the constitution of the United States; that all the provisions of the act of congress had been complied with and that a majority of votes cast in each of said proposed states was in favor of adopting the constitution submitted therein, I did so proclaim by a separate proclamation as to each, as to North Dakota and South Dakota on Saturday, November 2, as to Montana, on Friday, November 8, and as to Washington, on Monday, November 11.

Each of these states has within its bounds resources, the development of which will employ the energies and yield comfortable subsistence to a great population. The smallest of these new states Washington, stands twelfth, and the largest, Montana, third among forty-two in area. The people of these states are already well trained, intelligent and patriotic American citizens, having common interests and sympathies with those of the older states, and common purpose to defend the integrity and uphold the honor of the nation.

THE RAILROAD MEN.

A Plea for Their Better Protection From Death and Injury.

The attention of the interstate commerce commission has been called to the urgent need of congressional legislation for the better protection of the lives and limbs of those engaged in operating the great interstate freight lines of the country, and especially of yardmen and brakemen. A petition signed by nearly 10,000 brakemen was presented to this commission asking that steps be taken to bring about the use of automatic brakes and couplers on freight cars. At a meeting of state railroad commissioners and their accredited representatives held at Washington in March last upon the invitation of the interstate commerce commission a resolution was unanimously adopted urging the committee to consider what can be done to prevent the loss of life and limb in coupling and uncoupling freight cars and in handling the brakes of such cars. During the year ending June 30, 1888, over 2,000 railroad employes were killed in the service and more than 20,000 injured. It is competent, I think, for congress to require uniformity in the construction of cars used in interstate commerce and, the use of improved safety appliances upon such trains. Time will be necessary to make the needed changes, but an earnest and intelligent beginning should be made at once. It is a reproach to our civilization that any class of American workmen should in the pursuit of a necessary and useful vocation be subjected to a peril of life and limb as great as that of a soldier in time of war.

ABOUT AGRICULTURE.

Some Improvements in the Department Wisely Suggested.

The creation of an executive department to be known as the department of agriculture by the act of February 9, last, was a wise and timely response to a request which had long been respectfully urged by the farmers of the country, but much remains to be done to perfect the organization of the department so that it fairly realizes the expectations which existed. In this connection, attention is called to suggestions contained in the report of the secretary which is herewith submitted. The need of a law office for the department such as is provided for the other executive departments is manifest. The failure of the last congress to make the usual provision for the publication of the annual reports should be promptly remedied. The public interest in the report and its value to farming communities I am sure, will not be diminished under the new organization of the department.

The Weather Service.

I recommend that the weather service be separated from the war department and be established as a bureau in the department of agriculture. This will involve an entire reorganization, both of the weather bureau and of the signal corps, making of the first a purely civil organization and of the other a purely military staff corps. The report of the chief signal officer shows that the work of the corps on its military side has been deteriorating.

The District of Columbia.

The interest of the people of the District of Columbia should not be lost sight of in the pressure for consideration of measures affecting the whole country. Having no legislature of its own, either municipal or general, its people must look to congress for the recognition of those concerns that are the subject of local import. Our whole people have interest that the national capital should be made attractive and beautiful, and, above all, that its social orders should be maintained. The laws regulating the sale of intoxicating drinks in the district should be revised with a view to bringing the traffic under stringent limits and control.

In execution of the power conferred upon me by the act making the appropriation for the expense of the District of Columbia for the year ending June 30, 1889, on the 17th day of August last I appointed Rudolph H. Herring, of New York; Samuel M. Gray, of Rhode Island, and Frederick P. Stearns, of Massachusetts, three eminent sanitary engineers, to examine and report upon the system of sewerage existing in the District of Columbia. Their report, which is not yet completed, will be in due course submitted to congress. The report of the commissioners of the district is herewith transmitted, and the attention of congress called to the suggestions contained therein.

The World's Fair.

The proposition to observe the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America by the opening of a world's fair or exposition in some of our great cities will be presented for the consideration of congress. The value and interest of such an exposition may well claim the promotion of the general government.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Additional Help Needed for the Performance of Good Work.

On the fourth day of March last, the civil service commission had but a single member. The vacancies were filled on the seventh day of May, and since then the commissioners have been industriously going through with an adequate force, engaged in executing the law. They were assured that a cordial support would be given them in a faithful and impartial enforcement the statute and of the rules and regulations adopted in and for it. Heretofore the book of eligibles has been closed to every one except as certifications were made upon the requisition of the appointing officers. This secrecy was the source of much suspicion and of many charges of favoritism in the administration of the law. What is secret is always suspected, and what is open can be judged.

The commission with the full approval of its members has now opened the list of eligibles to the public. The eligible list for classified postoffices and custom houses are now publicly posted in the respective offices as are also the certification for appointments. The purpose of the civil service law was absolutely to exclude any other consideration in connection with appointment under it than that of merit as tested by the examinations. The business proceeds upon the theory that both the examining boards and the appointing officers are absolutely ignorant as to the political views and associations of all persons on the civil service list. It is not too much to say, however, that some recent congressional investigations have somewhat shaken public confidence in the impartiality of the selections for appointments. The reform of the civil service will make no safe or satisfactory advance until the present law and its equal administration are well established in the confidence of the people. It will be my pleasure as it is my duty to see that the law is executed with fairness and impartiality. If some of its provisions have been fraudulently evaded by appointing officers our resentment should not suggest the repeal of the law, but reform in its administration. We should have one view of the matter and hold it with a sincerity that is not affected by the consideration that the party to which we belong is for the time in power.

My predecessor on the 4th day of January, 1889, by an executive order to take effect March 15, brought the railway mail service under the operation of the civil service law. Provision was made that the order should take effect sooner in any state where an eligible list was sooner obtained. On the 11th day of March, Mr. Lyman, then the only member of the commission, reported to me in writing that it would not be possible to have the list of eligibles ready before May 1, and requested that the taking effect of the order be postponed until that time, which was done, subject to the same provision contained in the original order as to when the eligible list was sooner obtained. By the inclusion of the railway mail service the work of the commission has been greatly increased and the present clerical force is found to be inadequate. I recommend that the additional clerks asked for by the commission be allowed as the duty of appointment is devolved by the constitution or by the law, and the appointing officers are held to a high responsibility in its exercise. The growth of the country and the consequent increase of the civil list have magnified this question of the executive disproportionately. It cannot be denied, however, that the labor connected with this necessary work is increased often to the point of actual distress by the sudden and excessive demands that are made upon incoming administration removals and appointments, but, on the other hand, it is not truer than incumbency as a conclusive argument for a continuance in office. Impartibility, moderate fidelity to public duty and a good attainment in the discharge of it must be added before the argument is completed. When the holders of administration offices so conduct themselves as to convince just political opponents that no party consideration or bias affects in any way the discharge of their public duties we can more easily stay the demand for removals.

I am satisfied that both in and out of classified service great benefit would accrue from adoption of some system by which the officers would receive the destination and benefit that in all private employment comes from exceptional faithfulness and efficiency in the performance of duty. I have suggested to the heads of the executive departments that they consider whether a record ought not to be kept in each bureau of all those elements that are covered by the terms of "faithfulness" and "efficiency," and a rating made showing the relative merits of clerks of each class, this rating to be regarded as a test of merit in making promotions.

I have also suggested to the postmaster general that he can, upon the basis of the reports to the department and of frequent inspections, indicate the relative merit of postmasters of each class. They will be appropriately indicated by the official register and report of the department. That a great stimulus would thus be given to the whole service I do not doubt, and such a record would be the best defense against removals from office.

LIBERAL EDUCATION.

The General Government Can Aid the Several States.

The interest of the general government in the education of the people found an early expression not only in the thoughtful and sometimes warning utterances of our ablest statesmen, but in liberal appropriations from the common resources for the support of education in the new states. No one will deny that it is of the greatest national concern that those who hold the ultimate control of all public affairs should have the necessary intelligence wisely to direct and determine them. National aid to education has heretofore taken the form of land grants and that form of the constitutional power of congress to promote the education of people is not seriously questioned. I do not think it can be successfully questioned when the form is changed to that of a direct part of money from the public treasury, such aid should be as it always has been suggested by some exceptional conditions. The sudden emancipation of the slaves, the bestowal of the suffrage which soon followed and the impairment of the ability of the states where those new citizens were chiefly found to be adequately provided with educational facilities, presented not only exceptional but unexampled conditions, and that the situation has been much ameliorated there is no doubt. The ability and interest of the states have happily increased, but a great work remains to be done, and I think the general government should lend its aid. As the suggestion of national grants in aid of education grows chiefly out of conditions and needs of the emancipated slave and his descendants, the relief should, as far as possible, while necessarily proceeding upon some general lines, be applied to the need that suggested it. It is essential, if much good is to be accomplished, that the sympathy and active interest of the people of the states should be enlisted and that the methods adopted should be such as to stimulate and not supplant local taxation for school purposes. As one congress cannot bind a succeeding one in such a case, and as the effect must in some degree be experimented, I recommend that any appropriation for the purpose be so limited in annual amount, and as to the time over which it is to extend as well on the one hand, give local school authorities opportunity to make best use of the first year's allowance, and on the other deliver them from temptation to unduly postpone the assumption of the whole burden themselves.

OUR AFRICAN CITIZENS.

The Rapid Advance of the Colored People of America.

The colored people did not intrude themselves upon us, they were brought here in chains, and held in the communities where they are now chiefly found by a cruel slave code. Happily for both races they are now free. They have, from a standpoint of ignorance and poverty which was our shame, not theirs, made remarkable advances in education and the acquision of property. They have, as a people, shown themselves to be friendly and faithful towards the white race under temptation of tremendous strength. They have their representatives in the national cemeteries where a grateful government has gathered the ashes of those who died in its defense. They have furnished to our regular army regiments that have won great praise for their commanding officers, for courage, soldierly qualities and for fidelity to the enlistment oath. In civil life they are the toilers of their communities, making their full contribution to the widening streams of prosperity which the communities are receiving. Their sudden withdrawal would stop production and bring disorder in the household, and generally they do not desire to quit their homes and their employers resent the interference of the emigration agents who seek to stimulate such a desire. But notwithstanding all this, in many parts of the country were the colored population is large, the people of that race are by various devices deprived of any effective exercise of their political rights. The wrong does not expend itself upon those whose votes are suppressed. Every constituency in the Union is wronged. It has been the hope of every patriot that a sense of justice and of respect for the law would work a gradual cure of these flagrant vices. Surely no one supposed that the present can be accepted as a permanent condition. If it is said that these communities work out this problem for themselves, we have a right to ask whether they are at work upon it? Do they suggest any question? When and under what conditions is the blackman to have a free ballot? When is he in fact to have those full civil rights which have so long been his in law? When is that equality of influence which our form of government was intended to secure to the electors to be restore? This generation should courageously force these grave questions and not leave them as a heritage of woe to the next. The consultation should proceed with candor, calmness and great patience upon the lines of justice and humanity—not of prejudice and cruelty. No question in our country can be at rest except on the firm base of justice and of the law. I earnestly invoke the attention of congress to the consideration of such measures with its well defined constitutional power as will secure to all our people a free exercise of the right of suffrage and every other civil right under the constitution and laws of the United States. No evil, however deplorable, can justify the assumption either on the part of the executive or of congress of powers not granted, but both will be highly blamable of the powers granted are not wisely but firmly used to correct these evils. The power to take the whole direction and control of the election and control of the election of members of the house of representatives is clearly given to the general government. A partial and qualified supervision of these elections is now provided for by law, and in my opinion this law may be strengthened and extended to secure on the whole better results than can be obtained by a law taking all the processes of such elections into federal control. The colored man should be protected in all of his relations to the federal government, whether as legitimate juror or witness in our courts, as an elector of members of congress or as a peaceful traveler on our interstate railways.

OUR MERCHANT MARINE.

Congressional Encouragement Will Place Our Shipping in the Fore.

There is nothing more justly humiliating to the national pride, and nothing more hurtful to the national prosperity than the inferiority of our merchant marine compared with that of other nations whose general resources, wealth and sea coast lines do not suggest any reason for their supremacy on the sea. It was not always so, and our people are agreed, I think, that it shall not continue to be so. It is not possible in this communication to discuss the causes of the decay of our shipping interests or the different methods by which it is proposed to restore them. The statement of a few well authenticated facts and some general suggestions as to legislation is all that is practicable. That the great steamship lines sailing under the flags of England, France Germany, Spain and Italy, and engaged in foreign commerce were promoted and have since been, and now are, liberally aided by grants of public money in one form or another is generally known. That the American line of steamships have been abandoned by us to an unequal contest with the aided lines of other nations until they have been withdrawn, or in the few cases where they are still maintained are subject to serious disadvantage in a matter of common knowledge. The present situation is not that travelers and merchandise find Liverpool often a necessary intermediate point between New York and some of the South American capitals. The fact that some of the delegates from South American states to the conference of American nations now in session at Washington reached our shores by reversing that line of travel is very conclusive of the need of such of a conference and very suggestive as to the first and most necessary step in the direction of fuller and more beneficial intercourse with nations that are now our neighbors, not upon the lines of latitude, but upon the lines of established commercial intercourse.

I recommend that such appropriations be made for ocean mail service in American steamships between our ports and those of Central and South America, China, Japan and the important islands in both of the great oceans as will be liberally remunerative for the service rendered as well as encourage the establishment and in some fair degree equalize the chances of American steamship lines in the competitions which they must meet. That the American states lying south of us will cordially co-operate in the establishment and maintaining of such lines of steamships to their principal ports I do not doubt. We should also make provisions for a naval reserve to consist of such merchant ships of American construction and of specified tonnage and speed as the owners will consent to place at the use of the government in case of need as armed cruisers England has adopted this policy and as a result can upon necessity, at once place upon her naval list some of the fastest steamships in the world. Proper vessels would make their concessions into effective ships of war very easy. I am an advocate of economy in our national expenditures, but it is a mistake of the term to make this word describe a policy that withholds its expenditure for the purpose of extending our foreign commerce, the enlargement and improvement of our merchant marine, the development of sufficient body of trained American seamen, the promotion of rapid and regular mail communication between the ports of other countries and our own, and the adaptation of huge and swift American merchant steamships to naval uses in time of war, are public purposes of the highest concern. The enlarged participation of our people in carrying trade, the new and increased markets that will be opened for the products of our farms and factories, the fuller and better employment of our mechanics, which will result from a liberal promotion of our foreign commerce, insure the widest possible diffusion of benefits to all the states and to all our people. Everything in most propitious for the present inauguration of a liberal and progressive policy upon this subject, and we should enter upon it with promptness and decision.

The legislation which I have suggested, it is sincerely believed, will promote the peace and honor of our country and the prosperity and security of the people. I invoke the diligent and serious attention of congress to a consideration of these and such other measures as may be presented, having the same great end in view.

BENJAMIN HARRISON.

Executive Mansion,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 3.

Shipwreck and Typhoon.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 2.—The steamship Gaelic, that arrived from China and Japan bringing news that the American ship Cheesebrough was wrecked October 30, by running on a rock, and nineteen of the crew drowned. The vessel was bound from Hokodate to San Francisco. Four of the crew were saved.

The most violent typhoon known here in many years swept over the island of Sado October 21. Fifty houses and as many boats were destroyed. October 26, at Kaulda Machi, in Nugata, the prefecture and three-fourths of the village were destroyed by fire. Three children and 183 houses were destroyed. The Misemono at Sanni Chimat collapsed and a number of lives were lost. The number of killed is placed at between twenty and twenty-nine and many injured.

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The third annual opening of the holiday goods at the Journal Pub. Co. will take place Thursday, December 5th, and not the 3rd as erroneously stated in our regular issue of this morning.

A Tough Boy.

Texas Siftings: Justice—Your son has been arrested for throwing stones at the passing railroad trains. As he is not fifteen years old I shall send him home to be thrashed.

Father—We at home will be only too glad if he doesn't thrash us.

Paradoxical.

Epoch: Ethel—Oh, papa, why did you invite that undertaker here?

Papa—Whom do you refer to, my dear?

Ethel—That solemn looking man talking with mamma.

Papa—Why, that's Squibs, the professional humorist.

GIRLS AS GYMNASTS.

Sometimes They are Too Daring and Injure Themselves.

"Girls should never be allowed into gymnasiums unless they are in charge of a thorough master of calisthenics and gymnastics," said a professor to a reporter for the New York Mail and Express recently. "It may seem strange to say, but the girls are more daring and much more reckless than boys when they get the athletic fever. It seems to be very catching nowadays.

"Only a short time ago a young lady came into this gymnasium. She had never been in a gymnasium before. As soon as she got her suit on she was trying to pull herself up a horizontal bar, and before I could stop her she had strained the tendons in both arms and couldn't come back to exercise again for nearly three months.

"Girls have to take a much more systematic training than boys. They are not so strong, and have to be treated more tenderly. There are hundreds of ways in which a girl can hurt herself in a gymnasium unless she is very careful. She can strain her arms and hands by too much exercise at anything. She can sprain her back by jumping too far on the spring board.

"I have known girls to sprain their toes in the running high jump even when the bar was only a foot for the ground. High-heeled shoes press the toes downward, and girls who wear them always land on their toes when they jump instead of on the ball of the foot."

"What exercise should a girl practice at home?" asked the reporter.

"Gymnastics, to be healthful, should only take a portion of the strength of one's muscle, and the constant exercise of these muscles is what develops them. I have seen some delicate girls exercising with five-pound dumb-bells, when some of the strongest athletes of the country only use two pounders. A girl who wishes to expand her chest can do so if each morning after bath she will stand erect, feet together, shoulders back, arms straight down, and take twenty-five full, deep breaths. Better begin fifteen times the first week and then gradually increase it. Keep up the increase until it reaches the number of fifty. By that time her lungs will be much stronger and the chest will begin to expand. A round-shouldered girl can become straight by moving the shoulders and arms backward in regular motions, until the elbows are only a few inches apart. Let the first exercise be twenty times and increase it until 125 times can be done without fatigue.

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