Little Falls Transcript.

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LITTLE FALLS, . . . MINN

NEWS OF THE WEEK

CRIMES AND CRIMINALS.

The supreme tribunal at Madrid has condemned Moncasi to death. The appeal will be carried to the court of cessation.

A special from Yankton says Livingston, Russell and Richardson, have been indicted by the grand jury for alleged Indian frauds.

Henry E. Dayton, traveler for John T. Dizer, a Boston produce dealer, has been arrested on a charge of forgery to the amount $20,000.

Angell, the defaulting secretary of the Pullman car company, Chicago, was passing as an Englishman in London, under the name of Seymour, when arrested.

A dispatch from Pesth reports that editors of newspapers, and members of the the Diet who support the government have been during the last few weeks anonymously threatened with death.

Joseph Ander, recently clerk in the agency of the Nevada bank at Virginia City has been arrested at San Francisco, charged with embezzlement of funds estimated at from $50,000 to $100,000.

Jackson, the county seat of Breathitt county, Kentucky, has been the scene of the most outrageous riot that has ever disgraced the country. Two opposing gangs of drunken desperadoes held the town for two days, firing innumerable shots, and killing several of the warring clans. Judge Burnett in endeavoring to keep the peace was shot dead. Pandemonium itself could not reveal a scene more terrible and horrible. Defiance to all law and order prevailed, and the officers of the law were put to flight or killed. Up to Nov. 30th Jackson was still in possession of the drunken, blood thirsty mob.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

Commodore Spicer, commanding the Charlestown, Mass., navy yard is dead.

A member of the Cabinet says there is entire unanimity on the President's message.

R. C. Brinckley, one of the wealthiest and most prominent citizens of Memphis is dead. He died at Iuka, Miss.

The President has signed the commission of Mrs. Anna D. H. Thompson, as Postmistress, at Memphis, Tenn.

Mayor Doyle, of Providence, R. I., Republican, has been re-elected by 1,000 majority, over four competitors.

Associate Justice W. B. Egan of Louisiana died at his residence in Shreveport, Thanksgiving morning, of bronchial affection.

The legislature of Alabama, in joint convention have elected Gov. Houston United States Senator. There were only two negative votes.

Prof. W. F. Harper, principal of the Normal school at Danvile, Ind., has been missing since Nov. 23d. He was last seen in Indianapolis that afternoon.

Vernon H. Vaughn, ex-Govenor of Utah, late of the committee on corporations of the Constitutional committee of California, died at Sacramento, lately.

Col. Robert C. Buchanan, brevet major generol U. S. A., who has been on the retired list a number of years, died at his residence in Washington city, Nov. 29 of apoplexy.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A very heavy snow storm prevailed at Louisville, Ky., on Wednesday, Nov. 27

It is the Russian, not the British, council of state that is discussing a project of taxing American cotton imports.

It is rumored that the English parliament, after a short session will be dissolved, and a general election had in January.

A Liverpool telegram of November 27th says, it is said fifteen persons were drowned by the disaster to the ferry boat, which was in collision with a ship at anchor in the river Mersey a few days ago.

The Union school building at Belleville, Mich., has been burned. Loss on building, $5,000; on books, furniture, etc., unknown. No insurance. Supposed to be incendiary.

A London Telegram says, the Chatterly Iron company has refused the offer of 900 men to resume work at a reduction of 5 per cent. Extensive discharges of workmen in the neighborhood are impending.

A call signed by a number of prominent citizens of Virginia, is published stating they have organized themselves into a society to preserve the credit of the State, and inviting the co-operation of every citizen.

The Roumanians are reported to be crossing the Danube into Dobruaja. Eight thousand Russian troops, the advance guard of reinforcements for the army in the Bulgaria, will arrive at Galatz in a few days.

The Pensylvania Coal company has fixed the prices of its coal per ton as follows: Steamer, grate and egg, each $3.50: stove $3.85; chesnut, $3.40; small chesnut, $2.37 Forty cents per ton is added for delivery at New York.

The tobacco factory of William Cameron of Pittsburgh, Pa., one of the largest in the State has been destroyed by fire. The stemming factory, adjoining, was also destroyed. The building covered nearly a square. The loss will probably reach $200,000 insurance between $100,000 and $125,000.

A New York telegram of Nov. 25th, says the case of James A. Whalen against Gen. Sheridan, owing to the absence of Gen. Butler, of counsel for plaintiff, is postponed till Monday next. The suit is to recover $416,000 for losses alleged to have been incurred by plaintiff being deposed from his sugar plantation near New Orleans by Gen. Sheridan in 1867.

The London *Post's* dispatch says the action of the finance committee of the Austrian delegation in refusing to discuss the supplementary credit to meet expenses accrued in the occupation of Turkish provinces, raises a momentous question, on one side between the crown and parliament and on the other between the latter and the delegations.

Arrangements are complete for a fat stock show at the exposition, Dec. 2d to 7th at Chicago. Animals already entered give assurance of a large and interesting exhibition. The date is set early in order to give eastern butchers an equal opportunity with western to procure prize stock for the holiday trade. Canada, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin are represented in entries.

A Copenhagen dispatch says the statement that the German legation had withdrawn from Denmark is untrue. The late German minister left here before the arrival of his successor, but no diplomatic rupture has occured. At the same time it cannot be denied that the threatening attitude assumed by the Prussian government and Duke Cumberland simultaneously with the declaration of his betrothal to the Princess Thyria, is causing some uneasiness.

FORTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

MONDAY, December 2.—The closing session of the Forty-fifth congress convened at Washington Dec. 2. The President's message was read in each House. Mr. Wood of New York, in the house spoke at considerable length in opposition to certain views of the message touching upon alleged irregularities in the elections in the Southern States, notably in Louisiana. Mr. Garfield replied at length to Mr. Wood. Several bills were introduced in the Senate and laid on the table. Senator Blaine introduced a resolution instructing the judiciary committee to report to the Senate whether the constitutional rights of any citizen, in any State had been violated in the late elections. Senator Harris introduced a bill providing for an inquiry into the cause of yellow fever. By Senator Beck for retiring the trade dollar and its coinage into the standard silver dollar. All but 13 Senators were in their seats. In the house 229 members answered. Bailey, of New York, and Majors of Nevada took the iron clad oath. The military and fortification appropriation bills were reported.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Delivered to the Last Session of the 45th Congress, Dec. 2, 1878.

FELLOW CITIZENS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: Our heartfelt gratitude is due to the divine being who holds in his hands the destinies of nations for the continued bestowal, during the last year, of countless blessings upon our country. We are at peace with all other nations. Our public credit has greatly improved and is perhaps now stronger than ever before. Abundant harvests have rewarded the labors of those who till the soil. Our manufacturing industries are reviving and it is believed that the general prosperity, which has been so long anxiously looked for, is at last within our reach.

THE YELLOW FEVER.

The enjoyment of health by our people generally has, however, been interrupted during the past season by the prevalence of a fatal pestilence, the yellow fever, in some portions of the Southern States, creating an emergency which called for prompt and extraordinary measures of relief. The disease appeared at New Orleans and other places on the lower Mississippi soon after midsummer. It was rapidly spread by fugitives from the infected towns and cities, and did not disappear until early in November. The States of Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee have suffered severely. About one hundred thousand cases are believed to have occurred, of which about 20,000, according to intelligent estimates, proved fatal. It is impossible to estimate with any proximate to accuracy, the loss to the country occasioned by the epidemic. It is to be reckoned by the hundred millions of dollars. The suffering and destitution that resulted excited the deepest sympathy in all parts of the Union. Physicians and nurses hastened from every quarter to the assistance of the afflicted communities. Voluntary contributions of money and supplies in every needed form were speedily and generously furnished. The government was able to respond in some measure to the call for help by providing tents, medicines and food for the sick and destitute, the requisite directions for the purpose being given in the confident expectation that this action of the executive would receive the sanction of Congress. About 1,800 tents and rations of the value of about $25,000 were sent to cities and towns which applied for them, full details of which will be furnished to Congress by the proper department. The fearful spread of this pestilence has awakened a very general public sentiment in favor of a national sanitary administration, which shall not only control quarantine, but have the sanitary supervision of internal commerce in times of epidemics, and hold an advisory relation to the State and municipal health authorities, with powers to deal with whatever endangers the public health, and which the municipal and State authorities are unable to regulate. The national quarantine act, approved April 29, 1878, which was passed too late in the last hours of Congress to provide the means for carrying it into practical operation during the past season, is a step in the direction here indicated. In view of the necessity for the most effective measures by quarantine and otherwise for the protection of our seaports and the country generally from this and other epidemics, it is recommended that Congress give to the whole subject early and careful consideration.

THE COLOR LINE.

The permanent pacification of the country by the complete protection of all citizens in every civil and political right continues to be of paramount interest with the great body of our people. Every step in this direction is welcomed with public approval and every interruption of steady and uniform progress to the desired consummation awakens general uneasiness and wide-spread condemnation. The recent Congressional elections have furnished a direct and trustworthy test of the advance thus far made in the practical establishment of the right of suffrage secured by the constitution to the liberated race in the Southern States. All disturbing influences, real or imaginary, had been removed from all of these States. The constitutional amendments which conferred freedom and equality of civil and political rights upon the colored people of the South were adopted by the concurrent action of the great body of good citizens who maintained the authority of the national government and the integrity and perpetuity of the Union at such a cost of treasure and life as a wise and necessary embodiment in the organic law of the just results of the war. The people of the former slave-holding States accepted these results and gave in every practicable form assurances that the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments and laws passed in pursuance thereof, should in good faith be enforced rigidly and impartially in letter and spirit, to the end that the humblest citizen without distinction of race or color, should under them receive full and equal protection in person and property and in political rights and privileges. By these constitutional amendments the southern section of the Union obtained a large increase of political power in Congress and in the electoral college, and the country justly expected that elections would proceed, as to the enfranchised race, upon the same circumstances of legal and constitutional freedom and protection which obtained in all the other States of the Union. The friends of law and order looked forward to the conduct of these elections, as offering to the general judgment of the country an important opportunity to measure the degree in which the right of suffrage could be exercised by the colored people, and would be respected by their fellow-citizens. But a more general enjoyment of freedom of suffrage by the colored people, and a more just and generous protection of that freedom, by the communities of which they form part, were generally anticipated, than the record of the elections discloses. In some of those States in which colored people have been unable to make their opinions felt in the election, the result is mainly due to influences not easily measured or remedied by legal protection, but in the States of Louisiana and South Carolina at large, and in some particular Congressional districts outside of these States, the records of the election seem to compel the conclusion that the rights of the colored voters have been overridden and their participation in the elections not permitted to be either general or free. It will be for the Congress for which these elections were had to make such examination into their conduct as may be appropriate to determine the validity of the claims of members to the seats. In the meanwhile it becomes the duty of the executive and judicial departments of the government, each in its province, to inquire into and punish violations of the laws of the United States which have occurred. I can but repeat what I said, in this connection, in my last message, that whatever authority rests with me, to this end, I shall not hesitate to put forth, and I am unwilling to forego a renewed appeal to the legislatures, the courts, the executive authorities, and the people of the States where the wrongs have been perpetrated, to give their assistance towards bringing to justice the offenders and preventing a repetition of the crimes. No means within my power will be spared to obtain a full and fair investigation of the alleged crimes, and to secure the conviction and just punishment of the guilty.

It is to be observed that the principal appropriation made for the department of justice at the last session contained the following clause: "And for defraying the expenses which may be incurred in the act approved Feb. 28, 1871, entitled an act to amend an act approved May 30, 1870, entitled an act to enforce the rights of citizens of the United States to vote in the several States of the Union and for other purposes, or any acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto." It is the opinion of the attorney general that the expenses of these proceedings will largely exceed the amount which was thus provided, and I rely confidently upon Congress to make adequate appropriations to enable the executive department to enforce the laws.

I respectfully urge upon your attention that the Congressional elections in every district, in a very important sense, are justly a matter of interest and concern throughout the whole country. Each State and every political party is entitled to a share of power which is conferred by the legal and constitutional suffrage. It is the right of every citizen possessing the qualifications prescribed by law to cast one unintimidated ballot and to have his ballot honestly counted. So long as the exercise of this power and the enjoyment of this right are common and equal, practically as well as formally, submission to the results of the suffrage will be accorded loyally and cheerfully, and all the departments of the government will feel the true vigor of the popular will thus expressed. No temporary or administrative interests of government, however urgent or weighty, will ever displace the zeal of our people in defense of the primary rights of citizenship. They understand that the protection of liberty requires the maintenance in full vigor of the manly methods of free speech, free press and free suffrage, and will sustain the full authority of the government to enforce the laws which are framed to preserve these inestimable rights.

The material progress and welfare of the States depend on the protection afforded to their citizens. There can be no peace without such protection, no prosperity without peace, and the whole country is deeply interested in the growth and prosperity of all its parts. While the country has not yet reached complete unity of feeling and reciprocal confidence between the communities so lately and so seriously estranged, I feel an absolute assurance that the tendencies are in that direction and with increasing force, the power of public opinion will override all political prejudices and all sectional or State attachments in demanding that all over our wide territory the name and character of citizens of the United States shall mean one and the same thing and carry with them unchallenged security and respect.

PARIS EXPOSITION.

Our relations with other countries continue peaceful. Our neutrality in contests between foreign powers has been maintained and respected. The universal exposition held at Paris during the past summer has been attended by large numbers of our citizens. The brief period allowed for the preparation and arrangement of the contributions of our citizens to this great exposition was well employed in energetic and judicious efforts to overcome this disadvantage. These efforts, led and directed by the commissioner general, were remarkably successful, and the exhibition of the products of American industry was creditable and gratifying in scope and character. The reports of the United States commissioners, giving its results in detail, will be duly laid before you. Our participation in this international competition for the favor and the trade of the world may be expected to produce useful and important results in promoting intercourse, friendship and commerce with other nations.

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY CONFERENCE.

In accordance with the provisions of the act of Feb. 28, 1878, three commissioners were appointed to an international conference on the subject of adopting a common ratio between gold and silver, for the purpose of establishing, internationally, the use of bi-metallic money, and securing fixity of the relative value between those metals. Invitations were addressed to the various governments which had expressed a willingness to participate in its deliberations. The conference held its meeting in Paris August last. The report of the commissioners, herewith submitted, will show its results. No common ratio between gold and silver could be agreed upon by the conference. The general conclusion was reached that it is necessary to maintain in the world the monetary functions of silver, as well as of gold, leaving the selection of the use of one or the other of these two metals, or of both, to be made by each State.

THE HALIFAX AWARD.

Congress having appropriated at its last session the sum of $5,500,000 to pay the award of the joint commission at Halifax, if after correspondence with the British government on the subject of the conformity of the award to the requirements of the treaty, and to the terms of the question thereby submitted to the commission, the President shall deem it his duty to make the payment, communications upon these points were addressed to the British government through the legation of the United States at London. Failing to obtain the concurrence of the British government in the views of this government respecting the award, I have deemed it my duty to tender the sum named within the year fixed by the treaty, accompanied by a notice of the grounds of the payment, and a protest against any other construction of the same. The correspondence upon this subject will be laid before you.

CUBAN INSURRECTION.

The Spanish government has officially announced the termination of the insurrection in Cuba and the restoration of peace throughout the island. Confident expectations are expressed of a revival of trade and prosperity which it is earnestly hoped may prove well founded. Numerous claims of American citizens for relief for injuries or restoration of property have been among the incidents of the long continued hostilities. Some of these claims are in process of adjustment by Spain and the others are promised early and careful consideration.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

The treaty made with Italy in regard to reciprocal consular privileges has been duly ratified and proclaimed. No questions of grave importance have arisen with any other of the European powers.

JAPAN AND CHINA.

The Japanese government has been desirous of a revision of such parts of its treaties with foreign powers as relate to commerce and it is understood has addressed to each of the treaty powers a request to open negotiations with that view. The United States government has been inclined to regard the matter favorably. Whatever restrictions upon trade with Japan are found injurious to that people cannot but affect injuriously nations holding commercial intercourse with them. Japan, after a long period of seclusion, has within the last few years made rapid strides in the path of enlightenment and progress and not unreasonably is looking forward, to the time when her relations with the nations of Europe and America shall be assimilated to those which they hold with each other. A treaty looking to this end has been made which will be submitted for consideration of the Senate.

After an interval of several years the Chinese government has again sent envoys to the United States. They have been received and a permanent legation is now established here by that government. It is not doubted that this step will be of advantage to both nations in promoting friendly relations and removing causes of difference.

SAMOA.

The treaty with the Samoan Islands having been duly ratified and accepted on the part of both governments is now in operation, and a survey and soundings of the harbor of Pago have been made by a naval vessel of the United States with a view of its occupation as a naval station, if found desirable to the service.

RELATIONS WITH MEXICO.

Since the resumption of diplomatic relations with Mexico, correspondence has been opened and still continues between the two governments upon the various questions which at one time seemed to endanger their relations. While no formal agreement has been reached as to the troubles on the border, much has been done to repress and diminish them. The effective force of United States troops on the Rio Grande, by a strict and faithful compliance with instructions, has done much to remove the sources of dispute, and it is now understood that a like force of Mexican troops on the other side of the river is also making an energetic movement against marauding Indian tribes. This government looks with the greatest satisfaction upon every evidence of strength in the national authority of Mexico, and upon every effort put forth to prevent or to punish incursions upon our territory. Reluctant to assume any action or attitude in the control of these incursions by military movements across the border, not imperatively demanded for the protection of the lives and property of our own citizens, I shall take the earliest opportunity consistent with the proper discharge of this plain duty to recognize the ability of the Mexican government to restrain, effectively, the violations of our territory.

It is proposed to hold, next year, an international exhibition in Mexico, and it is believed that the display of the agricultural and manufacturing products of the two nations will tend to a better understanding and increased commercial interests between their people.

SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES.

With Brazil, and the republics of Central and South America, some steps have been taken toward the development of closer commercial intercourse. Diplomatic relations have been resumed with Columbia and Bolivia. A boundary question between the Argentine republic and Paraguay has been submitted by those governments for arbitration to the President of the United States, and I have, after careful examination, given a decision upon it. A naval expedition up the Amazon and Madeira rivers has brought back information valuable for scientific and commercial purposes. A like expedition is about visiting the coast of Africa and the Indian Ocean.

FOREIGN COMMERCE.

The reports of diplomatic and consular officers relative to the development of our foreign commerce here, furnished many facts that have proved of public interest and have stimulated to practical exertion the enterprise of our people.

THE TREASURY.

The report of the secretary of the treasury furnishes a detailed statement of the operations of that department of the government and of the condition of the public finances. The ordinary revenues from all sources for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1878, were $257,763,878.70. The ordinary expenditures for the same period were $236,964,326.80, leaving a surplus revenue for the year of $20,799,551.90. The receipts for the present fiscal year ending June 30, 1879, actual and estimated, are as follows: Actual receipts for the first quarter commencing July 1, 1878, $73,389,743.43; estimated receipts for the remaining three-fourths of the year, $191,110,256.57. Total for the present fiscal year, actual and estimated, $264,500,000.

The expenditures for the same period, will be, actual and estimated, as follows: For the quarter commencing July 1st, 1878, actual expenditures, $73,344,573.27, for the remaining three quarters of the year the expenditures are estimated at $166,755,426.73 making the total expenditures $2,401,000.00, and leaving an estimated surplus of the revenue for the year ending June 30, 1879, of $244,000.00.

The total receipts during the next fiscal year, ending June 30, 1880, estimated according to existing laws, will be $264,500,000, and the estimated ordinary expenditures for the same period will be $236,320,412.68, leaving a surplus of $28,179,587.32 for that year.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

In the foregoing statements of expenditures, actual and estimated, no amount is allowed for the sinking funds provided for by the act approved February 25, 1862, which requires that one per cent. of the entire debt of the United States shall be purchased or paid within each fiscal year to be set apart as a sinking fund. There has been, however, a substantial compliance with the conditions of the law. By its terms the public debt should have been reduced between 1862 and the close of the fiscal year $518,361,806.28. The actual reduction of the ascertained debt in that period has been $720,644,739.61, being in excess of the reduction required by the sinking fund act of $203,282,933.33. The amount of the public debt less cash in the treasury November 1, 1878, was $2,024,200,083.18, a reduction since the same date, last year, of $23,150,617.39.

REFUNDING THE DEBT.

The progress made during the last year in refunding the public debt at lower rates of interest is very gratifying. The amount of 4 per cent. bonds sold during the present year prior to Nov. 23, 1878, is $100,270,900, and 6 per cent. bonds, commonly known as 5:20's, to an equal amount have been or will be redeemed as calls mature. It has been the policy of the department to place the 4 per cent. bonds within easy reach of every citizen who desires to invest his savings, whether small or great, in these securities. The secretary of the treasury recommends that the law be so modified that small sums may be invested and that through the post offices or other agents of the government, the freest opportunity may be given in all parts of the country for such investments. The best mode suggested is that the department be authorized to issue certificates of deposit of the denomination of ten dollars, bearing interest at the rate of 3:65 per cent. per annum, convertible at any time within one year after their issue into 4 per cent. bonds, authorized by the refunding act, and to be issued only in exchange for United States notes sent to the treasury by mail, or otherwise. Such a provision of law, supported by suitable regulation, would enable any person readily, without cost or risk, to convert his money into an interest bearing security of the United States, and the money so received could be applied to the redemption of 6 per cent. bonds.

The coinage of gold during the last fiscal year was $52,689,980; the coinage of silver dollars, under the act passed July 28, 1878, amounted, on the 23d of Nov., 1878, to $19,814,550, of which amount $4,984,947 are in circulation, and the balance, $14,829,603, is still in the possession of the government.

SPECIE RESUMPTION.

With views unchanged with regard to the act under which the coinage of silver proceeds, it has been the purpose of the secretary faithfully to execute the law, and to afford a fair trial to the measure. In the present financial condition of the country I am persuaded that the welfare of legitimate business and industry of every description will be best promoted by abstaining from all attempts to make radical changes in the existing financial legislation. Let it be understood, that, during the coming year, the business of the country will be undisturbed by interference with the laws affecting it, and we may confidently expect that the resumption of specie payments, which will take place at the appointed time, will be successfully and easily maintained, and that it will be followed by a healthful and enduring revival of business prosperity. Let the healing influence of time, the inherent energies of our people, and the boundless resources of our country have a fair opportunity, and relief from present difficulties will surely follow.

OUR ARMY.

The report of the secretary of war shows that the army has been well and economically supplied, that our small force has been actively employed, and has faithfully performed all the service required of it. The morale of the army has improved, and the number of desertions has materially decreased during the year. The secretary recommends that a pension be granted to the widow of the late Lieutenant Henry H. Benner, who lost his life by yellow fever while in command of the steamer J. M. Chambers, sent with supplies for the relief of the sufferers in the South from that disease.

The establishment of the annuity scheme, for the benefit of the heirs of deceased officers, as suggested by the paymaster-general; the adoption, by Congress, of a plan for the publication of the records of the war of the rebellion, now being prepared for that purpose. The increase of the extra per diem of soldier teachers employed in post schools, and liberal appropriations for the erection of buildings for schools and libraries at the different posts; the repeal or amendment of the act of June 18, 1878, forbidding the use of the army as a posse comitatus or otherwise for the purpose of executing the laws, except in such cases and under such circumstances as may be expressly authorized by the constitution or by act of Congress; the passage of a joint resolution of Congress legalizing the issues of rations, tents and medicine which were made for the relief of sufferers from yellow fever; that provision be made for the erection of a fire proof building for the preservation of certain valuable records, now constantly exposed to destruction by fire. These recommendations are all recommended to your favorable consideration.

THE NAVY.

The report of the secretary of the navy showes that the navy has improved during the last fiscal year. Work has been done on seventy-five vessels, ten of which have been thoroughly repaired and made ready for sea. Two others are in rapid progress toward completion. The total expenditures of the year, including the amount appropriated for the deficiencies of the previous year, were $17,468,392.65. The actual expenses chargeable to the year, exclusive of these deficiencies, were $13,306,914.09 or $797,199.18 less than those of the previous year, and $4,928,677.74 less than the expenses including the deficiencies. The estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1880, are $14,562,381.45, exceeding the appropriations of the present year only $63,949.75, which excess is occasioned by the demands of the naval academy and the marine corps.

As explained in the secretary's report the appropriations for the present fiscal year are $14,528,431.70, which, in the opinion of the secretary, will be ample for all the current expenses of the department during the year. The amount drawn from the treasury from July 1 to November 1, 1878, is $4,740,544.14, of which $70,980.75 has been refunded, leaving as the expenditure for that period $4,669,563.36 or $620,899.24 less than the corresponding period of the last fiscal year.

THE POSTAL SERVICE.

The department of the postmaster-general embraces a detailed statement of the operations of the postoffice department. The expenditures of that department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1878, was $34,165,084.49. The receipts, including sales of stamps, were $29,277,516.95. The sum of $190,436.90, included in the foregoing statement of expenditures, is chargeable to preceeding years, so that the actual expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1878, are estimated at $365,719.00; and the receipts, from all sources, at $20,664,023.90, leaving a deficiency to be appropriated out of the treasury of $5,907,876.10.

The report calls attention to the fact that the compensation of postmasters of railroads for carrying the mail is regulated by law and that the failure of Congress to appropriate the amount required for these purposes does not relieve the government of responsibility, but necessarily increases the deficiency bills, which Congress will be called upon to pass.

In providing for the postal service the following questions are presented: Should Congress annually appropriate a sum for its expenses largely in excess of its revenues, or should such rates of postage be established as will make the department self sustaining?

Should the postal service be reduced by excluding from the mails matter which does not pay its way?

Should the number of post routes be diminished?

Should other methods be adopted which will increase the revenue or diminish the expenses of the postal service?

INTERNATIONAL POSTAL CONGRESS.

The international postal congress, which met at Paris May 1, 1878, and continued in session until June 4th of the same year, was composed of delegates from nearly all the civilized countries of the world. It adopted a new convention to take the place of the treaty concluded at Berne, Oct. 9, 1874, which goes into effect on the 1st of April, 1879, between the countries whose delegates have signed it. It was ratified and approved by and with the consent of the President, August 13, 1878. A synopsis of this universal postal convention will be found in the report of the postmaster general, and the full text in the appendix thereto. In its origin the postal union comprised twenty-three countries, having a population of 350,000,000 of people. On the first of April next, it will comprise forty-three countries and colonies with a population of more than 650,000,000 of people and will soon, by the accession of the few remaining countries and colonies which maintain organized postal services, constitute in fact as well as in name, as its new title indicates, a universal union, regulating upon a uniform basis of cheap postage rates, the postal interests between all civilized nations.

Some embarrassment has arisen out of the conflict between the customs laws of this country and the provision of the postal convention in regard to the transmission of foreign books and newspapers to this country by mail. It is hoped that Congress will be able to devise some means of reconciling the difficulties which have thus been created, so as to do justice to all parties involved.

COURT BUSINESS.

The business of the supreme court and of courts in many of the circuits was increased to such an extent during past years, that additional legislation is imperative to relieve and prevent the delay of justice, and possible oppression to suitors, which is thus occasioned. The encumbered condition of these dockets is presented anew in the report of the attorney-general, and the remedy suggested is earnestly urged for Congressional action. The creation of additional circuit judges, as proposed, would afford a complete remedy, and would involve an expense, at the present rate of salaries, of not more than $60,000 a year.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

The annual reports of the secretary of the interior and of the commissioner of Indian affairs, present an elaborate account of the present condition of the Indian tribes and of that branch of the public service which ministers to their interests. While the conduct of the Indians generally has been orderly and their relations with their neighbors friendly and peaceful, two local disturbances have occurred which were deplorable in their character, but remained happily confined to a comparatively small number of Indians. The discontent among the Bannocks, which led first to some acts of violence on the part of some members of the tribe and finally to the outbreak, appears to have been caused by an insufficiency of food on the reservation and this insufficiency to have been owing to the inadequacy of the appropriations made by Congress to the wants of the Indians at a time when the Indians were prevented from supplying the deficiency by hunting. After an arduous pursuit by the troops of the United States, and several engagements, the hostile Indians were reduced to subjection and the larger part of them surrendered themselves as prisoners. In this connection I desire to call attention to the recommendation made by the secretary of the interior that a sufficient fund be placed at the disposal of the executive to be used with proper accountability at discretion in sudden emergencies of the Indian service.

The other case of disturbance was that of a band of Northern Cheyennes, who suddenly left their reservation, in the Indian territory, and marched rapidly through the States of Kansas and Nebraska, in the direction of their old hunting grounds, committing murders and other crimes on their way. From documents accompanying the report of the secretary of the interior it appears that this disorderly band was as fully supplied with the necessaries of life as the 4,700 other Indians who remained quietly on their reservation, and that the disturbance was caused by men of a restless and mischievous disposition among the Indians themselves. Almost the whole of the band have surrendered to the military authorities, and it is a gratifying fact that when some of them had taken refuge in the camp of the Red Cloud Sioux, with whom they had been in friendly relations, the Sioux held them as prisoners, and readily gave them up to the officers of the United States, thus giving new proof of a loyal spirit, which, alarming rumors to the contrary, notwithstanding, they had uniformly shown ever since the wishes they expressed at the council of September, 1877, had been complied with.

MOUNTED INDIAN AUXILIARIES.

Both the secretary of the interior and the secretary of war unite in the recommendation that provision be made by Congress for the organization of a corps of mounted "Indian auxiliaries," to be under the control of the army, and to be used for the purpose of keeping the Indians on their reservations, and preventing and repressing disturbance on their part. I earnestly concur in this recommendation. It is believed that the organization of such a body of Indian cavalry, receiving a moderate pay from the government, would considerably weaken the restless element among the Indians by withdrawing from it a number of young men and giving them congenial employment under the government, it being a matter of experience that Indians in our service, almost without exception, are faithful in the performance of duties assigned to them. Such an organization would materially aid the army in the accomplishment of a task for which its numerical strength is sometimes found insufficient. But while the employment of force for the prevention or repression of Indian troubles is of occasional necessity, a wise preparation should be made to that end, greater reliance must be placed on humane and civilizing agencies for the ultimate solution of what is called the Indian problem.

It may be very difficult and require much patient effort to curb the unruly spirit of the savage Indian to the restraints of civilized life, but experience shows that it is not impossible. Many of the tribes which are now quiet and orderly and self-supporting, were once as savage as any that at present roam over the plains or in the mountains of the far West, and were then considered unaccessible to civilizing influence. It may be impossible to raise them fully up to the level of the white population of the United States, but we should not forget that they are the aborigines of the country and called the soil their own on which our people have grown rich, powerful and happy. We owe it to them as a moral duty to help them in attaining at least that degree of civilization which they may be able to reach. It is not only our duty, it is also our interest to do so. Indians who have become agriculturists or herdsmen, and feel an interest in property, will thenceforth cease to be a warlike and disturbing element.

INDIAN EDUCATION.

It is also a well authenticated fact that Indians are apt to be peaceable and quiet when their children are at school, and I am gratified to know from the expressions of Indians themselves and from many concurring reports, that there is a steadily increasing desire even among Indians belonging to comparatively wild tribes to have their children educated. I invite attention to the reports of the secretary of the interior and the commissioner of Indian affairs touching the experiment recently inaugurated in taking fifty Indian children, boys and girls, from different tribes, to the Hampton Normal Agricultural institute in Virginia, where they are to receive an elementary English education and training in agriculture and other useful work, to be returned to their tribes after the completed course, as interpreters, instructors and examples. It is reported that the officer, charged with the selection of those children, might have had thousands of young Indians sent with him, had it been possible to make provision for them. I agree with the secretary of the interior in saying that "the result of this interesting experiment, if favorable, may be destined to become an important factor in the advancement of civilization among the Indians."

INDIAN TRANSFER.

The question whether a change in the control of the Indian service should be made, was, at the last session of Congress, referred to a committee for inquiry and report. Without desiring to anticipate that report, I venture to express the hope that in the decision of so important a question, the views expressed above may not be lost sight of and that the decision, whatever it may be, will arrest further agitation of this subject, such agitation being apt to produce a disturbing effect upon the service as well as on the Indians themselves.

HOT SPRINGS COMMISSION.

In the enrollment of the bill making appropriations for sundry civil expenses at the last session of Congress that portion which provided for the continuation of the Hot Springs commission was omitted. As the commission had completed the work of taking testimony on the many conflicting claims, the suspension of their labors before determining the rights of claimants threatened for a time to embarrass the interests, not only of the government, but also of a large number of the citizens of Hot Springs who were waiting for final action on their claims before making contemplated improvements. In order to prevent serious difficulties which were apprehended, and at the solicitation of many leading citizens of Hot Springs, and others interested in the welfare of the town, the secretary of the interior was authorized to request the late commissioners to take charge of the records of their proceedings, and to perform such work as could properly be done by them under such circumstances to facilitate the further adjudication of the claims at an early day, and to procure the status of the claimants, until their right should be finally determined. The late commissioners complied with that request, and report that the testimony in all the cases has been written out examined, briefed and so arranged as to facilitate an early settlement as authorized by law. It is recommended that the requisite authority be given at as early a date in the session as possible, and that a fair compensation be allowed the late commissioners for the expense incurred and labor performed by them since the 25th of June last.

TIMBER THIEVES.

I invite the attention of Congress to the recommendation made by the secretary of the interior with regard to the preservation of timber on the public lands of the United States. The protection of the public property is one of the first duties of the government. The department of the interior should, therefore, be enabled by sufficient appropriations to enforce the laws in that respect. But the matter appears still more important as a question of public economy. The rapid destruction of our forests is an evil fraught with the gravest consequences, especially in the mountainous districts where the rocky steppes once denuded of their trees will remain so forever. There, the injury once done cannot be repaired. I fully concur with the secretary of the interior in the opinion that for this reason legislation touching public timber in the mountainous States and Territories of the West should be especially well considered, and that existing laws in which the destruction of forests is not sufficiently guarded against should be speedily modified. A general law concerning this important subject appears to me to be matter of urgent necessity.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIONS.

From the organizations of the government the importance of encouraging, by all possible means, the increase of our agricultural productions has been acknowledged and urged upon the attention of Congress and the people, as the surest and readiest means of increasing our substantial and enduring prosperity. The words of Washington are as applicable to-day as when, in his eighth annual message, he said: "It is not to be doubted, that, with reference, either to individual or national welfare, agriculture is of primary importance." In proportion as nations advance in population and other circumstances of maturity, this truth becomes more apparent, and renders the cultivation of the soil more and more an object of public patronage. Institutions for promoting it grow up, supported by the public purse, and to what object can it be dedicated with greater propriety? Among the means which have been employed to this end none have been attended with greater success than the establishment of boards composed of proper characters, charged with collecting and difusing information and enabled by premiums and small pecuniary aids to encourage and assist the spirit of discovery and improvement, this species of establishment, contributing doubly to the increase of improvement by stimulating to enterprise and experiment, and by drawing to a common centre the results everywhere of individual skill and observation and spreading them thence over the whole nation. Experience accordingly hath shown that they are very cheap instruments of immense national benefit.

The great preponderance of the agricultural over any other interest in the United States entitles it to all the consideration claimed for it by Washington. About one-half of the population of the United States is engaged in agriculture. The value of the agricultural products of the United States for the year 1878 is estimated at $3,000,000,000. The exports of agricultural products for the year 1877, as appears from the report of the bureau of statistics, was $524,000,000. The great extent of our country, with its diversity of soil and climate, enables us to produce within our own borders, and by our own labor, not only the necessaries, but most of the luxuries that are consumed in civilized countries. Yet, notwithstanding our advantage of soil, climate and inter-communication, it appears, from the statistical statements in the report of the commissioner of agriculture, that we import annually from foreign lands may millions of dollars worth of agricultural products, which could be raised in our own country.

Numerous questions arise in the practice of advanced agriculture which can only be answered by experiments, often costly and sometimes fruitless, which are beyond the means of private individuals and are a just and proper charge on the whole nation for the benefit of the nation. It is good policy, especially in times of depression and uncertainty in toher business pursuits, with a vast area of uncultivated and unproductive territory, wisely opened to homestead settlement, to encourage by every proper and legitimate means the occupation and tillage of the soil.

The efforts of the department of agriculture to stimulate old and introduce new agricultural industries, to improve the quality and increase the quantity of our products, to determine the value of old or establish the importance of new methods of culture, are worthy of your careful and favorable consideration and assistance, by such appropriations of money and enlargement of facilities as may seem to be demanded by the present favorable conditions for the growth and development of this important interest.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS IN TRANSIT.

The abuse of animals in transit is widely attracting public attention. A national convention of societies, specially interested in the subject, has recently met at Baltimore, and facts developed, both in regard to cruelties to animals, and the effect of such cruelties upon public health, would seem to demand the careful consideration of Congress and the enactment of more efficient laws for the prevention of these abuses.

EDUCATION.

The report of the commissioner of the bureau of education shows very gratifying progress throughout the country in all the interests committed to the care of this important office. The report is especially encouraging with respect to the extension of the advantages of the common school system in sections of the country where the general enjoyment of the privilege of free schools is not yet allowed. To education, more than to any other agency, we are to look as the resource for the advancement of the people in the requisite knowledge and appreciation of their rights and responsibilities as citizens, and I desire to repeat the suggestion contained in my former message in behalf of the enactment of appropriate measures by Congress for the purpose of supplementing with national aid the local systems of education in the several States.

LIBRARY ACCOMMODATIONS.

Adequate accommodations for the great library, which is outgrowing the capacity of the rooms now occupied at the Capitol, should be provided without further delay. This valuable collection of books, manuscripts and illustrative art has grown to such proportions, in connection with the copy-right system of the country, as to demand the prompt and careful attention of Congress, to save it from injury in its present crowded and insufficient quarters. As this library is national in its character, and must, from the nature of the case, increase, even more rapidly in the future than in the past, it cannot be doubted that the people will sanction any wise expenditure to preserve it and enlarge its usefulness.

NATIONAL MUSEUM.

The appeal of the regents of the Smithsonian Institution for means to organize an exhibit and make available for the public benefit the articles now stored away belonging to the national museum, I heartily recommend to your favorable consideration.

THE HEALTH OF CAPITOLIANS.

The attention of Congress is again invited to the condition of the river front of the city of Washington. It is a matter of vital importance to the health of the residents of the national capital, both temporary and permanent, that the lowlands in front of the city, now subject to tidal overflow, should be reclaimed. In their present condition these flats obstruct the drainage of the city and are a dangerous source of malarial poison. The reclamation will improve the navigation of the river by restricting and consequently deepening its channel, and is also of importance when considered in connection with the extension of the public ground and the enlargement of the park west and south of the Washington monument.

WASHINGTON HARBOR.

The report of the board of survey heretofore ordered by act of Congress on the improvement of the harbor of Washington and Georgetown, is respectfully commended to consideration.

DISTRICT MATTERS.

The report of the canvass of the district of Columbia, presents a detailed statement of the affairs of the district. The relative expenditures by the United States and the district, for local purposes, is contrasted, showing that the expenditures by the people of the district, greatly exceeded those of the general government. The exhibit is made in connection with estimates for the requisite repair of the defective pavements and sewers of the city, which is a work of immediate necessity, and in the same connection a plan is presented for the permanent funding of the outstanding securities of the district. The benevolent reformatory and penal institutions of the district are entitled to the favorable attention of Congress. The reform school needs additional buildings and teachers. Appropriations, which will place all of these institutions in a condition to become models of usefulness and beneficence, will be regarded by the country as liberality wisely bestowed.

The commissioners with evident justice request attention to the discrimination made by Congress against the district in the donation of land for the support of the public schools and ask that the same liberality that has been shown to the various States and Territories of the United States, may be extended to the District of Columbia. The commissioners also invite attention to the damage inflicted upon public and private interests by the present location of the depots and switching tracks of the several railroads entering the city, and ask for legislation looking to their removal. The recommendations and suggestions contained in the report will, I trust, receive the careful consideration of Congress.

Sufficient time has perhaps not yet elapsed since the re-organization of the government of district under the recent legislation of Congress for the expression of a confident opinion as to its successful operation, but the practical results already attained are so satisfactory that the friends of the new government may well urge upon Congress the wisdom of its continuance without essential modification until by actual experience its advantages and defects may be more fully ascertained.

R. B. HAYES.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, Washington, Dec. 2, 1878.

Report of Third Auditor of Treasury.

The annual report of Horace Austin, third auditor of the treasury, has been submitted to Secretary Schurz. The duty of the third auditor is to examine and adjust all accounts relating to the army, claims for lost horses, accounts for unpaid pensions, and State war claims. The report shows that 19,446 accounts and claims remained on hand June 30, 1877 and that 13,745 were received during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1878. Of these claims 12,533 amounting to $46,615,237.23 were settled and $20,659 involving $29,138,517.69, remain unsettled. Referring to the army pension division of his office, the auditor says:

"The numerous changes in the laws, the restoration, increasing, and transferring of pensioners from one agency to another, increase the amount of labor to be performed, and require constant watchfulness to prevent erroneous payments. By executive order dated May 7, 1877, the number of pension agencies was reduced from fifty-eight to eighteen from and after July 1, 1877. This consolidation saved the government this fiscal year $142,749.72 in compensation, and the expenses of consolidation, ordered by the commissioner and approved by the secretary of the interior, thus far amounts to $8.796.17."

The amount appropriated to pay army pensions for the year ended June 30, 1878, was $28,000,000, and the amount actually paid was as follows:

Army pensions	$26,020,067 65
Army pensions under bills recommended by commissioner	8,798 18
Compensation	92,953 70
Fees on vouchers	208,190 50
Fees for surgeons	231,658 26
Miscellaneous audited accounts	6,819 71
Unexpended balances in agents' hands	387,494 14
Total	$26,955,982 13

The unexpended balances are to be refunded. The number of pensioners recorded is 13,841; of these 10,662 have had their pensions increased and 882 are on the restored list. Thirty-seven clerks and two copyists were employed in the office last year, being three clerks less than during the previous year. Under the head of needed legislation, the auditor says:

"The necessity for a fund for special investigation of claims, and authority to cause the production of witnesses and papers before the accounting officers in doubtful cases, is becoming more and more pressing. In many cases I have been convinced that a slight expenditure would probably protect the government from unjust demands. But unless fraud is so apparent as to justify placing the case in the hands of the law officers for criminal prosecution, the investigation must be limited to such as can be made without expense, by aid of the files, records, and accounts, and such investigation often entirely fails to establish the fact of the non-liability of the government, or so corroborate the ex-parte evidence produced by the claimant as to free the case from doubt, or to make the payment of the claim safe for the government.

OFFICIAL CANVASS.

The Result of the Congressional Election in Minnesota.

The canvassing board, composed of the Governor, Secretary of State, and Chief Justice, with Attorney General as advisary, met at St. Paul on the 25th inst., to canvass the votes for Congressmen. Mr. Donnelly appeared with John M. Gilman, and O'Brien & Eiler as counsel to contest the election with Mr. Washburn. Judge Flandrau represented Mr. Washburn. Protests were filed by Mr. Donnelly's counsel against the vote in several counties, but all were overruled and the result in the three districts was declared as follows:

First District.

Counties.	Meighen's vote.	Dunnell's vote.	Meighen's maj.	Dunnell's maj.
Blue Earth	1,544	1,583	......	39
Cottonwood	36	386	......	350
Dodge	625	1,241	......	616
Faribault	693	1,020	......	327
Fillmore	2,184	2,030	154	......
Freeborn	561	1,594	......	1,033
Houston	1,252	1,539	......	287
Jackson	55	412	......	357
Martin	185	572	......	387
Mower	1,119	1,113	6	
Murray	26	249	......	223
Nobles	127	338	......	211
Olmsted	1,019	1,787	......	768
Pipestone	34	65	......	31
Rock	185	528	......	343
Steele	815	1,405	......	560
Waseca	743	556	187	......
Watonwan	177	639	......	462
Winona	1,435	1,556	......	121
Total	12,845	18,613	347	6,115
Dunnell's maj		5,768		

For Green, the Prohibition candidate, 926 votes were cast, as follows: In Cottonwood 1, Faribault 20, Fillmore 33, Freeborn 60, Houston 55, Jackson 2, Murray 1, Olmsted 58, Steele 104, Waseca 586, and Winona 6. In all 23 votes were returned "scattering."

Second District.

Counties.	Poehler's vote.	Strait's vote.	Poehler's maj.	Strait's maj.
Brown	723	570	153	......
Carver	1,200	654	546	......
Chippewa	92	340	......	258
Dakota	1,497	1,035	462	......
Goodhue	1,384	1,93[illegible]	......	553
Kandiyohi	307	52[illegible]	......	215
Le Sueur	1,484	83[illegible]	647	......
Lincoln	3[illegible]	18[illegible]	......	141
Lyon	186	506	......	320
McLeod	1,032	717	315	......
Nicollet	487	61[illegible]	......	124
Redwood	218	387	......	169
Renville	424	450	......	26
Rice	1,119	1,716	......	597
Scott	1,291	82[illegible]	478	......
Sibley	1,266	32[illegible]	944	......
Swift	302	49[illegible]	......	197
Wabashaw	1,416	1,637	......	221
	14,467	13,743	3,545	2,821
Poehler's majority	724			

Chamberlain, the Greenback candidate, received 596 votes, as follows: In Dakota 20, Le Sueur 133, and Rice 443. Stearns, the Prohibition candidate, received 124 votes, as follows: In Brown 7, Dakota 5, Goodhue 102, Le Sueur 2, Nicollet 5, and Redwood 3. In all 27 votes were returned "scattering."

Third District.

Counties.	Donnelly's vote.	Washburn's vote.	Donnelly's maj.	Washburn's maj.
Aitkin	21	22	......	1
Anoka	509	615	......	106
Becker	202	385	......	183
Benton	274	147	127	......
Big Stone	29	45	......	16
Carlton	150	124	26	......
Cass	3	22	......	19
Chisago	188	676	......	488
Clay	203	556	......	353
Crow Wing	153	160	......	7
Douglas	489	682	......	193
Grant	45	262	......	217
Hennepin	2,799	6,284	......	3,485
Isanti	137	538	......	401
Kanabec	24	109	......	85
Kittson	2	183	......	181
Lac qui Parle	114	273	......	159
Lake	......	29	......	29
Meeker	913	747	166	......
Mille Lacs	184	111	73	......
Morrison	396	145	251	......
Otter Tail	755	940	......	185
Pine	188	159	29	......
Polk	180	659	......	479
Pope	242	479	......	237
Ramsey	4,197	1,621	2,576	......
St. Louis	209	410	......	201
Sherburne	267	317	......	50
Stearns	1,951	558	1,393	......
Stevens	350	168	182	......
Todd	166	255	......	89
Wadena	50	126	......	76
Washington	1,179	1,396	......	217
Wilkin	79	131	......	52
Wright	1,220	1,114	106	......
Yellow Medicine	61	494	......	433
	17,929	20,942	4,929	7,942
Washburn's majority				3,013

THE DRIVE WELL.

Address to the People of the State.

The time has come when to submit longer to the extortions of the company controlling the "drive-well" patent without using all legitimate means of resistance, "ceases to be virtue." Our people are peaceable and law-abiding citizens, and have no wish to ignore any lawful and just demands upon them; nor would the real collection of a reasonable royality upon the Green patent have caused hardly a ripple on the surface of our every day life, but for the evident disposition of those controlling this pattent to take every possible advantage of the public sense of security in the ownership of property that all had once paid for, to impose upon us fees and costs that are at once needless and grievous to be borne. In the general expectation that agents would call upon them, in due time, or at least make a formal demand before entering suit, hundreds of honest people with scanty means have been sued, and aggravating costs and charges superadded to a royalty which, in itself, is more than sufficient to make the agents immensely rich at the general expense. They have refused to receive simply their original claims, with all legal costs added, but have demanded and are now demanding such an amount from each well owner as shocks and outrages all sense of right and justice, so that their methods have well become obnoxious to the charge of downright extortion and robbery.

Under these circumstances, and with the added force that recent evidence of driven wells existing for many years before Green claims to even have had a conception of his "idea," can give to our cause, we appeal to that sense of justice and that hatred of wrong which are said to be innate in all mankind, for aid by money and influence so far as each person is able, to contest the pretended claims of the oppressors and to carry a case to the supreme court of our country for final decision, firmly believing that high and impartial tribunal will afford us protection, and reverse the local decisions under cover of which our communities are now being shorn and despoiled in the interests of greedy sharpers.

We hope that local societies will be formed everywhere, funds collected and forwarded at once (or within two weeks) to the secretary of our State association at St. Paul, for deposit with Horace Thompson, president First National bank, who will act as custodian of this money. By the rules of the association the executive committee will have control of the funds collected, and if not used for the purpose specified it will be returned to the donors. Send remittances by draft or postoffice orders.

The executive committee is at present composed of one member of each town or county society now organized, and they will meet for business upon call of the president and secretary when necessary. Each additional society will be entitled to one member. Further details on application to Major Thos. P. Wilson, president of the association, at St. Paul, to L. P. Fluke, secretary, Farmington, or to either one of the executive committee. The secretary, Mr. Fluke, will be in St. Paul during the next four or five weeks attending to this business, and should be addressed there.

Per order of the Association.

J. W. EMERY, Farmington,
Z. B. CLARK, Benson,
G. C. BURT, Mankato,
Committee on Address.

Dec. 2, 1878.

They were discussing the charms of an actress whom one of the gentlemen of the company affected to regard as the handsomest woman on the stage. "She's not bad looking," said another, "but one of her eyes is smaller than the other." "Ah, ha!" said the other triumphantly, "that's all you know about it. If you'd watched her closely you'd have seen that one of her eyes was larger than the other. Smaller, indeed!"

Branches of the elderbush, hung in the dining-room of a house, will clear the room of flies. There is an oder which the insects detest.

THE FARM AND HOUSE.

The Cultivation of Sorghum.

Rural New Yorker.

The continued high price of sugar coupled with the fact that the United States import $750,000,000 worth annually, gives importance to any effort which may, in part of whole, tend to supply this deficiency. One of the means of increasing the supply of syrup, if not of sugar, is the cultivation of the sorghum plant, sorghum sacchartum, now extensively introduced all through the central Western States. Two species of this cane have been introduced, the true sorghum from China, and another from Africa, called imphee; but this is of less value for cultivation.

Sorghum was first introduced into Frace in 1851 and into the United States in 1858, since which time its use has been extended quite rapidly; machinery for grinding it has been provided, and process of cultivation and evaporation has become well understood. Sorghum grows on any ground suitable for corn, but well repays high fertility. The plant resembles Indian corn before its seed-clusters come out, and grows to a height of from eight to eighteen feet. The cultivation is the same as for corn; the stalks are cut just before frost, the leaves stripped off for fodder, and the stalks pressed.

Well ripened stalks yield half their weight in juice, and from five to ten gallons of juice are required for one gallon of syrup. The yield of syrup averages from 150 to 175 gallons per acre, though in exceptional cases, the yield is much larger. The product is chiefly in the syrup or a glucose used as a substitute for sugar in candies, wines, and for similar purposes. The product varies much with the cultivation and care in manufacture. The syrup carefully made from ripe stalks has a clear, bright, amber color, and is preferable to common molasses. The total amount of sorghum molasses produced in the United States in 1860, was 6,749,123 gallons, and in 1870, 1,050,089, since which time the product has probably further increased in the same proportion.

Some growers recommend cutting off two or three feet of the top before the seeds are fully ripe, which gives a fuller ripeness to the stalk, and the part cut off makes better fodder. This fodder is of about three fourths the value of the same weight of hay. The cane may be crushed between horizontal rollers as with sugar cane, but where only small fields are raised, an upright mill, run by horse power, is usually employed. The total cost of an outfit should not exceed $200.

The fresh juice has a greenish-yellow appearance, and an unpleasant odor or flavor, which is reminded by the use of slacked lime and constant skimming during evaporation. When evaporated to a density of 18 ° Baume, it is settled and again boiled to 35 or 40 degrees. If the herbaceous flavor has not entirely disappeared, fresh addition of slacked lime are made and it is again boiled. Experiments are now being made to perfect the crytalization of sugar from this source, and is hoped the cultivation of sorghum may become much more widespread than at present, and that the production of sugar may in this way be profitably transferred from the tropics to the temperate zones, and from slave to free labor. Certainly the inhabitants of the United States should make every effort to extend the production of sugar with their own territory and save the annual expenditure of $85,000,000 now paid to the other nations for sugar.—*S. S. B.*

Household Hints.

A fresh cut watermelon is good for fever.

Ginger ale will relieve stomach cramps and cholera.

Carbolic acid or ammonia, in the foot bath will cure perspiration of the feet.

A bit of sandpaper in the house will keep needles sharp and save annoyance.

Fresh cream is the best cure for sunburn. It draws the fire, soothes and heals.

Furniture polish can now be had by the wint; applied with a cloth it makes the furniture look like new.

Powdered borax sprinkled around the base-boards and on the shelves will drive cockroaches and ants away.

A bottle of cement, a bucket of paint, with hammer and nails, will save to any household ten times their cost every year.

Kerosene lamps which are trimmed daily rarely explode. The carelessness of the house-wife can be blamed for most of the explosions.

Pop Overs.—One pint flour, one pint milk, two eggs. Eggs beaten to a froth, mix quickly, and bake in hot buttered cups. Serve with hot sauce.

Apple Merinyue.—Fill a dish one fourth full of stewed apples, cover with the beaten whites of five eggs, mixed with five tablespoonsfuls of powered sugar.

Bttermilk Pies.—One cup sugar, two cups buttermilk, two eggs, two tablespoonfuls flour, two tablespoons butter; flavor with lemon. This makes two pies.

Save your washing suds for the garden; if they are poured over the roots of the plum trees they will kill the curculio; if turned at the roots of geraniums, roses, etc., they will enhance their beauty tenfold.

Savory Rice.—Take some plain boiled rice, put into a sauce pan with as much tomato sauce as the rice will take up, and plenty of grated Parmesan cheese, mix well, and keep stirring on the fire till hot. Serve piled on the dish.

To cure weak eyes, take rose leaves, the more the better, and put them into a little water: then boil; After this strain into a bottle and cork it tight. You will find this liqdid very beneficial in removing redness and weakness from the eyes.

Potato Noodles.—Grate one dozen boiled potatoes, add two eggs, a little salt, one half cup of milk, enough floor to knead stiff, then cut in small pieces, and roll long and round, one inch thick; fry in plenty of lard to a nice brown.

Queen Cake.—Work a pound each of good pulverized sugar, not granulated, and good sweet butter, not much salted, together until the mixture is almost like cream. Then take one pound of floor, eight eggs, about a quart of grated nutmeg and two tablespoonsful of wine. Beat one egg at a time in the butter and sugar until all are in, and the flour about one fourth at time until the whole pound is in. After beating all well together, let the batter remain a short time in a cool place. Grease some white paper with butter and line your pans. Use rather shallow pans and fill them a little more than half-full and bake in a quick oven, but not hot enough to burn; then while warm ice it nicely.

To Take Dents out of Furniture.

If the dent is not to deep it may be removed in the following manner:—Wet the part with warm water; then take five or six folds of brown paper, well soaked, and lay upon the dented place, and upon this hold a hot flat iron till the moisture is avaporated. Should this not entirely remove the dent repeat the process once or twice. It will require but one or two applications to raise the dented spot level with the surface. Or, if the dent be very small, merely soak it with warm water and apply a red hot poker very near the surface; keep it constantly wet, and in a few minutes the dent will disappear. For slight bruises and scratches, equal parts of turpentine and sweet oil will be found excellent. Mix well and apply with a cloth, rubbing hard.

MINNESOTA NEWS.

The Southern Minnesota railroad has been completed to Jackson.

Wild geese and ducks are numerous at the lakes west of St. Peter.

Wells are running dry in many localities, causing serious inconvenience.

The farmhouse of N. J. Leavitt, of Waseca, was totally destroyed by fire recently.

The Turner association at Waseca have abandoned their organization and sold their hall.

Many of the farmers of Murray county intend to cultivate the sugar cane extensively next season.

The railroad track has been completed to Montevideo, and trains are now running to that point.

A depot building, engine house and a water tank house will be built at once at Montevideo.

The St. Peter weather prophet, A. H. Benham, predicts an open winter similar to that of last winter.

A fire in Winnebago City, the other day, destroyed several buildings, involving a considerable loss.

In the region around about St. Charles, Winona county, wolves are reported to be very numerous.

Scarlet fever is prevalent in Blue Mound township, Pope county. Several children have died with it.

Anton Keller, of Laketown, Carver county, has been appointed postmaster in place of Mrs. F. Oberle, resigned.

The elevator at Claremont has been destroyed by fire. Spontaneous combustion supposed to be the cause.

Dr. C. B. Ames, of Delano, fell down stairs at Kohler's hotel, sustaining a serious fracture of one of his arms.

Five persons in the family of M. Zickrich, Sr., of St. Charles, have had serious attacks of typhoid fever. All survived.

The flouring mill at Currie is running night and day and the mill-barn is full of teams all the while, waiting for grists.

A juvenile lodge of Good Templars is one of the most flourishing institutions in Sauk Rapids. It has a membership numbering fifty.

It is reported that a large amount of business is being transacted at the new town of Montrose, in the southern part of Wright county.

Mr. Chamberlain, of St. Charles, recently caught two wild cats in traps. They were very tough customers, but rifle bullets gave them their quietus.

P. W. Kensly, of Lake Prairie, has lost eight head of cattle from eating smutty corn, and his neighbors have lost quite a number from the same cause.

In St. Cloud last week a wildcat was caught in a trap set by some children to catch rabbits. It measured six feet from tip of nose to tip of tail.

E. A. Ensign, of Janesville, while chopping caught his axe on a bush, causing it to glance, striking him in the instep of his left foot, inflicting a severe wound.

The steamer "Johnnie Schmoker" has been chartered by the Ferry company at Wabashaw to tow the barge across the river. Trips are made every fifteen minutes.

A passenger train nearing Nicollet station killed two horses. The horses endeavored to cross a small trestle-work in front of the train, but fell through and were killed.

The matrimonial mart is active in Delano. Polish weddings were celebrated at the Catholic church Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of last week, and more are soon to follow.

One day last week a train from the west passed through Winona county with thirteen cars loaded with cattle, and a few days after seventeen cattle-loaded cars passed eastward.

R. E. Wainwright, for eighteen years express agent at St. Peter, died recently. His age was 46 years. He had lived at St. Peter for twenty years. He was a native of Vermont.

The Moorehead Manufacturing company have just completed an elevator with storage capacity of 100,000 bushels of wheat. It is fitted up in first-class style, with steam power, etc.

Last week W. Bowman, engaged in threshing on Mr. Farrington's farm in Blooming Prairie, Steele county, while eating his dinner, leaned back in his chair, folded his arms and instantly died.

The dead body of a new-born infant was found in Chaska near the track of the Hastings & Dakota railroad, a short distance from Liverman's brewery. The coroner was summoned. It is not thought the guilty parties reside in Chaska

A son of Wm. Popham, of Janesville, was badly injured by a runaway team, his arm being mashed to a jelly above the elbow. He was harrowing and had the lines tied around his waist. The team took fright and ran, dragging him against a stump.

The new free bridge at Sauk Rapids was opened to the public last week, and is already attracting a large amount of travel. Farmers from the west side of Sauk Rapids are busily passing over to dispose of their wheat and to do their store-trading.

The grand jury in Yellow Medicine county found two indictments against Henry Knauff, of Troy, for rape upon the persons of his daughters. The defendant's attorneys obtained a change of venue to Nicollet county, where the case will be tried in December.

William Bradshaw, of Nininger, was killed while quarrying stone. A ledge gave way, precipitating him a distance of about 60 feet, several large rocks falling on him, killing him instantly. He had been married but five days, and he was buried just one week from his wedding day.

A tenement house in Lake City belonging to S. V. Ditmar, and occupied by R. H. Parks, was destroyed by fire a few evenings since. The household goods on the first floor were mostly removed. The family were absent from home at the time, and the origin of the fire is shrouded in mystery.

The Catholic church edifice at Anoka came near being destroyed by fire on a late Sunday morning. The lace, cloth and curtain arrangements caught fire from one of the burning candles, destroying them and considerably damaging the interior with smoke. The fire was discovered in time to prevent the destruction of the building.

A little daughter of Gilbert Mattson, of Palmyra, Renville county, was sent a short distance to carry dinner to her brother, who was herding stock on the prairie, last August, but it was soon discovered that she was lost, and although the whole neighborhood was in a short time making search for her, no traces have since been found, and it is now believed she was kidnapped.

The Lake City *Sentinel* says: "Two of the old citizens of Wabashaw county have folded their tents and gone west with their families, namely, Elisha Perkins, of Zumbro township, who has removed to Big Stone county, Minn., where he has taken a tree claim and homestead; and James Henry, an old resident of the same town, who has removed with his family to the land of the Dakota's."

Caledonia *Courier:* Mr. W. H. Birdsell, of Houston, returned from Lake county, D. T., a few days since, where he has secured quite a large tract of land. He has been absent about two months, reaching Dakota but a few weeks previous to election, and then and there announced himself as a candidate for sheriff. He never saw his opponent, a gentleman who had served his constituents for six years, and was known throughout the length and breadth of the county as a good officer. Birdsell entered the campaign a total stranger to every one, and was elected sheriff by a majority of about 100.

Neil Gow, the fiddler, was thoroughly Scotch in one thing—he loved his whisky, and seldom went traveling either short distances or long without frequent "revivers." One morning he had an appointment with a noble patron at Dunnkeld, but at the stated hour had not arrived at the castle. The duke waited till he grew tired of waiting—indeed, till he was obliged to drive off to keep another appointment. On the road he met the fiddler staggering. "Ah, Neil," said the patron, "it's a long road to Dunkeld this morning!" "Ah, ma laird," said the fiddler, "it's no the length, but the breadth!"

A negro teamster in Nashville declares that he must give up driving mules or withdraw from church, the two positions being incompatible.