

THURSDAY, JAN. 10, 1901.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL

Des Moines, January 8, 1901. The packing house plant, owned by Harry West, was sold on the last day of the century to F. M. Hubbell, Sons & Co. The Hubbells will hold the plant for a tenant, and will endeavor to connect with one of the prospective renters with whom Mr. West has been in correspondence.

The supreme court has handed down a decision of vast importance to temperance people who are fighting saloons in the little towns. In substance, it is held that the canvass of names to a statement of consent must be made from the poll book and that when the poll book is small and only a part of a precinct, it is not cast at a general election, there is no poll books showing separately the voters of that town. In such a case the petition of consent is not valid. The case is entitled Hill vs. Gleisher and is originally from the Winneshiek county court.

Judge McPherson of the federal court has handed down a decision in the case of R. S. C. Davis, administrator of the estate of S. T. Davis, deceased, in which the question of whether or not a bank may be compelled to give an account of its assets and liabilities after it has received a discharge through fraud in a case of that character when the evidence is sufficient to show a bankrupt has held back a portion of his assets, plaintiff is entitled to an other investigation.

Former State Senator Lathrop has applied to the state executive council for authority to proceed to the collection of about \$375,000 which he claimed the general government owes Iowa as interest upon the funds which she used to fit out her troops during the civil war. The state used about \$300,000 during that period, most of which went to this purpose. This money was worth, then, 6 per cent. The government refunded to the states the principal of these funds, but, as in the case of the Spanish war, did not pay interest. This interest, it is computed, amounted to about \$375,000 on that portion of the funds used for the troops, directly for the principal was not refunded for twenty-five years. Auditor of State Morrison has had the correspondence with Senator Lathrop in charge, and will bring the matter before the state executive council. Mr. Lathrop represents that he has Washington connections which will be able to present the state's position there, and he is confident that the state can recover this sum. He wishes authority to collect it. So far, the amount of the interest has not yet been known whether the government had ever refunded interest on these funds or not. The matter will be taken up at once and pushed, if it is determined by the state authorities that there is any right in the proposition. The state is also awarded \$55,000 which the government owes us on account of funds expended on account of the Spanish war. The interest on this quarter of a million at 4 per cent would have amounted to about \$15,000.

A Des Moines lawyer has called attention to the following extract from a chapter on legislative intent in a work entitled, "Outline of Criminal Law and Procedure," written by Justice Emlin McClain which he was chancellor of the University law school: "Legislative Intent.—It is but putting the statute to be considered, in another form, to say that the legislative intent is to ascertain the purpose. This is the primary object of all rules of construction or interpretation. When that is made plain by the signs or indications which the law regards as authoritative, there is no further room for construction or interpretation. Where the language is clear and explicit, and susceptible of but one meaning, and there is nothing incongruous in the act, a court is bound to suppose the legislature intended what the language imports. 1 Bl. Com., 69 and Cooley's note."

The attorney thinks that inasmuch as McClain is one of the three disinterested judges who will pass on the case, this little extract from a work of his own preparation and from which he has been engaged in teaching for years may indicate the way he will lean in preparing his opinion on the Titus amendment.

Boers Moving in Parallel Columns, as Cape Town, Jan. 4.—The military authorities are preparing for all contingencies. It has been decided to transfer the Boer prisoners from the camps to transports. Farmers coming in from Carnarvon describe the Boers as traveling in parallel columns with numerous banking parties sweeping the country of horses, plundering loyalists and carrying off everything eatable. It appears that they are accompanied by strings of pack horses lightly loaded.

Colebrook telegraphs that Kritzing's company is crossing the Middleburg, but is getting few, if any, recruits. The commercial companies have asked the mayor to call a mass meeting to urge the government to suppress the disloyal newspapers and to proclaim martial law. Cape Town, Jan. 4.—A station master of the Frazerburg road has seized a number of cases marked "condensed milk" addressed to Frazerburg, which contained 3,000 split bullets, 500 detonators and 150 pounds of dynamite.

Turns State's Evidence. Omaha, Neb., 8.—In a letter mailed at Lincoln, a writer who represents himself as one of the kidnapers of Eddie Cudahy, has made a formal offer to turn state's evidence against his confederates in return for immunity himself, and this guaranty has been accepted by the chief of police and Mr. Cudahy.

Iowa Telephone Company Says Des Moines, Jan. 8.—The Iowa Telephone company has filed a demurrer to the petition, State ex rel C. E. Campbell, and F. M. Hubbell vs. the Iowa Telephone company in which the plaintiffs are seeking to have the company ousted from the city on the ground that it is operating without a franchise. The demurrer sets up the claim that the city is exceeding its jurisdiction in that it has only the right to regulate a corporation operating prior to that time, had no right to amend the election of the telephone lines on its streets and alleys and that the general statute of the state of Iowa permitting telephone companies to construct lines along public highways, was the only authority under which the defendant's lines were erected in the city of Des Moines.

COULDN'T PRODUCE THE TICKET. Vinton Man Falls to Get the Sioux City Mansion. Sioux City, Jan. 6.—It transpires that R. M. Bills, of Vinton, who was thought to hold the ticket which won the John Pierce mansion, is not the lucky man. The ticket is held by W. T. Barber, a millionaire thread manufacturer, whose home is in New York City. Through an error, the lucky number 35,355, was registered as having been sold to Bills. It has since developed that the number lies among other tickets sold to Barber and held for him here in Sioux City. Bills has been unable to produce a ticket of that number. Barber has filed a claim for the mansion, which is to be placed before Christmas. The mansion and the property on which it stands cost about \$60,000. It has the finest house in Sioux City.

ACTION IN JONES CASE. Notice of Served in Polk County by Attorney General Remley. Des Moines, Jan. 5.—Attorney General Remley took action in the Jones case. On behalf of the state he brings action in the district court against Clerk W. Jones of the supreme court and his bondsmen to recover \$8,336 and interest and costs. Mr. Remley was requested by the executive council to bring suit for such an amount as would protect the interests of the state. He is not sued for an amount as it has been charged by State Treasurer Herriott Mr. Jones ought to be compelled to refund. The \$8,336 is supposed to represent fees received by Mr. Jones for copying opinions of the supreme court for the West Publishing Co. and others and never turned in to the state treasury. It includes no other classes of fees.

FOR A UNITED FRONT. Efforts to Combine Incumbent Officers in One Test Struggle. Sioux City, Jan. 5.—At a conference here between the Sioux City officials who are trying to hold their places under the Titus amendment and their attorneys, it was decided to unite all of the incumbent officials in the state in a fight against the amendment. The plan is to concentrate the best legal talent available in one case and make it a test. The promoter of the movement has already had considerable success in winning county officials elsewhere and they expect to carry out their plan. They hope to save endless expense and also hasten the adjudication of the amendment.

SAD SUICIDE. Prominent Young Man of Des Moines Shoots Himself. Des Moines, Jan. 8.—Harry Prouty, son of C. G. Prouty, a wholesale grocer, shot and killed himself at North Platte, Neb., while temporarily insane. He had recently started for a trip around the world with his uncle, Charles Prouty. They had reached San Francisco, when the latter was called back to the care of his mother. Harry remained in San Francisco, being sick and confined at a hospital at the time. However, he started home while unwell and, undoubtedly, suffering from some sudden and peculiar mental hallucination, left the city on a train, Neb., and soon after killed himself.

SUIT FOR A LARGE AMOUNT. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Company Defendants. Clinton, Jan. 4.—The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway has just been made defendant here in the district court in this county. The plaintiff in the case is W. F. McFarland, administrator of the estate of his son, Noah J. McFarland, who was killed in a wreck in the county superintendent endorses them. It is said that, not satisfied with lies, he offers pecuniary inducements to the school boards. He has secured five year contracts from dozens of school boards in the different counties in this vicinity. At a recent teachers' convention a discussion of the agent's tactics disclosed the swindling misrepresentations of the agent, and several school boards are seeking an annulment of their five-year contracts.

YOUNG HORSETHIEF ARRESTED. Ft. Dodge, Jan. 7.—Fred Nelson of Lehigh was arrested at the home of his sweetheart at Mondamin, on the charge of horse stealing, and was held to the grand jury on bonds of \$1,000 this morning. Nelson stole his father's horse, brought it to Fort Dodge, and sold it for \$30 to W. H. Arthur, this city. His father reclaimed the horse and the matter was placed in the hands of the sheriff, who located the culprit at Mondamin after a long search. The case has aroused much excitement at Lehigh, because the young man is well connected, and this is his first offense.

Big Blaze at Garner. Mason City, Jan. 5.—Fire was discovered in the First National bank block at Garner and before the fire department got it checked the opera house block, the finest three-story block, was in ruins. The First National loses \$15,000 on the building, covered by \$100,000 insurance, and \$1,000 on fixtures. McMahon's drug store, valued at \$6,000, was covered with \$4,000 insurance and the Mallock Fair store, worth \$4,000, was insured for \$2,000. Two small store buildings near by were wrecked by falling walls, but there were no casualties.

Asks \$20,000 Damages. Des Moines, Jan. 5.—The widow of James Coleman, killed in the recent disaster at the glucose factory, has brought suit against the company for \$20,000 damages, based on the verdict of the coroner's jury.

Clermont Postoffice Robbed. Dubuque, Jan. 7.—The postoffice at Clermont was robbed of \$100 in stamps. The safe was drilled open, after which the robbers escaped in the north.

Surprises Iowa Insurance Men by Coming to This State. Des Moines, Jan. 4.—Mrs. Wright arrested at Potosi Springs, Colo., for the alleged murder of George Boer, on suspicion that the crime was committed for the purpose of securing the amount of insurance policies held by the Annuity Life association of Des Moines and similar institutions at Sioux City, and who was afterwards released, has shown her hand. She has written a letter to the Annuity association, demanding the amount of the policy and intimating that if it is not paid at once there is trouble in store for the association. The exact contents of the letter are not disclosed, but enough is known to form an idea of the substance said to be in the nature of a threat.

When Mrs. Wright and the man Neff, who was with her at the time Barber so mysteriously died, were released it was believed she would make no application for the payment of the policies and the letter received by Manager Baker of the Annuity Life company, which was a direct surprise. Parties interested in the case were of the opinion Wright and Neff would not dare to enter Iowa and make their whereabouts known to the associations.

The fact that the letter was post marked at an Iowa station, and the further fact that there is no attempt being made to keep the matter quiet is an evidence that they are not afraid of prosecution either by the Annuity Life or the association at Sioux City.

PHILIP ARMOUR DEAD. Millionaire Financier Succumbed to Heart Affection. Chicago, Jan. 8.—Philip D. Armour, financier and multi-millionaire, head of the vast commercial establishment which bears his name, died at his home, 2115 Prairie avenue, Sunday evening. A muscular affection of the heart, known to the medical profession as myocarditis, was the immediate cause of his death. He had been slowly recovering from pneumonia that for three weeks had threatened his life.

AGUINALDO AGAIN DEAD. This Time the Report is Considered Reliable. New York, Jan. 5.—Benjamin Ide Wheeler, president of the University of California, who is now staying at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel, has received information from secret sources in the Philippines to the effect that Aguinaldo is dead and that his death occurred some six weeks ago. The news has been kept secret by Aguinaldo's followers, it is said, for the purpose of prolonging the rebellion, since it is believed that the news of the chief's death would be ready for the unexpected. It is said that an utter capitulation would result. President Wheeler obtained the news through several Filipino children who have been placed in his care by their parents. Two are sons of Aguinaldo, a wealthy citizen of Manila, who bore the brunt of the Americans in the Philippines had been an active leader of the rebellion against the Spanish.

KITCHENER HAS MORE REGRETS. Knox's Command Loses Heavily Near Ladysmith. London, Jan. 8.—Reporting to the war office under date of January 9, Lord Roberts says: "Yesterday Babington engaged De la Ruyter and Steenkamp's commandos at Naauport. The enemy was forced to retire to the northwest. Our casualties have not yet been received, but are reported slight. A Boer scout admitted that twenty Boers were killed or wounded. Commandant Duprez was taken prisoner. It appears from reports of the wounded who have arrived at Heilbron that a detachment 120 strong, belonging to Knox's command, came into contact with a superior force of the enemy, who were under the command of Lieutenant Laing, two other officers and fifteen men were killed and two officers and twenty men wounded. No details have come from Knox of this action."

MADE ALL SILVER COUNTERFEITS Secret Service Captures a Gang in New York City. Washington, Jan. 7.—For at least two months the secret service people have been at work to discover the makers of a large number of all-silver counterfeit coins, mostly quarters and half dollars, which were being freely circulated in New York City. The secret service, under the direction of the secretary of the treasury department, under Chief Wilkie's direction, have arrested Pio Paris and seven companions, all Italians. The fact that large numbers of these all-silver counterfeits were being freely circulated in New York during the last two years, have given Chief Wilkie a great deal of trouble. The coins being of almost pure silver, 100 fine and fairly well made, they readily passed wherever presented and rendered extremely difficult the task of locating the makers and passers.

BRITISH COLUMBIA BALKS. No Troops Will Be Recruited There For the Campaign. Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 8.—Owing to the demand of the imperial authorities that all mounted police recruited for South Africa must pay their fare to Cape Town and submit to inspection as to fitness by English officers, all ideas of recruiting in British Columbia have been abandoned unless the men's passage be paid and the men are inspected as to fitness by the Canadian officers here.

To Expel All Hazers. Washington, Jan. 8.—The pending army reorganization bill Senator Vest of Missouri has offered the following amendment: "The officers in charge of the West Point military academy shall make and enforce such rules and regulations as they may deem proper for the purpose of participating in such practice shall be expelled from the academy and shall not be reappointed to the corps of cadets therein."

The Japanese, it is said, have accepted the kindergarten principles with enthusiasm, and thus a new field of work is prepared for Japanese women.

General MacArthur's Scheme of Segregation. Manila, Jan. 8.—General MacArthur has ordered the deportation of Generals Ricarte, De Pilar, Hizon, Llanera and Santos to the Island of Guam. Nine regimental and four subordinate officers with eight civilians, including Trias, Tecson and Mabini, notable assistants of the insurrectionists, have also been ordered to be deported. It is General MacArthur's intention to hold most of the active leaders of the rebels who have been captured in Guam until the resumption of a condition of peace has been declared.

COLD FIT FOR COLONISTS. Loud Calls for Reinforcements for South Africa. London, Jan. 8.—The news from Cape Town is again unsatisfactory. Martial law has been proclaimed at Malmesbury, and would have been proclaimed in the other districts but that the cabinet meeting called Saturday was unable to agree as to its advisability. The vagueness of the information employed in the movements and position of the invaders has sent a fresh cold fit over the colonists and Cape Town calls loudly for strong reinforcements from England, on the ground that the greater part of Lord Kitchener's available army is employed in protecting the lines of communication and the Hand mines, the latter extending for a distance of fifty miles. It is asserted by one Cape Town correspondent that unless the forces in Cape Colony are increased a most undesirable state of affairs may result, as the success of the army of invaders, however slight, might be the signal for a Dutch rising. As it is, many British residents have had to leave the Dutch villages near Cape Town, their lives being unbearable. According to a native reporter, the Boers, who are local farmers, have just passed through Gann Williams district in the direction of Malmesbury.

The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily Mail, who calls for 40,000 fresh troops, says: "Prominent African loyalists declare that the Boer rebels will constitute a challenge and that the ominous silence of the rebels, combined with the fact that members of the pro-Boers' junta in Cape Town have been touring in the disaffected districts, emphasizes the necessity of martial law. The necessity was never more acute for dispatching reinforcements. Already there is proof that the colonists are leading one commando."

The military movements reported are quite important, though Lord Roberts is sending reinforcements to Lourenco Marques. The Hague correspondent of the Daily Mail, is recruiting in Holland, Belgium, France and Germany. His recruits are sent to Namqualand ostensibly as emigrants, each man receiving £50 down on the start.

In a letter to the Times the earl of Dunraven emphasizing "the very grave situation in South Africa" warns the country to distrust the opinions of experts on the spot and to be ready for the unexpected. He complains of "the inertia of the authorities" and urges the necessity of large reinforcements.

The Cape Town correspondent of the Times, who confirms the report of the multiplicity of the Boer commandos, says: "Nearly six-sixths of the British troops are employed to guard the lines of communication, and garrison towns, leaving a small number, partly unmounted, to pursue the enemy. Large reinforcements are visible, and these would be cheaper in the end. The number of the Boers did to Kleinfontein is officially estimated at 231,000."

KRUPP FIELD GUNS TAKEN. German Troops Capture Chinese War Implements. Tien-Tsin, Jan. 7.—The German expedition which started Christmas for Tien-Cheng-Hsu, under command of Colonel Greuder, has returned. Colonel Greuder reports the capture of forty-three Krupp field guns and the destruction of 2,000 rifles and large quantities of ammunition.

Paris, Jan. 7.—The foreign office is advised from Shanghai, under date of January 3, that advances from Sianou to the report of the execution of Yu-Hsien (the former governor of Shan-Hai, guilty of massacring about fifty missionaries whom he had invited to accept protection under his care) December 19 by order of the dowager empress. Prince Tuan is still in the city.

New York, Jan. 7.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: "Your correspondent has obtained copies of important decrees issued by the czar of Russia which go to show that the St. Petersburg government contemplates no departure from the policy of evacuating Manchuria as soon as circumstances permit. These decrees, which are in the form of instructions to military and naval commanders, further show that the czar has been strenuous in his efforts to prevent looting or ill-treatment of the inhabitants of the territory occupied by his troops."

Shanghai, Jan. 7.—A dispatch received here from Tien-Tsin says Field Marshal Count von Woltersdorff has ordered his staff to cease hostilities, but that some of the commanders have not been informed of these instructions. It is explained that they are in the field after the Boxers.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Senate.—The body of a man was today displaced from its position as "man of the hour" by the army reorganization bill. During the discussion of the army measure, the opposition members indicated that their line of attack upon the bill would be against the creation of a large, permanent standing army. There was an intimation that objection would not be offered to a temporary measure to provide an adequate force to maintain the authority of the United States in the Philippines. Beyond this point, today's proceedings developed nothing of the house republicans who favor cutting down the representation from the southern states in which franchise is abolished, and whose defeat today because a number of their colleagues refused to act with them. Instead of Pennsylvania offered a resolution reciting the alleged "abridgment of suffrage in Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, North Carolina and directing the committee on census to investigate and report the facts to the house in order that a constitutional basis or representation could be established for those states. When it finally came to a vote it was defeated, 81 to 83. The story of the defeat is found in the absences on both sides who were unpaired. Thirty-two republicans were absent and unpaired against the opposition.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Senate.—For five hours today the senate discussed the army reorganization bill. The debate took a wide range at times, but was confined principally to the question of the necessity for the increase in the regular army provided for in the bill. A resolution was advanced a proposition to create a commission to be composed of all shades of political opinion to investigate the entire Philippine question and report its findings to congress. In order that a basis might be formed for intelligent action, the resolution was referred to the committee on foreign relations was adopted: "That it is the opinion of this body of the time has come when the principle, twice affirmed in international treaties by Central America, that no territory should be protected against the destructive traffic in intoxicants should be extended to all uncivilized peoples by the enactment of such laws and the making of such treaties as will effectively prohibit the sale by the signatory powers to aboriginal tribes and uncivilized races of opium and intoxicating beverages."

House.—The house had another spirited struggle over the O'Leary resolution to investigate the abridgment of the suffrage in certain southern states with a view to reapportionment upon the actual basis of suffrage. It was finally referred to the census committee where the opposition desire to delay originally. The reapportionment bill was debated at length.

Washington, Jan. 5.—Senate.—While the senate was in session for more than three hours today little in the way of important legislation was accomplished. The committee on the army reorganization bill, to which no objection had been raised, were agreed to, but none of the contested amendments were considered. Dilatory tactics were employed by Mr. Stewart, of South Dakota, to prevent the consideration of matters that would advance the business of the senate.

House.—The feature of the debate upon the reapportionment bill in the house today was a speech by Mr. Littlefield, of Maine, in favor of the Burleigh bill to increase the membership of the house to 386. He had a number of sharp exchanges with Mr. Hopkins, of Illinois, chairman of the census committee, in which he sustained his position as a hard hitter and vigorous debater.

Washington, Jan. 7.—Senate.—A notable speech was delivered in the senate today by Lodge of Massachusetts. Addressing the senate on the amendment of the military bill striking out the provisions in the army reorganization bill for a veterinary corps, he discussed briefly and principally in the form of a colloquy with Senator Bacon of Georgia the Philippine question and the necessity for an army of 100,000 men. In conclusion he drew a picture of the picture of the commercial world, the United States, declaring that the trade conflict with Europe, already begun, could result only in the commercial and economic supremacy of this country over the entire world. In this connection he predicted that he apprehended no danger of a material contest with any nation of the world, but he urged the necessity of a strong and scientifically organized army and a powerful navy, in order that the United States might be prepared to defend her rights against any possible foe. The speech created a profound impression. The senate ratified the committee's proposition to eliminate the house provision for the establishment of a veterinary corps in the army.

House.—The public speeches today were by Crumacker of Indiana, dealing with alleged disfranchisement in the south; by Heppner of Iowa, severely arraigning the presidential rules as annihilating the constitutional prerogatives of the house, and by Gros of Pennsylvania, comparing the old system in the house with that of the present.

WELCOME TO ROBERTS. All London Greeted Him—Entertained at Buckingham Palace. London, Jan. 4.—Lord Roberts yesterday's absence in South Africa. The on his return to London after a years absence in South Africa. The crowds were not so dense nor so demonstrative as during his recent war celebrations, but people poured from three to eight guineas for seats on Piccadilly and St. James street balconies. Stately mansions like Aspley house, Lord Rothchild's and the Duke of Devonshire's were crowded with notable persons, but there prevailed on all sides a feeling that the progress of the campaign did not warrant triumphal ovations, though this in no respect detracted from the affection with which the little field marshal was greeted. It was a man rather than as a general that London welcomed "Bobs."

Lord Roberts was met at the station by the Prince of Wales and other prominent men, and the party proceeded to Buckingham palace by way of Hyde Park and Piccadilly. The general received a continuous ovation en route. After inspecting the guards Lord Roberts was entertained at luncheon at Buckingham palace.

"Yes, Roberts is going home because the war is over." "And Kitchener?" "Oh, he's going to stay because it isn't."

Males Afraid of Apron Leap Through Small Window. A most remarkable story, the truth of which is vouched for by Maj. B. R. Selden, the well-known street car man, and several of his employees, concerning two full-grown mules jumping through a small window in the old horse car stables in Manchester, has just come to light. The story as related by Maj. Selden, and sworn to by several of the most reliable men in his employ, is as follows: The blacksmith, Henry Dandridge (who has since died) was required to go to the stables daily to examine and replace all shoes that had become loose or been lost while the mules were at work. On the occasion referred to above he had purchased a new sheepskin apron, which the mules had never seen, and when Dandridge went into the stall without warning, one of them, "Bet," became alarmed at the sight of the leather and leaped through the open window to the ground outside. Maj. Selden says he came in about this time, and upon learning the cause of the excitement, ordered the man to go back into the stall, and when he started the mule reared up and was about to repeat the performance. He feared the mule might not be so fortunate in the second jump and told the man to come out of the stall. The "Maggie" mule, says Maj. Selden, jumped through a window the same size on the opposite side of the stable, and as far as he could discover, upon close examination, neither of them received the slightest touch. He says tracks were plainly visible on the outside where the "Bet" mule landed and made an effort to turn and again face the window, she being still halted to a scantling on the inside. The halter chain, four feet long, was attached to a beam four and a half feet above the ground on which the mule stood. Window opening, one foot nine inches by two feet six inches. Trough, two feet high, top of trough to floor, two feet inches. From bottom of window sill to ground outside, four feet seven inches. Maj. Selden says "Bet" was selected from 42 mules owned by the Richmond & Manchester railway company, on account of her size, as a regular tug, to draw cars up the hill from Ninth and Cary to Ninth and Main streets, and would weigh about 950 pounds.

LITERARY NOTES. The Bowen-Merrill Company, Indianapolis, announce the publication of "Home-Folks," an entirely new book of poetry by James Whitcomb Riley. The volume contains serious and dialect verses, as well as verses of homely sentiment—the author's love of the best of the old being ever present. The first volume issued by Mr. Riley for more than four years, it will take its place as one of the notable books of the last year.

Rand, McNally & Co., Chicago, have recently published a new book by Opie McClain, "In the Footsteps of the West." Mr. McClain has touched his highest point, which is saying much of the author of "A Yankee From the West" and "The Waters of Caney Fork." It is dignified, historically, with the heroism of those immortal Americans who fought and died in the battle of the Alamo; but laid the foundation for the early expansion of United States territory.

"Alice of Old Vincennes" is one of the most talked about novels of recent years, and all of the talk is complimentary to the author, Maurice Thompson. The following from the Chicago Times-Herald is a fair sample of the many press notices the work has received: "More original than 'Richard Carvel,' more vital than 'Janice Meredith,' more colorful than 'The March and 'To Hold,' more dramatic, spontaneous and artistic than any of its rivals—such is Maurice Thompson's superb American novel, 'Alice of Old Vincennes.'" Published by the Bowen-Merrill Co., Indianapolis.

True to the old motto with an ever widening and improving choice of subjects, of authors and of artists, Outing's Christmas number, increased in size and extra illustrated (including a colored frontispiece), gives large space to big game, sports and other outdoor life in our country life. "The Present Distribution of Big Game in America," by George Bird Grinnell, is the article of a student of the situation, strikingly illustrated by E. W. Deming.

A careful character study of the Emperor William will appear in McClain's Magazine for January. The article, by the author, Ray Stannard Baker, shows that he has given to his work equal care and discernment. The result is an illuminating account of the man and the sovereign.

Marjorie Meriweather, the well-known dramatist, has converted the famous "Cranford" story of Mrs. Gaskell into a play for the Ladies Home Journal. In the evolution she has been remarkably successful in preserving the atmosphere of Cranford and of most of the characters, and in placing the quiet life and the individual, harmless peculiarities of the maiden ladies, and the charm of their courtesy. The play is for amateur presentation.

There is a distinctive holiday flavor about "Ainsel's for the Holidays." Not only do we find real Christmas stories in "When Santa Claus Went Woofing," by Joe Lincoln, and "The Lag Doll," by Eugene Wood, but the contents in general suggest the season. "The Great Interrogation," by Jack London, is a powerful love story of life in Alaska; and "The Descent of Sergeant Heath," by W. A. Fraser, is an admirable bit of sentiment and humor.

The December number of The National Magazine is rich in Christmas stories, poems and drawings, and contains a satisfying reflection of Christmas cheer. The usual departments are replete with interest, and it is not too much to say that this splendid number ranks among the best of the holiday publications.

Tom Keating, the California horseman, was a joker. His last joke was to insert in his will a provision that fifty dollars should be given to every woman who claimed to be his widow. Now the executors of his estate at Oakland, are daily deluged with a stream of letters from the widows of other men, all declaring that they are the heart-stricken relicts of the lamented Tom.

The Japanese, it is said, have accepted the kindergarten principles with enthusiasm, and thus a new field of work is prepared for Japanese women.

All the world's a staircase on which men go either up or down.