THE HOUMA COURIER.

Devoted to Politics, Agriculture, Home Interests and the Material Development of Louisiana.

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CURRENT COMMENT.

THE ravages of small-pox and yellow fever at Santos, Brazil, are reported to be frightful.

MONGOLIANS are reported to be committing lawless raids in northern China. Several temples have been burned.

THE parliament of Japan has been dissolved because it refused to act on measures for the benefit of the public.

THE new Spanish tariff has been promulgated. It contains little not already known. The government will no longer recognize the favored nation clause.

THE associated press correspondent at Valparaiso, Chili, sends corroboration of the reports of the participation of the police of that city in the Baltimore outrage.

BOTH the great English parties are straining every nerve to secure the seat in the house of commons vacated by Lord Hartington on his elevation to the dukedom of Devonshire.

IT has been roughly estimated that the amount of English capital which is invested in land in New Zealand, either by way of mortgage or by direct proprietorship, does not fall short of $40,000,000.

WITHOUT any ceremony or formal opening the immigration officials of New York city settled down on Ellis island in the harbor New Year's day and the barge office is known to them no more.

THE Imperial hotel, of Baltimore, formerly the St. Clair hotel, which, run by Tommy Baylon, was the most noted resort for the theatrical people in the south, is now in the hands of the sheriff's bailiffs.

THE sacred nuts of Japan are so called because they are used in certain forms of worship, where they are placed on the altar and burned with a hot, bluish flame. The fumes are supposed to be acceptable to the gods.

DURING the religious services in the Wormwood Scrubs prison in England thirty convicts sprang up at a signal and made a rush for the main door. They were checked by the wardens with drawn revolvers and locked up.

THE Canadian minister of customs has inflicted a fine of fifty dollars upon a Chinaman at Victoria, B. C., for endeavoring to defraud the department by personating another individual with [illegible]

Few people have of late years heard of Rev. W. H. H. Murray—"Adirondack" Murray, as he used to be called. But he is still in the flesh and is looking out at a twenty-year-old boy. He has resigned his old homestead near Stafford, Conn., association of his time is spent there with his books and his trophies. His sermons are passionless travel and fishing and his winters in study and rest.

[illegible] Brownson, of Indiana, said recently that there was no truth in the report that he was an disgraced ex-Speaker Crisp's committee appointment that he proposed to retire from congress and be a candidate for governor of Indiana. [illegible] that while being disappointed at Mr. Mills' defeat, he certainly had no cause [illegible] consciousness of his own conduct in congress.

THE Missouri Pacific, the Burlington and Wabash roads announce a rate of one fare for the round trip to the national convention of the people's party to be held in St. Louis February 22. The Farmers' Alliance and the Central Traffic associations will extend similar concessions. The Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe announces that it will make round trip rates of one lowest limited fare from stations east of the Missouri river to St. Louis and return.

LINES in the western passenger association have agreed to make a rate of one fare for the round trip from points in the territory of the association to Minneapolis and return for the national republican convention. On application of the Chicago, St. Paul & Kansas City road these rates are not only made available over all lines between Chicago and St. Paul, but the advisory board of the blind passenger pool will be directed immediately on its authority to divert business so that the competition will be unrestricted while these rates prevail.

MRS. CHARLES H. HAINES, of Kindderhook, N. Y., enjoys the distinction of being the only woman in the United States who is president of a railway. She is the executive head of the Hamilton & Kingston railroad, and was until recently president of the Haines Valley railroad in Texas. Mrs. Haines is only about 30 years old and is of very prepossessing appearance. She attends personally to the managing of the road of which she is the head and understands the business thoroughly, even in its minor details. But, perhaps, some part of her success is due to the fact that her husband is a practical railroad builder.

THE total number of murders committed in the country, as reported by mail and telegraph to the Chicago Tribune during the year was 5,906, as compared with 4,290 in 1890 and 3,867 in 1889. The list of murders during the last ten years shows a steady increase. The total number of executions is strikingly small when compared with the number of murders, being only 131. Sixty-7 were disposed of 195 people. Of these six were women. Louisiana had twenty-nine, Alabama twenty-one, Mississippi seventeen, Kansas and Texas [illegible] Of the whole number executed 127 were negroes. One hundred and sixty-eight were executed in the south. Sixty-five persons were hanged in the south for assaults on women. The eleven lynchings occurred in N. [illegible] Orleans are included in the Louisiana list.

THE Chicago live stock exchange by a large majority here adopted a rule prohibiting members telegraphing to endeavor the purchase of cattle. This is the [illegible] Business partisans of a [illegible] have tried to bring the trade [illegible]

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Gleaned By Telegraph and Mail.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

THE North German Gazette says that it learns from reliable sources that Dr. Von Holleben, at present German minister to Japan, will be transferred to Washington, where he will represent Germany in place of Count Arco Valley, who died some time ago.

GEN. THOMAS ALLCOCK, inventor of the porous plaster, died at New York recently. He was born in Birmingham, England, 77 years ago.

THE congress of India met at Nagpur on the 29th. The addresses were couched in friendly terms of the British government.

SENATOR WASHBURN denounces as a pure fabrication the interview published in the Boston Record that he said Mr. Blaine told him that he would accept the republican nomination for the presidency.

THE New York court of appeals decided the senatorial election contests, giving the democrats two seats and the republicans one and declaring an elected republican ineligible. The senate will be 16 to 15.

MR. GLADSTONE celebrated his 82d birthday at Biarritz on the 29th.

THE terms of the reciprocity arrangement between the United States and the British West Indian colonies have been made public.

GEN. GARCIA was murdered by his troops who afterwards fled into Texas to join Garza and the revolutionists. The situation was quite serious.

MISS RACHEL SHERMAN, daughter of the late general, was married at Washington on the 30th to Dr. Paul Thorndike, of Boston.

BISHOP JOHN LOUGHLIN, of the Catholic church, died recently at Brooklyn. Flags of the city were displayed at half mast.

BRITISH conservatives affect to believe that the Dublin castle explosion was the work of fenians. McCarthyites lay it to Parnellite adherents.

SENATOR STEWART, of Nevada, has written to Senator Hill, of New York, asking him to define his exact position on the silver question.

IT was reported from Santiago that Chili was ready to do her utmost to terminate peacefully the trouble with the United States.

THE Rome Messagero, a political newspaper, states that Sig. Ferraris, minister of justice, has resigned, and that the Marquis Di Rudini, the prime minister, will fill the office ad interim.

AN engagement occurred between [illegible] Garza's men [illegible] senate, the rep[illegible] and the democrats [illegible] south man.

[illegible] SHANNON JOSEPH has [illegible] the Hungarian diet.

THE Ontario legislature has been prorogued for February 11.

THE president has nominated Walter Wyman, of Missouri, to be surgeon-general of the marine hospital service, and Dr. B. Hamilton, of Illinois, to be surgeon in the marine hospital service for the district of Minneapolis, Minn.

SECRETARY BLAINE was attacked with acute indigestion while at his desk on the 4th. Prompt medical assistance relieved him.

THE Ohio republican caucus on the 4th chose Senator Sherman over another term. The ballot stood: Sherman, 83, Foraker, 29, Cincinnati Foster, 1, William McKinley, 1.

IN a revolution in Pernambuco, Brazil, against a new military governor thirty people were killed and 100 wounded. The rebellion was ended.

H. C. Mercier, of Dallas, Tex., an old friend of Barrundia, the Mexican revolutionary leader, speaks in the highest terms of him and his purpose.

WILLIAM E. RUSSELL was inaugurated governor of Massachusetts on the 7th.

THE khedive of Egypt died of indigestion on the 7th.

JOHN H. GRAY, of Ray county, has been elected clerk of the supreme court of Missouri.

THE secretary of state has notified the ministers of Austria, Columbia, Hayti, Nicaragua, Honduras, Venezuela and Spain that March 15 the retaliatory proclamation would be issued unless reciprocity treaties shall be arranged in the interim.

SENATOR PEFFER has introduced a bill for a vast government land loan to indigent farmers.

GARZA's forces are reported scattered all along the Texas-Mexico border in small parties. The worst is not over.

THE democratic members of the Mississippi legislature met in caucus and adopted a resolution to the effect that they would make no nominations for United States senators to succeed George and Walthall. This insures the election of the gentlemen to succeed themselves.

A CABLE message from Liverpool, England, announces the death there of George Fowler, the head of George Fowler, Son & Co., packers, with a large house at Kaw point, Kansas City, Kan. He died of the grip.

CHRONICLES in Mexico say that they are behind the Garza movement. Trouble is expected as the result of the changes.

THE death of the khedive of Egypt has reopened the question of British occupation of that country. England will not give up control.

THE national executive silver committee has issued an address in behalf of free coinage.

LEADING Pennsylvanians and others are reported to have held a secret conference in Washington in the interest of Senator Hill for the presidency.

POLITICAL gossip in Washington are busy with democratic presidential possibilities. It seems Senator Gorman holds an important place.

THE business men's democratic association of New York gave their annual banquet on the night of the 8th. Ex-President Cleveland spoke words of strong advice to the democracy and Congressman Springer discussed the laws of tariff.

THE chief presidents of the Farmers' Alliance in conference at Washington have adopted a resolution against independent political action of the alliance industrial convention.

SPECIAL Czar was reported as doing as much as could be expected on the 8th. Alarming reports were declared wholly without foundation.

GEORGE FREEMAN was found dead in a cotton patch near Denton, Tex. Deputy Sheriff J. W. Durbin had shot him by mistake.

BOYEL & SONS, furniture, the Savannah steam laundry and a dozen small buildings in Savannah, Ga., have been burned. The total loss is $60,000.

AN explosion in Dublin castle caused great excitement in Great Britain and wild stories were set afloat. Later, however, it was found to be only a small affair, probably gas.

DUN & CO. report the prospects for the year just opened good, especially in the west. The grain exports for six months are 5,000,000 bushels over the record.

THE business failures of the past year were the largest on record as to numbers, but in amount involved did not exceed 1890.

THE inter-state commerce commission has decided that the giving of inter-state passes to federal and state officers and legislators is contrary to law.

THE Hungarian town of Dorresma has of late been the scene of a serious agrarian riot. A crowd of peasants who assembled in a church to publicly assert their demands were forcibly dislodged by troops, and several persons wounded. Troops still occupy the streets.

FIRE in Mesquite, Tex., destroyed half of the business houses of the town.

WILLIAM DONALD, while skating at Grand Rapids, Mich., broke through the ice. Walter Dolan attempted to rescue him, and both boys were drowned.

RALPH WARREN, captain of the Princeton football team, who had been visiting in Washington, disappeared the other day, but returned to his home in New York later in a daze. Injuries in the last game probably affected his mind.

EASTERN building elevator men deny that a trust is being formed.

THE United States steamship Albatross, which has been engaged surveying a route for a submarine cable between the United States and the Sandwich islands, has returned from Honolulu.

THE great barrel works of the Standard Oil Co. at Constable Hook, N. J., were burned. Loss, $500,000.

A GALE from the northwest, traveling at the rate of fifty miles an hour, struck Milwaukee on the night of the 1st and did great damage to the shipping along the docks. George P. Zeidler, a cigar manufacturer, while walking along North Water street, was struck by a big water tank and instantly killed.

NON-UNION men en route to Texas from Indiana to take the places of the Aransas Pass railroad strikers were mobbed at Little Rock, Ark., and their [illegible] cut to pieces.

[illegible] of Emery & Waterparties were reported [illegible] Me., was delayed.

THE Gladstone (Ga.) woolen mills have been totally destroyed by fire. The loss is $100,000 with no insurance.

TERRACE association in and about Cincinnati, O., have agreed to form a combination similar to that of the elderly [illegible]

A CONFERENCE between the trans-Missouri association and the western freight association will be held in Kansas City January 19, to consider certain differentials in coal rates.

THE national association of architectural iron workers has been formally organized in St. Louis with Jacob Hilkne, of Indianapolis, Ind., as president and Edward Wilton, of St. Louis, as secretary.

[illegible] representing an [illegible] syndicate, has bought twenty-three or all breaks of the Sioux mills in Utah. The transaction involves $1,500,000 for the plant and $872,000 for stock on hand. The company proposes to control Utah's wheat crop.

CONDENSED TELEGRAMS

THE Ohio River Railroad Company has made an offer for the purchase or right of the Newport News & Mississippi Valley Railroad. The offer is in the neighborhood of $3,000,000, and it is believed that the deal will be consummated at once.

THE New York papers are urging the legislature to make a liberal appropriation for the World's Fair. The papers state that $250,000 is not nearly enough for a proper exhibit.

THE nail manufacturers of Canada have formed a pool for the manufacture of wire nails. The effect of this step will be to increase the price of wire nails.

JAMES GOODWIN, the only millionaire fireman in Indiana, died on the 4th. He held taxable assets valued at $3,000,000, and personal property amounting to $100,000.

THERE is a general uprising in the States of Durango, Chihuhua, Coahuila and Sonora, in Mexico, and malcontents are well organized and will flock to the standard of Garza.

AN extra session of the Missouri legislature will be called together by Gov. Francis early in February, and the session will be devoted to the redistricting of the State for congressional purposes.

JACOB FUSTAN, a burglar confined in the county jail at Topeka, Kansas, was shot by George Montgomery, a guard, and will probably die. Fustan attempted to organize the prisoners for the purpose of overpowering the guard, and led the procession with a hammer with which he had been breaking stone.

BUSINESS failures during the eight days since December 31, number for the United States 305, and for Canada 40, or a total of 345, as compared with 341, of 329 last week and 293 the week previous to the last.

RUBE BURROWS' father has entered suit against the Southern Express Company for $5,000 damages, claiming that they made away with Rube's plunder, guns and money.

ON a large floral mound on the Arkansas river, in the Cherokee Strip, nearly 1,000 Indians are holding a religious dance day and night, and awaiting the coming of the Messiah. Some have come several hundred miles, bringing family and cattle to participate, and many have spent all the money for presents to give their Saviour.

MORE FRIENDLY.

Chili Apparently Willing to Settle All Trouble With This Country Amicably.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—The Santiago de Chili correspondent of the Times affirms on what he declares to be the highest authority that Chili would not feel humiliated in helping in the utmost of her power to terminate peacefully and in manner honorable to both herself and the United States the conflict which but for the lengthy and secret form of criminal procedure followed in Chili, which has allowed of constant false reports hostile to a good understanding to be propagated abroad, would never have attained such exaggerated proportions. The correspondent says it is evident that there are firebrands who are anxious for the inauguration of a war which would be disastrous to the best interests of both countries concerned.

CHILI'S OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—Senor Montt, the Chilian minister, in an interview with Secretary Blaine laid before him the following translation of a telegram from Mr. Matta, the minister of foreign affairs, bearing on the inquiry into the trouble in the city of Valparaiso between the Chilians and the sailors from the United States steamship Baltimore: Minister of Chili, Washington:

SANTIAGO DE CHILI, Dec. 14.—From the summary of proceedings it appears that the struggle commenced between two sailors in a tavern at the Ward Arrayan, that it was continued in the street with the accession of numbers of inhabitants and transient parties from the streets called Del Clave, San Francisco and Alamos. The disorder continued and extended to the streets Del Arsenal and San Martin, where the police force succeeded in restoring order. All the North Americans except two state that the police did their duty, and from the voluminous proceedings it appears that the court has done and is doing its duty. Whenever the prosecuting attorney renders his opinion and the time for producing evidence shall have expired, sentence will be given and establishing who and how many are the guilty parties, who may only be presumed at present. Whoever they may be they will be punished. The legal proceedings are being actively carried forward to their proper termination.

MATTA.

The minister, when asked for an opinion respecting the statements made in the telegram, called special attention to the statement that all the North Americans excepting two had said that the police did their duty. He regarded this as favorable to the Chilian side of the controversy.

It is noted that the Chilian minister of foreign affairs promises that when the due process of law, according to Chilian jurisprudence, be observed, those found guilty will be punished, and says that these judicial proceedings are being carried forward actively. This, in connection with the statement that the police did their duty, is significant as showing that the Chilian government does not wish that the action of individuals belonging to Chili shall be confounded with the [illegible] those connected with the [illegible] official station.

President Harrison [illegible] and property of the people. [illegible] the attempt to destroy it [illegible] forward. He only treats the attack, which regardless of any considerations of [illegible] expediency or personal advancement, causes as they grew out of his faith in the people, and giving no place in his calculations for any estimate of the difficulty of the undertaking. From the time the first blow was struck until the contest ended in his complete triumph he allowed nothing to divert him from his purpose, and pursued no other plan to divide his energy or to be substituted for that on which he started out. The democratic party of Indiana, with [illegible] more with the name of Democrat, [illegible] a majority of a million, [illegible] reservation of any other power [illegible] to the Chilian government. Under all these circumstances, [illegible] have hitherto [illegible] and [illegible] effort to secure the [illegible] of the party, [illegible] conditions which are [illegible] of the justice and honorable character of our cause.

We have given pledges to the people and they have trusted us. Unless we have outgrown the democratic spirit of Jackson's time our duty is plain. Our position was not merely in labor in the people's cause until we should die of the effort or should succeed in a cause which seemed to promise success and achieve party ascendancy. The services we rendered were not to advise those working for better days that their cause was hopeless for under any policy it would be a question of effort. Our encouragement was to labor incessantly, always and steadily [illegible] nothing and considering nothing done unless more remained to be done. These pledges will accordingly [illegible] be fulfilled and honestly kept. Party [illegible] to party discipline.

Now is the occasion of our pledge and the party discipline that would follow their violation, if we take to compromising [illegible] and expediency. We cannot do it without expulsion and ignominy. We cannot do it without a sense of manly dignity and self-respect. Nothing political benefit which should be [illegible] the people will visit upon us a punishment which [illegible] them. I have confidence [illegible] in the intelligence and honesty of the people [illegible] I have faith that the effort [illegible] would even if it should fail, leave a powerful impression for the future. If we have a party there would still be an earnest, active and fruitful and fearless opposition. But with the manner we have conducted our association to a political personality [illegible] to the that it would be the signal of fatal disorganization and permanently. It would scatter anywhere in our ranks, commanding hesitation or a disposition to waver the unity of party effort, let us be watchful. The least retreat would disorder, scattered in effort called consultation, and an army scattered into sections [illegible] defeat.

We have preached the doctrine that honesty and character should be separated from political parties. Let us not fall under the condemnation [illegible] which [illegible] adherents and [illegible] are prepared to [illegible] and [illegible] for personal aggrandizement. They will not [illegible] in studying conditions [illegible] or [illegible] to interpose [illegible] their [illegible] a plea and [illegible] statement of political purposes. Above all things, [illegible] from [illegible] and [illegible] to forget that the [illegible] must meet face to face at the polls the [illegible] of the land, with ballots in their hands, [illegible] and condition of their support of our party, [illegible] and [illegible] to the cause in which we have enlisted them. If, inspired by the true Democratic spirit, we hold to the doctrine that party fidelity is party duty, and [illegible] party expediency, we shall win a [illegible] through the deserved support of a discriminating intelligent and thoughtful people.

A VERITABLE PLAGUE.

Grip Causes the Death Rate of London to Rise Up Alarmingly.

LONDON, Jan. 9.—The death rate of London taking the mean of the last two weeks, is found to be thirty-one per 1,000, which is much higher than it has been in any other consecutive two weeks in the last twenty years, with the single exception of January, 1890, when influenza was at its worst. This exceptional mortality is ascribed to the recent fogs and low temperature, and the deaths attributed directly to influenza rose last week from nineteen to twenty-seven. London has until

NO PASSES.

The Inter-State Commission Decides Against Passes—"Gentlemen Eminent in the Public Service" Must Pay Their Fare or Walk Just Like Other People.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—The Interstate commerce commission Thursday announced its decision in the railroad pass case.

The Boston & Maine Railroad Co., in its answer, stated that it was in the habit of giving passes as a business feature of its administration to numerous classes of persons, which is specified in the answer as follows: Sick, necessitous or indigent persons, all cases of charity strictly; gentlemen like Hon. James N. Bradbury, long eminent in the public service; proprietors of summer hotels and large boarding houses, conformably to a practice which had long existed among the railroads of New England; wives of employes and other immediate members of employe's families; all agents of ice companies and all milk contractors doing business on the line of the Boston & Maine railroad or any part thereof extending between any two states, said agents and contractors traveling on the lines in the conduct of their business; the higher officers of the state in the state of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts and certain prominent officers of the United States, like collectors of custom; railroad commissioners of each of the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts; members of the railroad committee for the time being of the legislature of each of the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts; persons who are trustees under mortgages on the property of the corporation and who are entitled to inspect its property by virtue of the deed or indenture constituting them trustees; persons whose good will was important to the corporation.

This concession imposed upon the commission the duty of giving construction to the act to regulate commerce in respect to the right of a railway company to give inter-state passes to such classes of persons. The commission met the question squarely and in an opinion discussed the statute and cited authorities at some length and concluded that branch of the case in these words: "Without further citation of authority the construction we give to section 3 of the act to regulate commerce that where the service of the carrier subject to the act is 'like and contemporaneous' for different passengers the charge to one of a greater or less compensation than to another constituted unjust discrimination and is unlawful, unless the charge of such greater or lesser compensation is allowed under the exceptions provided in section 22; and that where the tariff is 'under substantially similar circumstances and conditions' in other respects it is not rendered dissimilar within the meaning of the statute by the fact that such passengers hold unlike or, as sometimes termed, [illegible] social or business po[illegible] to different classes as [illegible] community, though somewhat fever[illegible] the in its tendencies.

OKLAHOMA'S NEW GOVERNOR

Sketch of the Life of Abram J. Seay, Governor of Oklahoma.

GUTHRIE, Okla., Jan. 4.—Judge Abram Jefferson Seay, the new governor of Oklahoma, was born in Amherst county, Va., November 29, 1852. His parents moved to Osage county, Mo., when he was 3 years of age and he grew up on a farm. His early education was meager and at 21 he could scarcely read or write. Determination was one of his more prominent traits and by working by the day he earned money to pay his way through the academy at Steelville, Mo. Graduating from that institution of learning he began the study of law. Three days before the firing on Fort Sumpter he was admitted to the bar. He soon caught the then all pervading spirit of war and enlisted in the union cause, although the majority of his people took sides with the confederacy. Entering as a private he was mustered out in August, 1864, as colonel of the Thirty-second Missouri infantry.

ABRAM J. SEAY.

On returning to his musty law books he swept away the accumulation of cobwebs and resumed practice. He entered politics, uniting with the republican party and was not unknown to office. He was successively county attorney, circuit attorney and circuit judge, serving in the latter position for twelve years. He was heard from the stump in every campaign and twice ran for congress against Richard Bland, the champion of silver. In May, 1890, he was appointed associate justice of the supreme court of Oklahoma, which position he held until his recent appointment as governor of the new territory.

A Double Accident.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Jan. 8.—An incoming freight train broke in two five miles north of Argenta and in the wreck which followed Brakeman McDonald was fatally hurt, both legs being cut off. Three cars of valuable freight were destroyed. A wrecking train sent out to clear the debris, when going into Argenta for water, was derailed and turned over down an embankment, killing Engineer Frank Bassett and severely injuring his fireman. Bassett leaves a wife and three children.

Perished in a Tennessee Cave.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Jan. 9.—The body of John W. Goshorn, of New York, special agent of the Mutual Life Insurance Co., was found yesterday. Two weeks ago Goshorn stopped at Bristol and suddenly disappeared. For three days the search has been going on, and finally a letter from Goshorn to his employers gave a clew to his whereabouts. In it he said he was going to Bishop's cave to prospect for silver ore. Following up this clew Goshorn's body was found in the cave yesterday, a mile from the entrance. By his side was found the remnant of a tallow candle.

THE NATION'S BURDEN.

Growth of the Rubber Ring Under Republican Management.

The most important bureau attached to the department of the interior is the pension bureau which expends nearly half the revenues of the government, and for three years has been the cause of vexation to the administration and discredit to the people. Its importance justified the expectation that in his annual report the secretary of the interior would discuss its affairs with great frankness and thoroughness. The report disappoints that expectation, for out of a volume of 176 pages barely ten are devoted to the pension department and these are so colorless that conclusions from them can be extracted only by the aid of other reports.

The one simple fact, however, that stands out above all others, is the statement that $145,000,000 will be required to pay pensions during the next fiscal year, and that thereafter an annual appropriation of $160,000,000 will be required for several years, until death shall reduce these drafts on the treasury. The secretary's report is the fullest confirmation of the fears expressed by the democratic newspapers and democratic congressmen that the pauper pension bill, as the republican Buffalo Express aptly termed it, would involve the country in an outlay of $150,000,000 for pensions annually. The secretary of the interior is evidently afraid of the consequences of his own confession, for we notice that in the neat and convenient summary he has caused to be prepared for the press this most important fact in the entire report has been omitted. Of course, it cannot be suppressed.

The unchecked growth of pension appropriations cannot much longer be tolerated unless the people are prepared to mortgage the country which was saved to the pensioners. Just after the close of the war in 1866 the pension appropriations amounted to $15,500,000. In 1876, ten years later, they amounted to $28,000,000; in 1886 they had risen to $63,000,000; in 1888 they had mounted again to $80,000,000, and three years from that time the department estimates require double that enormous amount. The amount we are asked to spend on pensions is to be more next year, according to Secretary Noble's report, than the entire cost of government for any two years before the war. The appropriation asked for is nearly half the expense of maintaining in the field during the trying year of 1862 all the union armies. And according to the report, furthermore, the facts contradict the hopes expressed by the secretary. There are already over 600,000 pensioners, and 500,000 others are waiting to have their claims passed upon, while 400,000 of those who already draw pensions are seeking increases.

The patent truth is that, as now administered, the pension system is the opportunity for claim agents to debase patriotism by calling upon every man who served in the war, if only for a few days, to make a demand on the treasury for a gratuity. The secretary's estimate ought not to surprise the American people. President Cleveland's course toward pensioners, one of the most courageous and patriotic [illegible] his administration, was made [illegible] of a successful partisan attempt to [illegible] plunderers at Washington [illegible] have availed themselves [illegible] their victory gave them. [illegible] under Harrison's administration have increased from $89,[illegible] the annual appropriation [illegible] pensions, and Corporal [illegible] splendidly vindicated [illegible] argus.

FIGHTING [illegible] APPOINTMENT.

New York, [illegible] Head Off the States and Brazil [illegible] which has arrived at quarantine, Brazil, brings the first information of a bloody encounter between the government troops and the people of Pernambuco, in which a number of lives were lost.

December 17 the government sent a military governor to Santos to replace the former governor. The people regarded this as an act of tyranny and oppression, and when the military governor appeared, December 20, surrounded by troops, the revolutionary feeling broke loose. The soldiers endeavored to disperse the citizens and were pelted with stones and other missiles.

The order then came to fire and a [illegible] the first volley sixteen citizens fell dead, while a number were wounded. The revolutionists gave way, but quickly gathered reinforcements and prepared to make a desperate resistance. The troops charged upon and drove them from street to street, many of the citizens falling pierced by bayonets or bullets.

A pitched battle took place on one of the places and the dead of combatants, coupled with the cries of the wounded and dying, filled the air. The citizens stubbornly resisted, but the trained soldiers were too much for them. When the tumult finally subsided and it was possible to survey the scene of carnage and bloodshed it was found that thirty had been killed outright and seventy-five or 100 wounded.

Child Burned to Death.

GRAY CROWN, Neb., Jan. 7.—A fatal fire occurred yesterday morning at the residence of Fraser Troxel, three miles southeast of this place. Their three-year-old girl was playing about the stove and her clothing having caught fire she ran to her mother, who was using gasoline to clean some garments, thus igniting the fluid. There being no help near the clothing of both mother and child was burned from their bodies. The child is dead and Mrs. Troxel cannot recover.

The Roman Catholic Congress Date.

CHICAGO, Jan. 7.—September 5, 1892, the Catholic congress, which will embrace prominent Catholics from every country of the globe, will open here and continue for five days. This was determined upon at a meeting here of the executive committee of the congress.

An Arrest Ordered.

TANGIER, Jan. 7.—Five hundred soldiers of the sultan are approaching Tangier, accompanied by a committee to inquire into the grievances of Bu Mahomed. The arrest ordered Bu Mahomed and soldiers on attempting to arrest the governor, leaving the town undefended.

A SCANDALOUS ACT.

The Appointment of a Republican Freebooter to the Cabinet.

Mr. Harrison's nomination of Steve Elkins for secretary of war is a public scandal, and if there had been sense of decency enough in the republican party to control the senate the nomination would have been rejected. It is often argued that a president is entitled to select his cabinet members regardless of their character, as they are his "confidential advisers" and really his private secretaries. But they are also heads of departments, and they should not be exempt from tests of fitness which apply to others in the department service. The notorious unfitness of a cabinet officer nominated by the president ought to insure the rejection of the nomination, regardless of the interior and private purposes the president may have had in the premises. When a scandalous nomination is made to the senate it is the senate's duty to reject it.

No one in the senate can conscientiously deny that the nomination of Elkins is scandalous. He is one of the most desperate adventurers in the country. No other man in the country combines so thoroughly the attributes of the political and financial freebooter. His connection with the land rings and land grabs of New Mexico is notorious. He has operated in politics as a means of promoting the most doubtful enterprises that originate in Wall street. His underhanded connection with the sealskin monopoly is in itself sufficient cause for his rejection, but it is only a single item in a long account. He stands with Quay, Dudley and Wanamaker for all that is worst in republican politics. It is not merely that he is an offensive partisan, but it is notoriously true that he is more a freebooter than a partisan. A more shameful nomination could not have been made. He ought by all means to be rejected.—St. Louis Republic.

PARAGRAPHIC POINTERS.

—With Steve Elkins in the cabinet, all that will be needed to make it an artistic whole are places for Quay and Dudley.—St. Louis Republic.

—If there is any cloud upon the administration of President Harrison, the management of the navy department gives it a silver lining.—Brooklyn Eagle.

—Steve Elkins' appointment should lead W. W. Dudley to think that he will again be recognized at the white house. Dorsey, Elkins, Dudley, Johnny Davenport ought all to be in it now.—Minneapolis Times.

—Mr. Harrison lifts into the cabinet an adventurer who has exploited the political field for the profit there is in it, and whose only recommendation is the wealth he has gained by his practices.—Buffalo Enquirer.

—Mr. Blaine has not yet issued the promised proclamation of [illegible] "chief" and an inflexible [illegible] to accept the presi[illegible] SENATOR SHERMAN'S [illegible] roll showed every republican [illegible] present except Representative Jackson.

After a long debate it was decided to have an open ballot by a vote of 47 to 14. When nominations were reached Senator John Sherman, ex-Gov. Joseph E. Foraker, Gov. William McKinley and Secretary of the Treasury Charles Foster were placed in nomination.

There was intense excitement during roll call and as demurrers were recorded themselves they were nearly applauded by the faction with which they voted.

The result was: John Sherman, 83; J. B. Foraker, 29; Charles Foster, 1; William McKinley, 1, and until the unanimous applause Sherman was declared the nominee.

On motion of Foraker, seconded by Senator Sherman's nomination was made an unanimous one, a committee was appointed to wait upon both Sherman and Foraker and inform them of the action before the senate.

Messrs. Sherman and Foraker were received with applause. Senator Sherman made a personal speech of acceptance and a friendly response followed from Mr. Foraker.

New Grade of Oats.

CHICAGO, Jan. 7.—The railway and warehouse commission met here today to consider the question of making a grade of No. 2 white clipped oats, and possibly a No. 3 grade of the same, and also a No. 4 of oats. A number of grain dealers appeared before the commission in response to a general invitation. They all favored a grade of No. 2 white clipped oats, and the grain was accordingly graded. Regarding No. 3 oats there was a difference of opinion, and the matter was not definitely settled.

Hamilton's Unlucky Choice.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—The president sent to the senate today the nomination of Walter Wyman, of Missouri, to be surgeon-general of the marine hospital service of the United States. John B. Hamilton, who formerly held the position, is understood to be interested in other service. Hamilton has been a Republican all his life, and Wyman's place, which Hamilton resigned a few months ago to accept a professorship in Rush Medical college, Chicago. The president did not agree with Mr. Hamilton on the legal opinion which led to his resignation.