San Saba News.

GEORGE H. HAGAN, Pub.

SAN SABA, - - - TEXAS.

ARMY life is dangerous at the best. Even in Brazil where there seems to be little likelihood of being shot, fever and small-pox are said to prevail to a much larger extent than do ordinary rations.

IT is reported that the Columbian guards on the Midway lost their heads on the last night of the official life of the fair, but so far as is known no reward has been offered for the return of the goods.

A YOUNG man and a young woman who eloped from Manitowoc, Wis., were captured at Wausau, tried, and sentenced to a year each in the penitentiary. This sounds brutal and all that, but a mitigating flavor is lent the judge's seemingly harsh action by the fact that the young woman in the case happened to be the wife of another man.

A GREAT historian does not obtain that immediate recognition that is accorded to the great orator, the great novelist or even the great poet. So Francis Parkman worked for years in obscurity, and even at his death he was not a popular author. But it is more than probable that he will take his rank, ultimately, among the great historians of the world.

Now that the casualties of the Louisiana storm have been footed up it is found that only fifty-three of the 2,008 victims were negroes. The Acadians, whom Longfellow immortalized in "Evangeline," outnumbered all other races, but there was a large admixture of Austrians, Creoles, Italians, Italians, Manillamen, Chinese and Spaniards in the list of the dead.

A MAN, so called, has just been sent to jail for four months for having amused himself by pouring water from a window upon a family sleeping on rags under a bit of canvas. While evolution is being particularly studied it would be interesting to find out what jarred the protoplasm that resulted in such a creature off the track. It evidently started out to be a beast with horns.

TACOMA, Wash., has adopted the ball and chain punishment for tramps, and its first application is interesting. The tramp was made fast to a ball and chain and put to work on the street. While his guard was taking a rest the prisoner picked up the cannon ball and started to walk out of town with it. He was captured, however, and was penalized for his attempted escape by having three balls and chains attached to him.

IT is gratifying to our racial pride to learn that many of the crafty oriental fakirs in Midway who have been selling plasters worth four cents to the guileless American public for $3 all summer found that a goodly proportion of their ill-gotten gains consisted of Confederate and extinct state bank bills when they came to "cash in." Fair exchange is no robbery, and a $5 Confederate bill is surely as valuable as a souvenir from Syria as a bogus Turkish plaster is as a souvenir in America.

THE St. James Budget pokes fun at the newspapers of this country because they print personal gossip concerning literary people, who are possibly quite interesting, and at least earn an honest living. Then in a succeeding column the Budget proceeds to detail a lot of tattle about royalty, and His Nobs this and Her Nibs that, people who have not even the merit of being interesting and for the most part are paupers, living off the charity of a nation to which they are of no use even as ornaments.

IN his brave plea for justice to the Matabeles, at the hands of Great Britain, Mr. Labouchere found himself in a minority in parliament, but he is supported by the better sentiment of the English people and civilized nations generally. In a second so-called battle between the natives and British soldiers 1,000 of the former were mowed down with machine guns, while the British loss is given at five. Whatever the pretext for seizing the Matabele territory, this wholesale slaughter of the natives cannot be justified on any grounds consistent with humanity.

THE discovery of poison in Boston pies is likely to shake the American Athens from Commercial street to Back Bay park. Next to baked beans, pie has been the staple on Boston bills of fare. Pie for breakfast, pie for dinner and pie for supper, with an extra large slice as a sort of nightcap just before going to bed, has been the regular gastronomic concession. The use of pie as a vehicle for the introduction of cold poison into the human anatomy will shake Bostonian confidence, and will, as a matter of fact, cast a gloom over the entire community.

A LIVELY riot in which several of the police of Marseilles have been killed was precipitated by the women employed in the match factories. If the police had any sense they would have known better than to have interfered with the plans of match-making women. It has always been as much as any man's life is worth.

ANY little tales knocking about the sea looking for a foster-mother need not apply to Columbia. The chances are that she would spank them and send them home bawling.

THE biggest man in Washington is the well known and popular Virginian, Captain Maddox who weighs 480 pounds. Every time he appears on the street bystanders are tempted to discuss the old, old question of whether a man can be big and not necessarily great.

THERE was a good deal of talk six months ago about the revolution that the expiration of the patents on the telephone would work, but, so far as we have observed, you can't buy Bell telephones two for a quarter yet.

A RELIGIOUS society lately found in the East has a holy shrine dedicated to the worship of the devil, which is visited by thousands of pilgrims annually. But after all, only a small proportion of satan's adorers ever go to this shrine.

EVEN a little foreign war is a good thing for this country. The fraternal "scrap" in Brazil has enabled Americans to dispose of a large number of ships and a vast amount of arms and munitions of war at very excellent prices.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Chilian, Chinese, Haytian, Mexican and Other Foreign Relations Reviewed.

BRIEF DISCUSSION OF FINANCIAL AFFAIRS.

The Silver Question Not Fully Solved—Cleveland Tersely Touches Up the Navy, Inferior and Other Departments.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, Dec. 4, 1893.

Message to the Congress of the United States:

The constitutional duty which requires the President from time to time to give to the congress information of the state of the Union and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient, is fittingly entered upon by commencing to the congress a careful examination of the detailed statements and well supported recommendations contained in the report of the heads of departments who are chiefly charged with the executive work of the government.

In an effort to abridge the communication as much as is consistent with its purpose I shall supplement a brief reference to the contents of these department reports by the mention of such executive business and incidents as are not embraced therein and by such recommendations as appear to be at this particular time appropriate.

Foreign Relations.

While our foreign relations have not at all times during the past year been entirely free from perplexity, no embarrassing situation remains that will not yield to the spirit of fairness and love of justice which, joined with consistent firmness, characterize a truly American foreign policy.

My predecessor having accepted the office of arbitrator of the long standing missions boundary dispute, tendered to the president by the Argentine Republic and Brazil, it has been my agreeable duty to receive the special envoys commissioned by those states to lay before me evidence and arguments in behalf of their respective governments.

The outbreak of hostilities in the republic of Brazil found the United States alert, while the restriction of certain injurious commerce in the independent states of the Congo and in the adjacent zone of Central Africa, the United States and other nations agreed to adopt such appropriate means for the punishment of persons selling arms and ammunition to the natives and for the confiscation of the prohibited articles, it being the plain duty of this government to aid in suppressing the nefarious traffic impelling as it does the praiseworthy motive and to watch the conduct of our citizens in that country, with which we carry on important commerce.

Several vessels of our new navy are now and for some time have been stationed at Rio de Janeiro, the seat of the struggle between the established government, which controls the machinery of the administration, and with which we maintain friendly relations, and certain insurgent forces, which have given cause of their command in an attack upon the national capital and its chief support, and lacking as it does the attributes of a recognized administration, it have failed to see that the insurgents can reasonably claim recognition as belligerents. Thus far the position of our government has been that of an attentive, but an impartial observer of the unfortunate conflict.

In enforcing a fixed policy of impartial neutrality in such a condition of affairs as now exist, I deemed it necessary to disavow, in a manner not to be misunderstood, the unauthorized action of our late naval commander in these waters in saluting the revolutionist Brazilian admiral, being indisposed to countenance an act calculated to give gratuitous sanction to the local insurrection.

CHILIAN CLAIMS.

The convention between our government and Chili, having for its object the settlement and adjustment of the demands of the two countries against each other, has been made effective by the organization of the claims commission provided for. The governments failing to agree upon the third member of the commission, the good offices of the president of the Swiss Republic were invoked, as provided in the treaty, and the selection of the Swiss representative in this country to complete the organization has gratifying allies to the United States and Chili. The vexatious question of the so-called legation asylum for offenders against the state and its law presented a new question in Chili by the unauthorized action of the late United States minister in receiving into his official residence two persons who had just failed in an attempt at revolution and against whom criminal charges were pending growing out of former abortive disturbances.

The doctrine of asylum, as applied to this case, is not sanctioned by the best precedents and when allowed tends to encourage sedition and strife. Under no circumstances can the representatives of this government be permitted under the ill defined fiction of extra territoriality to intercept the administration of criminal justice in the countries to which they are accredited. A temperate demand having been made by the Chilian government for the correction of this conduct in the instance mentioned, the minister was instructed no longer to harbor the offenders.

THE CHINESE QUESTION.

The administration last year of the act known as the Geary Law, requiring the registration of all Chinese laborers entitled to reside in the United States and the deportation of all those failing with the requirements of the act within the time prescribed, met with much opposition from Chinamen in this country. Acting upon the advice of eminent counsel that the act was unconstitutional in the mass of Chinese laborers pending judicial inquiry as to its validity, in good faith declined to apply for the certificates required by its provisions, a test case upon proceeding by habeas corpus was brought before the Supreme Court, and on May 15, 1892, a decision was made by that tribunal sustaining the law.

It is believed that under the recent amendment of the act extending the time for registration, the Chinese laborers thereto entitled who desire to reside in this country will now avail themselves of the relaxed privilege thus afforded of establishing by lawful procedure their right to remain and that thereby the necessity of enforced deportation may, to a great degree, be avoided. It has devolved upon the United States minister at Pekin, as dean of the diplomatic body and in the absence of a representative of Sweden and Norway, to press upon the Chinese government reparation for the recent murder of Swedish missionaries at Song Pat. This question is of vital interest to all countries whose citizens engage in missionary work in the interior of China.

By article II of the general act of Brussels, signed July 2, 1890, for the suppression of the slave trade in certain countries, efforts are now in progress in that region. I recommend that an act be passed prohibiting the sale of arms and intoxicants to natives of the regulated zone by our citizens.

COSTA RICA'S FRIENDLINESS.

Costa Rica has lately testified its friendliness by surrendering to the United States, in the absence of a convention of extradition, but upon duly submitted evidence of criminality, a noted fugitive from justice. It is stated that the negotiation of a treaty with that country to meet recurring cases of this kind will soon be accomplished. In my opinion treaties for reciprocal extradition should be concluded with all those countries. I have deemed it fitting to express to the government of Costa Rica and Colombia the kindly desire of the United States to see their pending boundary dispute finally closed by arbitration in conformity with the spirit of the treaty concluded between them some years ago.

EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

Our relations with the French republic continue to be cordiale and cordial. I sincerely hope that the extradition treaty with that country, as amended by the senate, will soon be operative. While occasional questions arising from naturalized citizens returning to the land of their birth have arisen in our intercourse with Germany, our relations with that country continue satisfactory.

The questions affecting our relations with Great Britain have been treated in a spirit of friendliness. Negotiations are in progress between the two governments with a view to such concurrent action as will make the award and regulations agreed upon by the Behring sea tribunal of arbitration practically effective and it is not doubted that Great Britain will co-operate freely with this country for the accomplishment of that purpose. The dispute growing out of the discriminating tolls imposed by the Welland canal upon cargoes of cereals bound to and from the lake ports of the United was adjusted by the substitution of a more equitable schedule of charges, and my predecessor therefore suspended his proclamation imposing discriminating tolls upon British transit through our canals. A request for additions to the test of extraditable offenses recently made by the existing treaty between the two countries is under consideration.

HAYTI.

During the past year an America citizen employed in a subordinate official position in Hayti, after suffering a protracted imprisonment on an unfounded charge of smuggling was finally liberated on judicial examination. Upon urgent representation to the Haytian government a suitable indemnity was paid to the sufferer.

By a law of Hayti, a sailing vessel having discharged her cargo is refused clearance until the duties on such cargo have been paid. The hardship of this measure upon American ship owners who conduct the bulk of the carrying trade of that country has been insisted on with a view of securing the removal of this cause of complaint.

Upon receiving authentic information of the firing upon the American mail steamer touching at the port of Ampalpa because her captain refused to deliver up a passenger in transit from Nicaragua to Guatemala upon the demand of the military authorities of Honduras, our minister to that country under instructions protested against the wanton act and demanded satisfaction. The government of Honduras, actuated by a sense of justice and in a spirit of the utmost friendship, promptly disavowed the illegal conduct of its officers and expressed sincere regret for the occurrence. It is confidently anticipated that a satisfactory adjustment will soon be reached of the questions arising out of the seizure and use of American vessels by insurgents in Honduras and the subsequent denial by the successful government of commercial privileges to those vessels on that account.

LIBERIA.

A notable part of the southeastly coast of Liberia between the Cavally and San Pedro rivers, which for nearly half a century has been generally recognized as belonging to that republic by cession and purchase, has been claimed to be under the protectorate of France in virtue of agreements entered into by the native tribes over whom Liberian control has not been well maintained. More recently negotiations between the Liberian representative and the French government resulted in the signature at Paris of a treaty whereby an adjustment of certain Liberian territory is added to France. This convention at last advices has not been ratified by the Liberian legislature and executive. Feeling a sympathetic interest in the fortunes of the little commonwealth, the establishment and development of which was largely aided by the benevolence of our countrymen and which constitutes the only independently sovereign state of the west coast of Africa, this government has suggested to the French government its earnest concern lest territorial impairment in Liberia should take place without her unrestrained consent.

MEXICO.

Our relations with Mexico continue to be of that close and friendly character which should always characterize the intercourse of two neighboring republics. The work of relocating the monuments marking the boundary between the two countries from Paso del Norte to the Pacific is nearly completed. The commission recently organized under the conventions of 1884 and 1889 it is expected will speedily settle the disputes growing out of the shifting currents of the Rio Grande river east of El Paso.

NICARAGUA.

Nicaragua has recently passed through two revolutions, the party at first successful having in turn been displaced by another. Our newly appointed minister, by his timely good offices, aided in a peaceful adjustment of the controversy involved in the first conflict. The large American interests established in that country in connection with the Nicaragua canal were not molested. The canal company has unfortunately become financially seriously embarrassed, but a generous treatment has been extended to it by the government of Nicaragua. The United States are especially interested in the successful achievement of the vast undertaking. This company has work in charge that should be accomplished under distinctively American auspices, and its enjoyment be not only to the vessels of this country as a channel of communication between our Atlantic and Pacific boards, but to the ships of the world in the interests of civilization is a proposition which in my judgment does not admit of question.

Inalamuke Island has also been the scene of political vicissitudes which have afflicted her Central American neighbors, but the dissolution of its legislature and the proclamation of a dictatorship have been instituted with civil wars.

An extradition treaty with Norway has recently been exchanged and proclaimed.

The extradition treaty with Russia, signed in March, 1887, and amended and confirmed by the senate in February last, was duly proclaimed last June.

SAMOA.

Led by a desire to compose the differences and contribute to the restoration of order in Samoa which for some years previous has been the scene of conflicting foreign pretensions and active strife, the United States, departing from its policy consecrated by a century of observance, entered four years ago into the treaty of Berlin, thereby becoming jointly bound with England and Germany to establish and maintain Mallieta Laupepaja as king of Samoa. The treaty provided for a foreign court of justice, a municipal council for the district of Apia with a foreign president thereof, authorized to advise the king, a tribunal of land titles and a revenue system for the kingdom. Certain issues have arisen from time to time as occasions may arise, negotiations with any government with which the United States has or may have diplomatic relations to the end that any differences or disputes resulting between the two governments which cannot be adjusted by diplomatic agency may be referred to arbitration and be peacefully adjusted by such means. April 16, 1890, the International American conference of Washington, by resolution, expressed the wish that all controversies between the republics of America and the nations of Europe might be sealed by arbitration and recommended that the government of each nation represented at the conference should communicate this wish to all friendly powers. A favorable response has been received from Great Britain in the shape of a resolution adopted by parliament June 6, last, cordially sympathizing with the purpose in view and expressing the hope that her majesty's government will lend ready co-operation to the government of the United States upon the bases of the concurrent resolution above quoted. It affords me signal pleasure to lay this parliamentary resolution before the congress and to express my sincere gratification that the sentiment of two great kindred nations is thus authoritatively manifested in favor of the rational and peaceable settlement of international quarrels by honorable resort to arbitration.

Since the passage of the act of March 3, 1893, authorizing the president to raise the grade of our envoys to correspond with the rank in which foreign countries accredit their agents here, Great Britain, France, Italy and Germany have conferred upon their representatives at this capital the title of Ambassador and have responded by accrediting the agents of the United States in those countries with the same title. A like elevation of mission is announced by Russia and when made will be similarly met. This step fittingly comports with the position the United States holds in the family of nations.

Durings my former administration I took occasion to recommend a recast of the law relating to the consular service, in order that it might become a more efficient agency in the promotion of the interests it was intended to subserve. The duties and powers of consuls have been expanded with the growing requirements of our foreign trade. Discharging the important duties affecting our commerce and American citizens abroad, and in certain countries exercising judicial functions, these officers should be men of character, intelligence and ability.

Upon proof that the legislation of Denmark secures copyright to American citizens of equal validity with its own, the privileges of our copyright laws have been extended by proclamation to subjects of that country.

Government Finances.

The secretary of the treasury reports that the receipts of the government from all sources during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1893, amounted to $461,716,551.94, and its expenditures to $459,374,674.69. There was collected from customs $203,448,275.11, from internal revenue $161,027,621.03. Our dutiable imports amounted to $621,806,711, an increase of $92,451,907 over the preceding year, and importations free of duty amounting to $244,584,211, a decrease from the preceding year of $13,455,447. Internal revenue receipts exceeded those of the preceding year by $7,741,445.32. The total tax collected on distilled spirits was $94,721,966.55; on manufactured tobacco $31,889,981.03.

We exported merchandise during the year amounting to $847,665,194, a decrease of $182,612,954 from the preceding year.

The amount of gold exported was larger than any previous year in the history of the government, amounting to $108,680,884, and exceeding the amount exported during the preceding year by $58,485,517.

The sum paid from the treasury for sugar bounty was $9,375,140.98, an increase over the preceding year of $2,023,053.69.

It is estimated, upon the basis of present revenue laws, that the receipts of the government of the year ending June 30, 1894, will be $430,121,905.58, and its expenditures $458,121,305.28, resulting in a deficiency of $28,000,000.

The total coinage of the mints during 1893, the amount of money of all kinds in circulation or not included in treasury holdings, was $1,718,794,632, an increase for the year of $112,456,917. Estimated at 40 millions of inhabitants at the time mentioned, the per capita circulation was $25.49.

On the same date there was in the treasury gold bullion amounting to $66,659,273 and silver bullion which was purchased at a cost of $126,291,934.

The purchases of silver under the law of July 14, 1890, during the last fiscal year aggregated 54,009,192.59 fine ounces, which cost $45,531,374.55. The total amount of silver purchased from the time that law became operative until the repeal of its purchasing clause by the act of November, 1893, was 168,174,949.46 fine ounces, which cost $155,940.84. Between the 1st day of March, 1873, and the 1st day of November, 1893, there were purchased under the laws 203,027,603.717 fine ounces of silver, at a cost of $216,622,948. The silver dollars that have been coined under the act of July 14, 1890, number 36,087,365. The seigniorage arising from coinage of this dollar was $6,377,008.30, leaving on hand in the mints 140,699,760 fine ounces, which cost $148,758,218.

Our total coinage of all metals during the last fiscal year amounted to 77,250,878 pieces, valued at $43,695,178.83, of which there was $30,038,140 in gold coin, $5,565,715 in silver dollars, $7,217,220.90 in subsidiary silver coin and $1,086,500.93 in minor coin.

During the calendar year 1892 the production of precious metals in the United States was estimated to be 1,386,275 fine ounces of gold of the commercial value of $28,600,000, and 58,000,000 fine ounces of silver of the bullion or market value of $50,150,000, and of the coinage value of $74,986,900.

It is estimated that on the first day of July, 1893, the metallic stock of money in the United States, consisting of coin and bullion, amounted to $1,728,326,569, of which $697,687,689 was gold and $415,987,484 was silver. One hundred and add ninety national banks were organized during the year ending Oct. 31, 1893, with a capital of $11,230,000. Forty-six went into voluntary liquidation and 158 were insolvent, five of the suspended banks were insolvent, eighty-five resumed business, seven remain in the hands of bank examiners with prospects of speedily resuming.

Of the new banks organized forty-four were located in the Eastern States, forty one west of the Mississippi river and 34 in the Central and Southern States. The total number of national banks in existence on the first day of October, 1893, was 3796, having an aggregate capital of $60,558,920. The net increase in the circulation of the banks during the year was $36,936,052.

The Silver Question.

The recent repeal of the provision of law requiring the purchase of silver bullion by the government as a feature of our monetary scheme has made an entire change in the complexion of our currency affairs. It is not doubted that the ultimate result of this action will be most salutary and far reaching.

In the nature of things, however, it is impossible to know at this time precisely what conditions would be brought about by the change or what, if any, supplementary legislation may, or in the light of such conditions, appear to be necessary or expedient. It may well be that the recent financial perturbation time is necessary for the re-establishment of business confidence. When, however, through this restored confidence the money which has been frightened into hoarding places is returned to trade and enterprise, a survey of the situation will probably disclose the safe path leading to a permanent and adequate currency sufficient to meet ever requirements of an increasing population and business. In the pursuit of this object we should resolutely turn away from alluring but temporary expedients, determined to be content with nothing less than a lasting and comprehensive financial plan. In these circumstances I am confirmed that a reasonable delay with the subject, instead of being injurious, will increase the probability of wise action.

THE BRUSSELS CONFERENCE.

The monetary conference which assembled at Brussels upon our invitation has adjourned to the 30th day of November in the present year. The considerations just stated and the fact that a definite proposition from us seemed to be expected upon the assembling of the congress led me to express a willingness to have the meeting still further postponed. It seems to me that it would be wise to give general authority to the President to invite other nations to join us in conference at any time when there should be a fair prospect of accomplishing an international agreement on the subject of coinage.

GOVERNMENT BONDS.

I desire also to strongly suggest the wisdom of amending the existing status in regard to the issuance of government bonds. The authority now vested in the secretary of the treasury is to issue bonds in addition to the 5 per cents and the bonds authorized are disadvantageous to the government, both as to the time of their maturity and the rate of interest.

The Navy Department.

The report of the secretary of the navy contains a history of the operations of the department during the past year, and exhibits a most gratifying condition of the personnel of our navy. He presents a satisfactory account of changes which have been made in the construction of vessels, and makes a number of recommendations, which are especially invited.

During the past six months the demands for cruisers in service have been many and most urgent. There have been revolutions calling for vessels to protect American interests in Nicaragua, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Honduras, Argentina and Brazil, while the condition of affairs in Honolulu has required the constant presence of one or more ships. With all these calls upon our navy, it became necessary in order to meet them, to withdraw the vessels of Behring sea under the modus vivienda agreed upon with Great Britain, to detail to that service one vessel from the fish commission and three from the revenue marine.

Progress in the construction of new vessels has not been as rapid as we anticipated. Between the provisional government of Hawaii and the United States and submitted to the senate for ratification. This treaty I withdrew for examination after the accession of Mr. Cleveland as President. John A. Bidwell, of Georgia to Honolulu as a Special Commissioner to make an impartial investigation of the circumstances attending the overthrow of government and of all the conditions bearing upon the subject of the treaty and after a thorough and exhaustive examination Mr. Blount submitted to me his report, showing beyond a doubt that the constitutional government of Hawaii had been subverted with the active aid of our representative to that government and through the intimidation caused by the presence of an armed naval force of the United States which was landed for that purpose at the instance of our minister. Upon the facts developed it seemed to me the only honorable course for our government to pursue was to undo the wrong that had been done by those representing us and to restore, if it were practicable, the status existing at the time of our forcible intervention. With a view of accomplishing the result within the constitutional limits of executive power and recognizing all our obligations and responsibilities growing out of any change of conditions, because of the lawful intervention, our present minister at Honolulu is now instructed to explain instructions to that end. Thus far no information of the accomplishment of any definite results has been received from him. Additional advices are soon expected. When received they will promptly be sent to Congress, together with all other information at hand, accompanied by a special executive message, fully detailing all the facts necessary to a complete understanding of the case, and presenting a history of all the material events leading up to the present situation.

Minor Foreign Matters.

By a concurrent resolution passed by the senate Feb. 14, 1890, and by the house of representatives on the 3d of April following, the president was requested to invite from time to time as occasions may arise, negotiations with any government with which the United States has or may have diplomatic relations to the end that any differences or disputes resulting between the two governments which cannot be adjusted by diplomatic agency may be referred to arbitration and be peacefully adjusted by such means. April 16, 1890, the International American conference of Washington, by resolution, expressed the wish that all controversies between the republics of America and the nations of Europe might be sealed by arbitration and recommended that the government of each nation represented at the conference should communicate this wish to all friendly powers. A favorable response has been received from Great Britain in the shape of a resolution adopted by parliament June 6, last, cordially sympathizing with the purpose in view and expressing the hope that her majesty's government will lend ready co-operation to the government of the United States upon the bases of the concurrent resolution above quoted. It affords me signal pleasure to lay this parliamentary resolution before the congress and to express my sincere gratification that the sentiment of so many important subjects that his report is of especial value and interest. On the 30th day of June, 1893, there were on the pension rolls 966,012 names, an increase of 30,344 over the number on the rolls on June 30, 1892.

Of these there were seventeen widows and daughters of revolutionary soldiers, the survivors of the war of 1812, 945 widows of soldiers of that war, 21,348 survivors and widows of the Mexican war, 2802 survivors and widows of the Indian wars, 284 army nurses and 475,846 survivors and widows and children of deceased soldiers and sailors of the war of the rebellion. The latter number represents those pensioned on account of disabilities, death resulting from army and navy services. The number of persons remaining on the rolls June 30, 1893, who were pensioned under the act of June 27, 1890, which allows pensions on account of death and disablement not chargeable to army service was 456,155.

The number added to the rolls during the year was 123,624 and the number dropped was 31,600.

The first payments on pensions allowed during the year amounted to $31,756,549.98. This includes arrears or the accumulation between the time from which the allowance of a pension dates and the time of actually granting the certificates. Although the law of 1890 permits pensions for disability not related to military service, yet as a prerequisite to its benefits a disability must exist incapacitating applications from the performance of manual labor to such a degree as to render them unable to earn support. The execution of this law in the spirit does not seem to have been in accord with its true intention. But toward the close of the last administration an authoritative construction was given to the statute which shows that time this construction has been to lowest. This has had the effect of limiting the operation of the law to its intended purpose. The discovery having been made that pensions had been put upon the pension roll by means of wholesale and gigantic frauds, the commissioner suspended payments upon a number of pensions which seemed to be manifest of unauthorized pending a complete examination giving notice to the pensioner in order that they might have an opportunity to establish if possible the justice of their claims, notwithstanding apparent invalidity.

This, I understand, is the practice which has for a long time prevailed in the pension bureau but after entering upon these recent investigations the commissioner modified this rule so as to not allow until after a complete examination interference with the payment of a pension apparently not altogether void, but which merely had been fixed at a rate higher than that authorized by law. I am unable to understand why frauds in the pension rolls should not be exposed and corrected with thoroughness and vigor. Every sound transiently put upon these rolls is a wicked imposition upon the kindly sentiment in which pensions have their origin. Every fraudulent pensioner has become a bad citizen, every false oath in support of a pension has been a perjury, and every dollar of the money of deserving pensioners job the people not only of their money, but of the patriotic sentiment which the survivors of the war who fought for the preservation of the Union have for their Government. Thousands of neighborhoods have their well known fraudulent pensioners and recent developments by the bureau establish appalling conspiracies to systematically defraud the government. Such practices in any department of the government are to be condemned to such associations.

Those who assume to take the place of duty to rectify these wrongs should not be accused of enmity or indifference to the claims of honest veterans. The sentiment of the country is that the laws of the ending June 30, 1893, was $156,146,227.14. The Commissioner estimates that $165,000,000 will be required to pay pensions during the year ending June 30, 1894.

THE INDIANS.

The condition of the Indians and their ultimate state are subjects of the utmost importance to the government and which strongly appeal to the sense of justice and the sympathy of our people.

Our Indians number about 250,000. Most of them are located on 161 reservations, containing 86,196,531 acres of land. About 119,000 of these Indians have to a large degree adopted civilized customs. Lands in severalty have been allotted to them. Such allotments have been made to 10,000 individuals during the last fiscal year, embracing about 1,000,000 acres. The number of Indians in government schools over during the year was 21,568, an increase of 1,821 over the preceding year. Of this total 370 were on reservations, of which seventy-three were boarding schools and nineteen were day schools, twenty-four were boarding and five day schools supported by the government were not located on reservations. The total number of Indian children enrolled during the year in attendance of all schools was 21,428, an increase of 1,221 over the enrollment for the previous year. I am sure that the secular education and moral and religious teaching must be important factors in the civilization of the Indians and lead him to civilization. I believe also that relinquishment of tribal relations and the holding of land in severality may, in favorable conditions, and upon consumption of a process to be, that allotment of land in severality ought to be made with great care and circumspection.

It hardly does before the Indian knows its value, and while he is still little fitted for the office of tilling a farm and no conception of thrift, there is great danger that a reservation lifeen tribal relations may be exchanged for the pauperism and civilization instead of its independence and elevation.

The solution of the Indian problem depends very largely on a good administration. The upright, capable man, who has the adaptability to their peculiar duty of caring for their wards is of the utmost importance.

The law providing that except in special cases army officers shall be detailed as Indian agents, it is hoped, will prove a successful experiment. There is danger of great abuses creeping into the management of our Indian depredations and I recommend that every possible safeguard be provided against the enrichment of unjust and fictitious claims of this description. The appropriation for the support of the Indian bureau for the year ending June 30, 1894, amount to $7,954,962.96, a decrease as compared with the year preceding of $587,519.85.

The Indian office is now in such a good time as constituted the public domain is rapidly falling into private hands. It is certain that in the transfer the beneficient intention of the government to secure to the Indian a home adapted to the industrious and worthy homeseekers, is often frustrated. Through the speculators, who stand with extortionate purposes between the government and the Indian, the lands in severalty allotments are invited by the government to settle on the public lands, is a despicable character who ought not to be tolerated, yet it is difficult to reach and punish them. I have directed my attention to settlement of the lands in the Uhrichokee outlet, embracing an area of 6,000,000 acres, notwithstanding the utmost care in framing the proclamation opening the lands of locations, and notwithstanding the presence of United States troops, furnished an exhibition, though perhaps in a modified degree, of the scramble, the violence and the fraudulent occupation which have accompanied previous openings of public lands. I regret to say that I have the belief that these outrageous incidents cannot be entirely prevented without a change in laws on the subject, and I have made recommendations in that direction will be favorably considered.

I especially commend to the attention of the congress the statements contained in the secretary's report urgently forwarding the interests of those when the efficient measures should be taken for the preservation of the forests from indiscriminate and remediless destruction.

Department of Agriculture.

The report of the secretary of agriculture will be found exceedingly interesting especially to those large part of our population still concerned in agricultural occupations. On the 7th day of March, 1893, they had upon its pay rolls 2633 employes. This number has been reduced to 1859, leaving the service of the United Country and the imperative demand of the people for economy in the administration of their government the secretary has entered upon the task of rationally reducing expenditures by the eliminating from the pay rolls of all persons not needed for an efficient conduct of the affairs of the department. During the first quarter of the present year the expenses of the department aggregated $448,970.76, as against $602,847.07 for the corresponding period of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893, and I venture to make apparent the intention to continue this rate of reduction by submitting estimates for the next fiscal year less by $300,000 than those for the current year.

The amount appropriated for the bureau of animal industry for the current fiscal year is $1,000,000. The estimate for the year ending is $930,000.

The regulations of 1892 concerning Texas fever have been enforced during the last year and the large stock yards of the country have been kept free from infection. Occasional local outbreaks have been largely such as could have been by care effectually guarded against by the owners of the affected cattle. While contagious pleuro pneumonia in cattle has been eradicated, animal tuberculosis, a disease as widely spread and more dangerous to human life than pleuro-pneumonia, is still prevalent. Investigations have been made during the past year as to the means of its communication, as to the methods of its correct diagnosis. Much progress has been made in this direction by the studies of the division of animal pathology, but the work ought to be extended, in co-operation with local authorities until the danger to human life arising from this cause is reduced to a minimum.

The number of animals arriving from Canada during the year and inspected by the bureau officer was 862,092 and the number from trans-Atlantic countries was 1,260. No contagious diseases were found among the imported animals. The total number of inspections of cattle for export during the past fiscal year was 612,542. The exports show a falling off of about 25 per cent from the preceding year, the decrease occurring entirely in the last half of the year. This suggests that the falling of may have been caused by the inability to increase the American export cattle. During the year ending June 30, 1893, exports of inspected pork aggregated 20,677,469 pounds, as against 38,112,524 pounds for the preceding year. The falling off in this export is not confined to inspected pork, the total quantity exported for 1892 being 635,490,615 pounds, while in 1893 it was only 605,848,[illegible] pounds.

The exports of agricultural products from the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893, attained the enormous figure of $860,000,000 in round numbers, being 57 per cent of our total exports. In the last fiscal year this aggregate was greatly reduced, but nevertheless reached $675,000,000, being 55 per cent of all American commodities exported. A review of our agricultural exports with special reference to their destination will show that in almost every line the United kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland absorbs by far the largest proportion.

In cattle the total exports aggregated in value for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893, $23,000,000, of which Great Britain took consumerably over $25,000,000. Of beef products of all kinds our total exports were $28,000,000, of which Great Britain took $24,000,000.

Of hog products the total exports were $44,000,000, of which Great Britain took $35,000,000.

In breadstuffs, cotton and minor products the proportions sent to the same destination are shown.

In the year 1839 the congress appropriated $10,000 to be taken from the patent office funds for the purpose of collecting and distributing rare and improved varieties of seeds and for prosecuting agricultural investigations and producing agricultural statistics. From this small beginning the seed division of the department of agriculture has grown to its present unwieldly and unjustifiably extravagant proportions. During the last fiscal year the cost of seeds purchased was $66,518.61. The remainder of an appropriation of $135,000 was expended in putting them up and distributing them. It surely never could have entered the minds of those who first sanctioned appropriations of public money for the purchase of new and improved varieties of seeds for distribution that from this would grow the large appropriations for the purchase and distribution by members of congress of ordinary seeds, bulbs and cuttings, which are common in all the states and territories and every where easily obtainable at low prices. In each state and territory an agricultural experimental station has been established. These stations, by their very character and name, are the proper agencies to experiment with and test the varieties of seeds, and yet this indiscriminate and wasteful distribution by legislation and legislators continues, answering no purpose, unless it be to remind constituents that their representatives are willing to remember them gratuitous at public cost.

Under the sanction of existing legislation there was sent out from the agricultural department during the last fiscal year enough of cabbage seed to plant 19,336 acres of land, a sufficient quantity of beans to plant 4000 acres, beet seed enough to plant 9600 acres, sweet corn enough to plant 2800 acres, sufficient cucumber seeds to cover 2535 acres with vines, and enough muskmelon and watermelon seeds to plant 3600 acres. The total quantity of flower and vegetable seeds thus distributed was contained in more than 9,000,000 packages, and they were sufficient if planted, to cover 80,536 acres.

Civil Service Reform.

The continued intelligent execution of the civil service law is a matter of approval by the people of its operation are most gratifying. The recent extension of its limitation and regulations to the employes at free delivery offices of the postoffices has proceeded and promptly accomplished by the commission with the hearty co-operation of the postmaster general is an immensely important advance in the usefulness of the system. I am, if possible more than ever convinced of the incalculable benefits conferred by the civil service law not only in its effect upon public service but also in its influence upon the morals and effect in elevating the tone of political life generally.

The course of civil service reform in this country is instructive and interesting. It illustrates how strong a hold a movement gains upon our people which has underlying it a sentiment of justice and right and at the same time provokes the opposition of the friends of government. The law embodying this reform found its way to our statute book more from fear of the popular sentiment existing in its favor than from any love for the reform itself on the part of legislators, who had lived and grown and flourished in spite of the covert as well as open hostility of spoilsmen, and notwithstanding the querulous impeachability of many self constituted guardians. Beneath all the vagaries and shortcomings of which we are treated to it, there underlies this reform a sturdy common sense principle, not only suited to this mundane sphere, but whose application our people are the proper agencies to experiment with and test the varieties of seeds, and yet this indiscriminate and wasteful distribution by legislation and legislators continues, answering no purpose, unless it be to remind constituents that their representatives are willing to remember them gratuitous at public cost.

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