WHAT 1897 HAS SEEN.

RECORD OF THE IMPORTANT EVENTS OF THE YEAR.

Græco-Turkish War and the Cuban Insurrection—The Great Strike in the Coal Fields—Political Changes of Twelve Months.

A Chronological Table.

The year 1897 has been, it might be said almost a commonplace one, since its commencement, that is, no events of overwhelming moment have taken place, but there has been no dearth of important occurrences. The war between Turkey and Greece, the struggle for freedom in Cuba, the costly and long-drawn-out strike in the Ohio and Pennsylvania coal fields, the change of national administration, the enactment of the Dingley tariff law, the disastrous spring floods in the Mississippi valley and autumn fires in the West and Northwest, and the epidemic of yellow fever in the Southern States are clearly not matters of small importance in the history of the world. The year has been an unusual one from the fact that but few men of really great reputation have passed from the stage of their earthly labors; their number can be computed upon the fingers of the two hands.

The most important events of the year are recorded below in the order of their occurrence:

JANUARY.

1—Thirteen miners perish at Pachuca, Mexico....Extremely high temperature and heavy rains in Northwest....Pingree inaugurated Governor of Michigan.

2—W. A. Hammond, wrecker of Illinois National Bank, commits suicide....Fatal storm in Southwest....Nashville, Tenn., has $400,000 fire....West and Northwest deluged by rains.

3—Snow and frost succeed rain.

4—Furious blizzard in the West....Gov. Scofield inaugurated at Madison, Wis....Three St. Paul banks fall.

5—Gov. Altgeld pardons 19 criminals....St. Stanislaus parsonage at Bay City, Mich., sacked by warring church factions....Four children die by fire near Westfield, Wis.; three near Babcock, Wis.

6—Illinois Legislature meets....Seven Ursuline nuns perish by fire at Convent of Our Lady of Lake St. Johns, Roberval, Quebec.

11—Tanner inaugurated Governor of Illinois with much pomp and ceremony....Mount inaugurated Governor of Indiana with very simple style....House kills Pacific funding bill....American-British arbitration treaty signed.

12—Five children drown, skating, at St. Louis....Four die in powder explosion at Shamokin, Pa.

13—Five killed in a Pottsville, Pa., coal shaft.

19—Wm. E. Mason chosen Senator from Illinois....Three negroes lynched in Louisiana.

21—Nine sailors drown off Long Island.

26—Fourteen below zero at Chicago; 700 poor families aided; relief measures adopted over entire city....$2,500,000 fire at Philadelphia....$350,000 fire at Chicago.

27—Continued cold weather in Northwest.

28—Lyman J. Gage of Chicago accepts treasury portfolio.

31—Family of seven die by fire in Hoboken, N. J.....Cruiser Brooklyn on the rocks.

FEBRUARY.

2—Pennsylvania State capitol burned; loss $1,500,000....Venezuelan treaty signed.

8—Admiral Bunce's squadron in a storm off Hampton Roads; three seamen swept away, several injured....$200,000 railroad shop fire at Princeton, Ind.

10—Bradley-Martin ball at New York costs $500,000....Phenomenal drop in price of steel rails.

13—Ald. O'Malley acquitted of murder at Chicago....Death of J. Randolph Tucker at Lexington, Va., and Gen. J. O. Shelby at Adrian, Mo.; both noted Confederates.

14—Greeks bombard Canea, island of Crete, under Turkish rule.

15—Appeal of Jos. R. Dunlop, convicted of improper use of mails at Chicago, to Supreme Court fails.

16—Millionaire Duestrow hanged at Union, Mo., for wife murder; Peter Schmidt and Sam Foster hanged at Clayton, Mo....Greeks capture Turkish fort at Crete.

17—Powers of Europe protest against action of Greece.

18—Two thousand Moslems slain in Crete by Greeks....Big shortage of State officials discovered in Nebraska.

21—Canea bombarded by the powers....Baby girl at the Harrisons'.

22—General observation of Washington's birthday....Floods in Ohio Valley.

25—Powers decide Greece must evacuate Crete.

MARCH.

4—McKinley inaugurated....Six killed at Boston by gas explosion.

5—Extensive floods in Mississippi Valley, and in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana....Greece defies the powers.

—Foundering of steamer Ville de St. Nazaire off Carolina; 65 lives lost.

9—Tremendous rainfall in central States.

10—Six killed in a wreck near Princeton, Ind.

12—Blizzard sweeps the Northwest—$400,000 wholesale grocery fire at Chicago.

15—$1,500,000 fire at St. Louis....Floods in Mississippi Valley make thousands of negroes homeless.

17—Fitzsimmons whips Corbett at Carson City, Nev....78 lives lost by foundering of French steamer off Carolina.

21—Powers blockade Cretan ports to Greek ships.

22—Cyclone kills eight and injures 23 school children at Arlington, Ga.; family of five killed in Henry County, Ala.

23—Heavy fall of slushy snow in Northwest.

30—Forty-five killed by a cyclone at Chandler, O. T.

31—House passes Dingley tariff bill....Powers bombard Cretans.

APRIL.

6—Carter H. Harrison elected Mayor of Chicago by 75,000 plurality....Alarming floods in Mississippi Valley.

8—$1,000,000 fire at Knoxville, Tenn; 17 people killed.

9—Snow storm in Central States.

10—Daniel W. Voorhees, former U. S. Senator from Indiana, dies at Washington.

15—Riots in Indianapolis over 3-cent carfare....$500,000 fire at New Orleans.

17—War between Turkey and Greece.

18—Fierce windstorm in Chicago; $150,000 fire.

20—Desperate fighting in the Levant....First execution by electricity in Ohio.

23—Osman Pasha assumes command of Turkish troops, which have met severe reverses.

24—Turks capture Larissa....Vast floods in Missouri and Mississippi Valleys.

26—Hundreds of families at Ottumwa, Iowa, and Quincy, Ill., homeless by floods.

27—Dedication of Grant's tomb at New York....$2,000,000 fire at Newport News, Va.

28—Greeks at Athens riotous because of army reverses....Flood at South Guthrie, O. T., kills over 70.

29—Ralli heads new cabinet of Greece....Wild gale with loss of life and vessels on Lake Michigan.

30—Greeks win a big battle....Seven negroes lynched by a mob of negroes in Texas.

MAY.

1—Snow at Chicago.

2—$4,000,000 fire at Pittsburg, Pa.

4—One hundred die by fire in a Parisian bazar.

7—Brutal murder of the Harris family, near Waukesha, Wis., by Wm. Pouch.

9—Sixteen die by fire on Mallory Line steamship Leona, off Sandy Hook....Greece asks intervention of powers.

14—Snow at Chicago.

18—Czar intervenes to stop war in the Levant.

31—Severe earthquake shock in Cincinnati and southeast....Five of a picnic party killed on Long Island.

JUNE.

2—Spanish cabinet resigns.

3—Two of a mob of lynchers killed at Urbana, Ohio, and nine wounded, by militia under command of Sheriff McLean.

7—Six killed in a wreck near Hudson, Wis.

9—$200,000 fire at Carlinville, Ill....Death of Alvan Clark, famous lens-maker, at Cambridge, Mass.

11—Wife murderer French hanged at Rockford, Ill.

12—Mayor Richards killed at Bunker Hill, Ill., by Editor Hedley.

13—Attempt to kill President Faure by a Paris bomb-thrower.

14—Suicide of Barney Barnato at sea.

15—Temperature of 98 in Chicago; 40 prostrations.

16-17—Northwest suffers from awful heat.

18—Storm kills four children at Lincoln, Ill....—Cyclones in many Western localities.

21—Victorian Jubilee celebration commences at London.

24—Cyclone in Kansas kills three; hail bombards Topeka.

25—Lynching at Crystal Springs, Miss....Race war at Key West over attempted lynching....Cornell defeats Yale and Harvard in college boat race....Four legal executions at St. Joseph, Mo., Fayetteville, W. Va., Atlanta, Ga., and Houston, Texas.

26—Seven killed in a wreck at Missouri City, Mo.

30—All districts report many fatalities from heat.

JULY.

1—Continuance of fearful heat....Close of Victorian Jubilee.

3—Awful heat in Chicago kills six and prostrates 40; 13 die at Cincinnati....Snowstorm in Colorado....Deluge at Duluth does $1,000,000 damage.

4—Heat and fatalities continue east of Mississippi Valley; thunderstorm at midnight relieves Chicago, after eight have died.

6—Ten killed by cyclone at Lowry, Minn.....Nine killed by boiler explosion at Hartsville, Tenn....Coal miners' strike becomes general in the East.

7—Continuance of extreme heat and consequent fatalities—Senate passes tariff bill.....Six killed at Bay City, Mich., by street car plunging into an open draw.

8—Chicago and Alton freight house burns at Chicago; loss $250,000....Heat and death roll increases....Death of Senator Harris of Tennessee.

10—Drop of 35 degrees in temperature at Chicago; change general.

12—Death of Millionaire Columbus R. Cummings of Chicago.

15—Negro lynched for assault and murder at West Point, Tenn....Illinois and Indiana coal miners go out.

17—News of fabulous gold finds in Alaska.

19—Tariff bill passes the House....Snowstorm in Chicago.

22—Logan monument unveiled at Chicago.

23—Four killed by explosion of naphtha on steamer at Bridgeport, Conn....$1,000,000 grape sugar factory fire at Peoria, Ill.

24—New tariff law enacted; Congress adjourns....Cloudburst at Boston.

30—Seven killed by cyclone at San Jose, Ill.

AUGUST.

6—Elevator fire at Chicago kills four firemen, hurts 20 more, and does $500,000 damage.

8—Assassination of Premier Canovas of Spain.

15—Orleanist Prince Henri seriously wounded by Italian Count of Turin in a duel at Paris.

16—Great boom in wheat....Cold wave at Chicago.

17—Snowstorm in South Dakota....Wheat touches 98c at Chicago.

19—Unknown man killed by farmers near Chicago, for assault....Four killed by glucose factory explosion at Davenport, Iowa.

21—Wheat reaches the dollar price in several cities and occasions great excitement.

23—Three hundred Sepoys massacred by Afridis in India.

26—President of Uruguay assassinated.

29—News of a great tidal wave in Japan.

30—Steamer Portland arrives at Seattle with Alaskan treasure.

31—Yellow fever breaks out at Ocean Springs, Miss.

SEPTEMBER.

2—Crops reported greatly damaged by long continued drought.

7—Railroad collision near Emporia, Kan.; several killed....Lake St. Clair yacht capsized, drowning six.

9—Terrible head-end collision near Newcastle, Colo., kills 30 people and mangles many others.

10—Twenty-two striking coal miners near Latimer, Pa., shot dead by deputy sheriffs; many others wounded.

11—Miners' convention at Columbus settles the great coal strike.

13—Tidal wave along the Texas coast took many lives and did great damage to property.

15—Five alleged burglars taken from jail by a mob at Versailles, Ind., and lynched.

16—Anarchist assaults President Diaz of Mexico; death of the assaulter at the hands of a mob.

20—Outbreak of yellow fever in New Orleans.

21—President Ratchford of the United Mine workers declares the coal strike ended.

26—Nine men killed in a bloody riot at Girardville, Pa....Mrs. John Becker and five children slaughtered near Carroll, Iowa.....Railway hold-up at Moorhead, Minn.

29—$1,000,000 fire in Washington, D. C....Fall of Azcarraga ministry in Spain.

30—Resignation of the Ralli ministry in Greece.

OCTOBER.

1—Five bandits held up a train in Indian Territory....Thirty persons hurt in railway accident at Medford, Mass.

3—Death of Gen. Neal Dow.

4—Sagasta ministry assumes control in Spain....Austin, Pa., almost entirely destroyed by fire.

5—Connecticut votes an educational test for voters.

6—Alton train held up near Kansas City, Mo.....Thousands of lives lost and much property destroyed by a typhoon in the Philippine Islands....$117,000 fire at Chicago stock yards....Large fire in Detroit....Six girls burned to death at Plankinton, S. D....Disastrous fire at Medora, Ill.

7—Two prisoners roasted in Opelika, Ala., jail.

8—Gen. Weyler recalled from Cuba....Death of ex-Senator McPherson of New Jersey.

12—Bandits rob a train near Austin, Texas....Death at Detroit of ex-Senator Chas. W. Jones of Florida.

14—Four people killed in a railway accident at Stittsville, Ont.

15—Four persons killed and many injured by caving in of a theater roof in Cincinnati.

16—Steamer Triton sunk in Caribbean Sea and 150 lives lost.

17—Windsor, N. S., fire-swept and 3,000 people left homeless....Death of Chas. A. Dana of the New York Sun.

19—Death of Geo. M. Pullman of Chicago.

21—Jury in Luetgert murder case in Chicago disagreed.

24—Twenty lives lost in New York Central accident at Garrisons, N. Y.....Bank wrecked at Blairsburg, Iowa.

27—Wabash Railroad offices in St. Louis burned.

29—Henry George, single-tax advocate, died of apoplexy at New York.

NOVEMBER.

1—Sale of the Union Pacific Railroad.

2—Thirteen firemen injured by a gasoline explosion at a fire in Philadelphia....Election day: New York elected Van Wyck (Tammany) Mayor; Ohio, Pennsylvania, Iowa and Massachusetts went Republican; Maryland, Nebraska, New York, Kentucky and Virginia Democratic; Colorado was carried by silver men, and in South Dakota Republicans and Democrats won over Populists.

4—Chesapeake and Ohio train wreck at Charlottesville, Va., in which four people are killed and many injured....Five men badly burned by molten iron in Milwaukee, and two die from their injuries.

6—Train robbery near Grants, N. M.....Fourteen lives lost by the sinking of the steamer Idaho on Lake Erie.

11—Yellow fever quarantine declared off in New Orleans....Thieves steal $14,000 in money and jewelry from a Silver Creek, N. Y., bank.

12—$50,000 fire at Fostoria, Ohio.

13—Three Indians lynched by a mob at Williamsport, N. D.

17—Three people injured in a railway wreck near Cleveland, Ohio....Panic in a Cincinnati school caused the injury of four children....Rozel, Kan., sinks into the prairie in a night.

19—Three miners killed in railway wreck at Coal Bluff, Ind....Great fire in London, England; loss $25,000,000.

20—Masked negro, attempting to hold up a Kansas City street car, shot conductor and motorman.

21—Fire at Melbourne, Australia, in which $5,000,000 of mercantile property was destroyed....Two motormen killed in a collision in Baltimore, Md....Fire at La Grange, Ohio, in which $25,000 worth of property was destroyed.

23—F. A. Novak found guilty of murder at Vinton, Iowa.

25—Capt. Lovering found guilty by court martial at Fort Sheridan, Chicago.

28—Resignation of the Badeni ministry in Austria....Three men asphyxiated in the Grand Trunk tunnel at Port Huron, Mich.

30—New cabinet formed in Austria....Eleven persons killed in a railway accident at Warsaw, Poland....Martin Thorn convicted of the murder of Wm. Guldensuppe at New York.

DECEMBER.

1—Thirty-seven miners killed in Homburg, Bavaria, by explosion of fire damp....Furious riots at Prague, Bohemia.

4—Three men killed and several persons injured in a collision of trolley cars near Detroit, Mich.

5—Resignation of the Italian ministry.

6—Congress convenes in regular session at Washington.

11—Two men killed in railway collision at Oakland, Cal.....Haytian cabinet resigned.

13—New Haytian ministry formed.

14—Resignation of Chilian cabinet....Rudini cabinet reconstituted in Italy.

16—Three men killed in C., E. & I. wreck at Clinton, Ind....Death of Alphonse Daudet, noted French author....William Terriss, English actor, assassinated in London.....Ratification of peace treaty between Greece and Turkey....New Chilian cabinet formed.

17—Six lives lost in fire at Ottawa, Ont....Three persons perish in an $850,000 fire at Grand Forks, Dak.

18—Zero weather in Chicago....Death of Hon. Washington Hesing, of Chicago.

20—Five train wrecks—at Castle Rock, Colo., two persons killed; at Pontiac, Ill., five persons injured; near Benson, Ariz., one man killed; near Ripton, Ala., four men killed; at St. Louis, one man killed and two injured.

21—Sucide of Miss Leila Herbert at Washington, D. C.....Three skaters drowned at Tonawanda, N. Y.....Three skaters drowned at Gardner, Mass.

The Government of the United States owns in the city of Washington 1,600,000 volumes of literature. Of these about one-half, or 787,715, are in the congressional library. The remainder are scattered through the various executive departments. The daily number of readers in the congressional library averages 3,320. About 700 persons, including the members of both houses and high officials of the Government, are entitled to draw books and take them away from the building, and the average number loaned out in such a way is 1,446. It is a favorable commentary upon the honesty and care of our public men that during a period of thirty years the number of books lost or not returned was only five in a thousand.

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Large numbers of petitions, supported by many signatures and uniform in their phraseology, are being presented to the House of Representatives. They ask the passage of a series of laws to protect the morals of the public. For example, to prohibit gambling in stocks, produce, racing pools and other forms of speculation by telegraph, to prohibit the transmission of stock quotations for speculative purposes, and the transmission in the mails of newspapers containing pictures or descriptions of prize fights, to prohibit the exhibition of kinetoscope reproductions of prize fights and other brutalizing spectacles, and to prohibit the transportation from State to State of materials for such exhibitions.

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The ladies of the cabinet are decidedly put out by the edict that forbade their New Year's receptions and the dinners that were to precede and follow. They do not see any occasion for it. The President did not ask or even suggest a suspension of social affairs. He told the members of his cabinet he should close the White House for thirty days, although he did not think it was necessary for them to follow his example, but without consulting their wives, they agreed to do so. The husbands have since had an unhappy time, and the Washington social world has offered them no sympathy.

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The opposition to the ratification of the Hawaiian treaty has simmered down almost entirely to the sugar trust, the Louisiana planters and the beet-root sugar manufacturers. There are a few Senators who oppose the treaty on principle, as they believe it inexpedient for the United States to assume the responsibility of governing any detached territory, and several on the Democratic side have joined the opposition because they regard annexation as a Republican measure.

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Chairman Loud of the House Committee on Postoffices has been working during the recess on the report of the committee on the Loud bill, and has practically completed it. He believes that the measure will effect a saving of at least $10,000,000 annually, and will wipe out the enormous deficit that confronts the Potsoffice Department every year. Mr. Loud believes the bill is much stronger this session than last, and, while not absolutely confident, thinks it will finally carry.

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The agents of the Cuban junta in Washington justify the assassination of Col. Ruiz as necessary to intimidate the cowardly and corrupt men in their ranks who are likely to be allured into making terms with the Spanish authorities either through fear or bribery. They say that hereafter no Spanish agent will dare approach an insurgent camp, and that it will be dangerous for any stranger to do so.

* * *

The distressing death of Miss Leila Herbert has caused a shock to her many friends and acquaintances in Washington. She was a young woman of beautiful character, gentle, amiable and generous, and was generally beloved and admired. Those who knew her best believe that her suicide was due to fear that she might be a permanent cripple.

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The pension certificate of the Rev. L. J. Keith of Vincennes, Ind., will be canceled, because the holder has informed the bureau that he does not consider himself longer entitled to a pension, his disability having disappeared, and has asked that his name be dropped from the rolls. There is only one other such case on record.

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Secretary Wilson is greatly interested in legislation for the establishment of postal savings banks because he believes they are necessary to the prosperity of the farmers. It is sometimes an all day's job, he says, for a farmer to go to the town where the nearest bank is situated, while there is a postoffice in every village.

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The copyright department is a most important branch of the Government, and indicates an enormous increase in literary and musical compositions and in designs which are susceptible to copyright. In 1870 the number of copyrights granted was 5,621; in 1880, 20,686; in 1890, 42,758; in 1896, 72,470.

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The recent report of the Comptroller of the Currency shows that the savings banks of the United States are mostly confined to the northeastern section of the country. Nearly 80 per cent of the number of banks and amount of deposits is represented by New York and New England.

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The committee appointed by the Society of the Army of the Tennessee to secure the erection of a monument to Gen. George B. McClellan at Washington has held its first meeting and elected Adjt. Gen. Ruggles chairman.

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Ink erasers are not allowed in either the War or the Navy Department except under the direction of a chief of bureau, and no one is allowed to erase an entry in any official record book without explanations and express permission.

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Dr. Sheldon Jackson, the Alaska expert, says that there is so much gold in Alaska that persons who go there ten years hence will have as good a chance as those who go next spring.

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Postmaster General Gary and Secretary Gage have promised to assist in laying the corner stone of the new postoffice building in Chicago on the 4th of next July.

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There is a very favorable outlook for the passage of the bankruptcy bill, and even the opponents of the measure concede their conviction that it will pass both houses.

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The sale of postage stamps for the last quarter of the year 1897 was the largest in the history of the country.

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

[Office of Downing, Hopkins & Co., Chicago Board of Trade Brokers, 711-714 Chamber of Commerce Building, Portland, Oregon.]

What will Leiter do with his wheat, is the question that is evidently bothering traders more than it is him. He has about 8,000,000 bushels cash wheat. He is also long about 4,000,000 bushels May. He has wheat enough to make him the power in the market, and it depends upon how he handles it as to the extent of his profit or loss. If trade falls off he will be forced to keep the market alive, as he did during October and November, by trading on both sides. If outside speculation increases he will certainly have the best of it. There is a large shortage in May, which gives him a chance to scalp the market on a liberal scale to his profit. There is talk of trade getting into July, and leaving May alone. This might help the short sellers by prolonging the time of delivery, but figuring on the probable stocks, the chances for large supplies by the last of July are decidedly poor for a bear. Were the trade to switch to September and leave the intervening months alone, Leiter would be left with his cash and May in a position where it would not be easy to swing a large line at a profit, and the wheat might have to be shipped out to find a market for it. All these questions are being discussed by the traders and nearly every one has a different theory.

Those who stand between the speculator and consumer, the cash handlers and the millers, are almost to a man bullish on wheat, and are talking higher prices, some predicting $1.25 for May. Armour and Weare expect that Leiter will win out in good shape. They figure on the milling demand reaching such proportion that, combined with the export business, it will absorb the stocks so readily in the season that the cash holders can dictate prices. The question of supply and demand becomes a factor. This, however, has not always in the past been a benefit to the bulls. Last winter and spring the cash demand was heavy, stocks were light, but the visible was 2,000,0000 bushels more than at present. Millers bought the wheat readily and decreased prices steadily, but in the face of the reduction prices did not respond, owing to the lack of speculation. A supply and demand market is generally a slow affair, and it may not be an exception this year.

Portland Market.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 74@75c; Valley and Bluestem, 77@78c per bushel.

Four—Best grades, $4.25; graham, $3.40; superfine, $2.25 per barrel.

Oats—Choice white, 35@36c; choice gray, 33@34c per bushel.

Barley—Feed barley, $19@20; brewing, $20 per ton.

Millstiffs—Bran, $17 per ton; middlings, $21; shorts, $18.

Hay—Timothy, $12.50@13; clover, $10@11; California wheat, $10; do oat, $11; Oregon wild hay, $9@10 per ton.

Eggs—17½@22½c per dozen.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 55@60c; fair to good, 45@50c; dairy, 40@50c per roll.

Cheese — Oregon, 11½c; Young America, 12½c; California, 9@10c per pound.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, $1.75@2.25 per dozen; broilers, $2.00@2.50; geese, $5.50@6.50; ducks, $4.00@5.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 10c per pound.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 35@45c per sack; sweets, $1.25 per cental.

Onions—Oregon, new, red, 90c; yellow, 80c per cental.

Hops—5@14c per pound for new crop; 1896 crop, 4@6c.

Wool—Valley, 14@16c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 7@8c; mohair, 20@22c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, $3.50; dressed mutton, 6½c; spring lambs, 5½c per pound.

Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, $4.00; light and feeders, $3.00@4.00; dressed, $4.50@5.00 per 100 pounds.

Beef—Gross, top steers, $2.75@3.00; cows, $2.50; dressed beef, 4½@6c per pound.

Veal—Large, 4½@5c; small, 5½@6c per pound.

Seattle Market.

Butter — Fancy native creamery, brick, 28c; ranch, 16@18c.

Cheese—Native Washington, 13c; California, 9½c.

Eggs—Fresh ranch, 25c.

Poultry—Chickens, live, per pound, hens, 10c; spring chickens, $2.50@3 00; ducks, $3.50@3.75.

Wheat—Feed wheat, $22 per ton.

Oats—Choice, per ton, $19@20.

Corn—Whole, $23; cracked, per ton, $23; feed meal, $23 per ton.

Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, $22; whole, $22.

Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef, steers, 6c; cows, 5½c; mutton sheep, 7c; pork, 6c; veal, small, 7.

Fresh Fish—Halibut, 5@6c; salmon, 3c; salmon trout, 7@10c; flounders and sole, 3@4; ling cod, 4@5; rock cod, 5c; smelt, 2½@4c.

Fresh Fruit—Apples, 50@90c per box; peaches, 75@80c; prunes, 35@40c; pears, 75c@$1 per box.

San Francisco Market.

Wool—Nevada 11@13c; Oregon, 12@14c; Northern 7@8c per pound.

Hops—12½@16c per pound.

Millstuffs—Middlings, $20@23; California bran, $17.50@18.50 per ton.

Onions—New red, 70@80c; do new silverskin, $2.00@2.25 per cental.

Eggs—Store, 22½c; ranch, 27@31c; Eastern, 15@19; duck, 16c per dozen.

Citrus Fruit — Oranges, navels, $1.50@2.75; Mexican limes, $4.00@4.50; California lemons, choice, $2.25@2.50; do common, 50c@$1.25 per box.

Cheese—Fancy mild, new, 12½c; fair to good, 7@8c per pound.

Potatoes—New, in boxes, 35@85c.

Hay—Wheat, $11.50@15; wheat and oat, $13@14.50; oat, $11@13; river barley, $7@8; best barley, $11@12.50; alfalfa, $10@11; clover, $10@11.

Fresh Fruit—Apples, 25c@$1.25 per large box; grapes, 25@40c; Isabella, 60@75c; peaches, 50c@$1; pears, 75c@$1 per box; plums, 20@35c.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 32½c; do seconds, 29@31c; fancy dairy, 28c; good to choice, 26@27c per pound.

The French admirers of Balzac have determined to erect in his honor a splendid monument in the city of Tours, the place of his birth.

A GLANCE BACKWARD

GREAT CHANGE IN THE COUNTRY DURING THE PAST YEAR.

We Are to Be Congratulated—The Country Now on a Sound Business Basis and Prosperity Is With Us Again—A Few Comparisons.

E. F. PARSONS, Special Correspondent.

Washington, D. C.—This ought to be a merry Christmas and a happy New Year for a large proportion of the people of the United Staes.

There are several reasons and it may not be improper, from this national standpoint, where they are easily looked at, to enumerate some of them.

Glance over the files of your papers of the corresponding date four years ago, and even three years ago, and, if you have not them at hand, recall to your recollection the circumstances of that time. Want and suffering in every city; hundreds of thousands of people out of employment; business suspended and business men called upon to give of their funds to keep the unemployed of their own communities from starvation; soup houses established everywhere; idle men in search of employment or in search of sustenance; thousands sleeping in stationhouses and public buildings in the great cities. Everybody who recalls the experiences of the first and second winters which followed the election of a free trade president and congress and contrasts them with those of today, must feel that there is occasion for gratitude in the present condition of his own community and the communities of his country.

Take the farmer and his condition as another example. While he was not actually starving and requiring his friends to contribute food at this time four years ago, the contrast between the price which he is now getting and those during the free trade period will certainly make this a merry Christmas and happy New Year to him. The farmer supplies the bulk of that great mass of productions which go to other parts of the world and brings millions of money into the United States. The exportations of the country in the year now about to end are the heaviest in its entire history. They will reach for the calendar year nearly $1,100,000,000. In but once in the history of the country did they reach as much as a billion, and that under the admini tration of the last Republican president, General Harrison. This year they will exceed those of 1892, when they were $1,015,000,000. And the farmer is getting his share of this prosperity.

Take the manufacturers and the millions of men employed in the various industries which they control or which are tributary to them. Four years ago the shutters were upon the windows, the wheels were silent, the employes were without work. Today in every community the factories are working on full time, many of them overtime, in some cases running day and night, while thousands upon thousands of working men and women have received as holiday gifts an increase of from 10 to 20 per cent in their wages. This is the result of the protective system; the conditions of four years ago were the result of the free trade system.

Take the currency of the country—the money in circulation as another example. Two years ago the leaders of the Democratic party began the vigorous agitation in favor of an unsound system of finance in the affairs of the nation. The result was immediately felt in a rapid reduction of the money in circulation. Eighteen months ago its leaders met in Chicago and did what it had been for sometime apparent they would do, declared for the free and unlimited coinage of silver at a ratio far different from that which actually exists in the commercial value of silver and gold. And during that campaign it was insisted that only by this false and delusive method could there be produced a sufficient increase in the currency of the country to keep pace with the growth of its population. The result of that agitation was suspension of business, the disappearance of currency, business alarm, still further loss of employment. The rejection of the proposition by the people was felt by an immediate increase in the the country, and on this holiday occasion, only a year after the rejection by the people of the United States of this proposed system of finance, the currency in circulation is more than $200,000,000 in excess of that on the day that Mr. Bryan was nominated upon the free silver platform. And this is another of the numerous causes for congratulation to the people of the United States on this holiday occasion.

What is the cause of all these changes? The cause is found simply in the difference of policy and administration between the Cleveland and free trade period and the McKinley protective tariff period. Under the former policy the country had reached the lowest ebb in finance and trade within the memory of the generation, but with the appearance of Bryan and the free-silver heresy a still further stagnation was felt until things at one time seemed to be at a standstill. But with the election of a president pledged to protection and sound money an immediate difference was seen. Even before it was possible to enact any legislation which would change the operations of the government or even before any change in the occupancy of the White House, the confidence restored to the country and business in the knowledge that proper legislation would be enacted as soon as possible, was marked on all sides. Then came the inauguration of President McKinley and later the enactment of a Republican tariff law, designed to furnish sufficient revenue and to protect American industries, and the result has been a steady growth of prosperity and an increase of business all over the land. Prices of farm products have risen, wages of employes have been increased, thousands of unemployed have been given work, and the country is entering into a season of prosperity which is a great contrast to the years of free-trade which are fresh in the memories of the people.

An alien is not permitted to acquire a title to land in Bermuda, either by purchase or inheritance. If a woman who owns land there marries a foreigner, she forfeits her real estate.

NEVER TOO SURE.

Against the probability or possibility of mischance or accident we can never be too sure. But if we should stop to consider how great is the chance of sudden death, we would be made too timid and unhappy. Caution is needed not to be foolhardy, and precaution to know what is best to do when an accident happens. One day this winter two men were walking, and one said: "We're too timid in treading on slippery places. I tread firmly and never think about them, and so escape a fall." "Never be too sure," said the other, "it is that that throws you off and makes the fall the harder." Just then they came upon a place covered with thin snow, where kids had been sliding. The first speaker slipped, and came down with his foot turned, and badly sprained his ankle. He was a cripple on crutches until a short time ago, having used many things without benefit. Up to that time he had not used St. Jacobs Oil, which, when used, cured him completely, so that he walks as usual. There is a probability that for the rest of the season he will walk cautiously, with the precaution of having this great remedy ready for use.

Value of the British Navy.

It is interesting to note that the capital value of the British navy at the present time exceeds £94,000,000. The first cost of the fleet which led to the downfall of Napoleon was but £10,000,000. The fleet then comprised between 480 and 490 fighting vessels.

California claims the largest boy in the world of his age. His name is John Bardin. He is 15 years old, six feet five inches tall, and weighs 220 pounds.

TREMENDOUS EXODUS TO THE KLONDIKE.

Despite the warnings of those who have been on the spot, and predict suffering in the Klondike region, thousands of adventurous Americans are wending their way thitherward. All of them should be provided with that medicinal safeguard, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which warms and nourishes the system and prevents malaria, rheumatism, kidney trouble, besides remedying liver complaint, dyspepsia and constipation.

It is estimated that Australia contains nearly 7,000 species of plants not found elsewhere.

AN OPEN LETTER TO MOTHERS.

We are asserting in the courts our right to the exclusive use of the word "CASTORIA," and "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," as our Trade Mark.

I, Dr. Samuel Pitcher, of Hyannis, Massachusetts, was the originator of "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," the same that has borne and does now bear the fac-simile signature of CHAS. H. FLETCHER on every wrapper. This is the original "PITCHER'S CASTORIA" which has been used in the homes of the mothers of America for over thirty years. Look Carefully at the wrapper and see that it is *the kind you have always bought*, and has the signature of CHAS. H. FLETCHER on the wrapper. No one has authority from me to use my name except The Centaur Company of which Chas. H. Fletcher is President.

March 8, 1897. SAMUEL PITCHER, M.D.

The laregst parish in London in point of area is Lewisham, which has 5,773 acres; and the largest population is Islington, which has now 330,000 inhabitants.

After being swindled by all others, send us stamp for particulars of King Solomon's Treasure, the ONLY renewer of manly strength. MASON CHEMICAL CO., P. O. Box 747, Philadelphia, Pa.

The teaching of music is becoming more general every year in the public schools of this country.

Two bottles of Piso's Cure for Consumption cured me of a bad lung trouble.—Mrs. J. Nichols, Princeton, Ind., Mar. 26, 1895.

The distance of the earth from the sun is about 3,000,000 miles less in December than it is June.

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Lots of women suffer constantly, and seldom utter complaint.

Our habits of life and dress tell sadly upon women's delicate organizations.

They ought to be told just where the danger lies, for their whole future may depend upon that knowledge and how to overcome the dangers that threaten them.

There is no need of our describing the experiences of such women here—they are too well known by those who have suffered; but we will impress upon every one that these are the never-failing symptoms of serious womb trouble, and unless relieved at once a life will be forfeited.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound never fails to relieve the distressing troubles above referred to; it has held the faith of the women of America for twenty years.

It gives tone to the womb, strengthens the muscles, banishes backache and relieves all pains incident to women's diseases. All Druggists sell it and recommend it.

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FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that the said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of CATARRH that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

{ SEAL } A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public.

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Hall's Family Pills are the best.

An international congress is being arranged in Paris for the discussion of means of preventing fires at theaters and other places of public resort.

The Bible was written by degrees during a period of 1,600 years. It was anciently called "The Books," but for the past 700 years the "Bible."

HOME PRODUCTS AND PURE FOOD.

All Eastern Syrup, so-called, usually very light colored and of heavy body, is made from glucose. "*Tea Garden Drips*" is made from Sugar Cane and is strictly pure. It is for sale by first-class grocers, in cans only. Manufactured by the PACIFIC COAST SYRUP CO. All genuine "*Tea Garden Drips*" have the manufacturer's name lithographed on every can.

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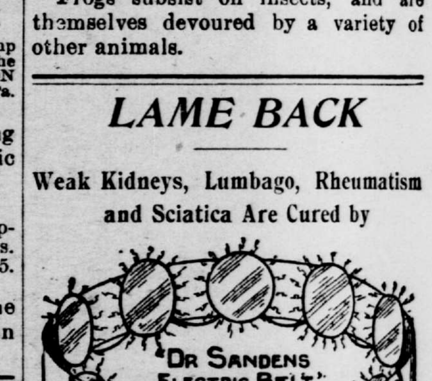

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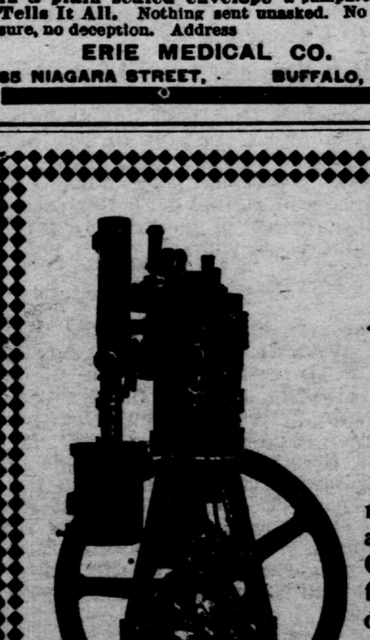

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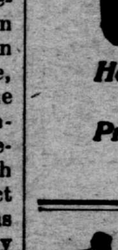

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