THE MESSAGE.

Decidedly a Weak Document.

HAS LOST HIS NERVE.

Paralytic Effect of the Elections.

YET FAVORS FREE COAL,

With a Few Words for Free Ships Also.

CARLISLE'S PLAN OF FINANCE.

Its Principal Point Seems to Be the Repeal of the Tax on State Banks.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—The message of President Cleveland to Congress is as follows:

To the Congress of the United States: The assemblage within the nation's legislative halls of those charged with the duty of making laws for the benefit of a generous and free people impressively suggests the exacting obligation and inexorable responsibility involved in their task. At the threshold of such labor now to be undertaken by the Congress of the United States, and in the discharge of an executive duty enjoined by the constitution, I submit this communication containing a brief statement of the condition of our national affairs and recommending such legislation as seems to me necessary and expedient.

Foreign Relations.

The history of our recent dealings with other nations and our peaceful relations with them at this time additionally demonstrates the advantage of consistently adhering to a firm but just foreign policy, free from envious or ambitious national schemes and characterized by entire honesty and sincerity.

During the past year, pursuant to a law of Congress, commissioners were appointed to the Antwerp Industrial Exposition. Though the participation of American exhibitors fell far short of completely illustrating our national ingenuity and industrial achievements, yet it was quite creditable in view of the brief time allowed for preparations.

I have endeavored to impress upon the Belgian Government the needlessness and positive harmfulness of its restrictions upon the importation of certain of our food products, and have strongly urged that the rigid supervision and inspection under our laws are amply sufficient to prevent the exportation from this country of diseased cattle and unwholesome meat.

Peace in Brazil.

The termination of the Civil War in Brazil has been followed by the general prevalence of peace and order. It appearing at an early stage of the insurrection that its course would call for unusual watchfulness on the part of this Government, our naval force in the harbor of Rio de Janeiro was strengthened. This precaution, I am satisfied, tended to restrict the issue to a simple trial of strength between the Brazilian Government and the insurgents, and to avert complications which at times seemed imminent. Our firm attitude of neutrality was maintained to the end. The insurgents received the encouragement of eventual asylum from our commanders, and such opposition as they encountered was for the protection of our commerce and was clearly justified by public law.

A serious tension of relations having arisen at the close of the war between Brazil and Portugal by reason of the escape of the insurgent admiral, De Gama, and his followers, the friendly offices of our representatives to those countries were exerted for the protection of the subjects of either within the territory of the other.

Although the Government of Brazil was duly notified that the commercial arrangement existing between the United States and that country based on the third section of the tariff act of 1890 was abrogated on August 28, 1894, by the taking effect of the tariff law in force, that Government subsequently notified us of its intention to terminate such arrangement on the first day of January, 1895, in the exercise of the right reserved in the agreement between the two countries. I invite attention to the correspondence between the Secretary of State and the Brazilian Minister on this subject.

Chilean Claims.

The commission organized under the convention which we had entered into with Chile for the settlement of the outstanding claim of each Government against the other adjourned at the end of the period stipulated for its continuance, leaving undetermined a number of American cases which had been duly presented. These claims are not barred and negotiations are in progress for their submission to a tribunal.

China and Japan.

On the 17th of March the new treaty with China in further regulation of immigration was signed at Washington, and on August 13 it received the sanction of the Senate. Ratification on the part of China and formal exchange are awaited to give effect to this mutually beneficial convention.

A gratifying recognition of the uniform impartiality of this country toward all foreign states was manifested by the coincident request of the Chinese and Japanese Governments that the agents of the United States should, within proper limit, afford protection to the subjects of other nations during the suspension of diplomatic relations due to a state of war. This delicate office was accepted, and a misapprehension, which gave rise to the belief that in affording this kindly unofficial protection our agents would exercise the same authority which the withdrawn agents of the belligerents had exercised was promptly corrected.

Although the war between China and Japan endangers no policy of the United States it deserves our gravest consideration by reason of its disturbance of our growing commercial interests in the two countries and the increased dangers which may result to our citizens domiciled or sojourning in the interior of China. Acting under a stipulation in our treaty with Korea (the first concluded with a Western power), I felt constrained at the beginning of the controversy to tender our good offices to induce an amicable arrangement on the initial difficulty growing out of the Japanese demands for administrative reforms in Korea; but the unhappy precipitation of actual hostilities defeated this kindly purpose. Deploring the destructive war between the two most powerful of the Eastern nations, and anxious that our commercial interests in those countries may be preserved and that the safety of our citizens there shall not be jeopardized, I would not hesitate to heed any intimation that our friendly aid for the honorable termination of hostilities would be acceptable to both belligerents.

Ecuador, France and Germany.

A convention has been finally concluded for the settlement by arbitration of the prolonged dispute with Ecuador growing out of the proceedings against Emilio Santos, a naturalized citizen of the United States.

Our relations with the republic of France continue to be such as should exist between nations so long bound together by friendly sympathy and similarity in their form of government. The recent cruel assassination of the President of this sister republic called forth such universal expressions of sorrow and condolence from our people and Government as to leave no doubt of the depth and sincerity of our attachment. The resolutions passed by the Senate and House of Representatives on the occasion have been communicated to the widow of President Carnot.

Acting upon the reported discovery of Texas fever in cargoes of American cattle the German prohibition against importations of live stock and fresh meats from this country has been revived. It is hoped that Germany will soon become convinced that the inhibition is as needless as it is harmful to our mutual interests. The German Government has protested against that provision of the customs tariff act which imposes a discriminating duty of one-tenth of a cent a pound on sugars coming from countries paying an export bounty thereon, claiming that the enaction of such duty is in contravention of articles V and IX of the treaty of 1876 with Prussia. In the interests of the commerce of both countries and to avoid even the accusation of treaty violation I recommend the repeal of so much of the statute as imposes that duty and I invite attention to the accompanying report of the Secretary of State containing a discussion of the questions raised by the German protestants.

England Is Friendly.

Early in the present year an agreement was reached with Great Britain concerning instructions to be given to the naval commanders of the two governments in Bering Sea and the contiguous North Pacific Ocean, for their guidance in the execution of the award of the Paris Tribunal of Arbitration and the enforcement of the regulations therein prescribed for the protection of seal life in the waters mentioned. An understanding has also been reached for the payment by the United States of $425,000 in full satisfaction of all claims which may be made by Great Britain for damages growing out of the controversy as to fur seals in Bering Sea for the seizure of British vessels engaged in taking seals in those waters. The award and findings of the Paris Tribunal to a great extent determined the facts and principles upon which these claims should be adjusted, and they have been subjected by both governments to a thorough examination upon the principles as well as the facts which they involve. I am convinced that a settlement upon the terms mentioned would be an equitable and advantageous one and I recommend that provision be made for the prompt payment of the stated sum. Thus far only France and Portugal have signified their willingness to adhere to the regulations established under the award of the Paris Tribunal of Arbitration.

Preliminary surveys of the Alaskan boundary and preparatory examination of the question of protection of food fish in the contiguous waters of the United States and the Dominion of Canada are in progress.

The boundary of British Guiana still remains in dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela. Believing that its early settlement on some just basis alike honorable to both parties is in the line of our established policy to remove from this hemisphere all causes of difference with powers beyond the sea, I shall renew the efforts heretofore made to bring about a restoration of diplomatic relations between the disputants and to induce a reference to arbitration, a resort which Great Britain so conspicuously favors in principle and respects in practice and which is earnestly sought by her weaker adversary.

Little About Hawaii.

Since communicating the voluminous correspondence in regard to Hawaii, and the action taken by the Senate and House of Representatives on certain questions submitted to the judgment and wider discretion of Congress, the organization of a Government in place of the provisional arrangement which followed the deposition of the Queen has been announced with evidence of its effective operation. The recognition usual in such cases has been accorded the new Government.

Under the present treaties of extradition with Italy miscarriages of justice have occurred owing to the refusal of that Government to surrender its own subjects. Thus far our efforts to negotiate an amended convention obviating this difficulty have been unavailing.

New Japanese Treaty.

Apart from the war in which their empire is engaged Japan attracts increasing attention in this country by her evident desire to cultivate more liberal intercourse with us and to seek our kindly aid in furtherance of her laudable desire for complete autonomy in her domestic affairs and full equality in the family of nations. The Japanese empire of to-day is no longer the Japan of the past, and our relations with this progressive nation should not be less broad and liberal than those with other powers.

Good Will to Mexico.

Good will, fostered by many interests in common, has marked our relations with our nearest southern neighbor, peace being restored along her northern frontier. Mexico has asked the punishment of the late disturbers of her tranquillity. There ought to be a new treaty of commerce and navigation with that country to take the place of the one which terminated thirteen years ago. The friendliness of the intercourse between the two countries is attested by the fact that during this long period the commerce of each has steadily increased under the rule of mutual consideration, being neither stimulated by conventional arrangements nor retarded by jealous rivalries or selfish distrust.

An indemnity tendered by Mexico as a gracious act for the murder in 1889 of Leon Baldwin, an American citizen, by a band of marauders in Durango, has been accepted and is being paid in installments.

The problem of the storage and use of the waters of the Rio Grande for irrigation should be solved by appropriate concurrent action by the two interested countries. Rising in the Colorado heights, the stream flows intermittently, yielding little water during the dry months to the irrigating channels already constructed along its course. This scarcity is often severely felt in the regions where the river forms a common boundary. Moreover, the frequent changes in its course through levels often raise embarrassing questions of territorial jurisdiction.

Nicaragua Rules.

Prominent among the questions of the year was the Bluefields incident in what is known as the Mosquito Indian strip, bordering on the Atlantic Ocean, and within the jurisdiction of Nicaragua. By the treaty of 1860 between Great Britain and Nicaragua, the former Government expressly recognized the sovereignty of the latter over the strip, and a limited form of self-government was guaranteed the Mosquito Indians, to be exercised according to their custom, for themselves and other dwellers within its limits.

The so-called native Government, which grew to be largely made up of aliens, for many years disputed the sovereignty of Nicaragua over the strip and claimed the right to maintain therein a practically independent municipal government. Early in the past years the efforts of Nicaragua to maintain sovereignty over the Mosquito territory led to serious disturbances, culminating in the suppression of the native Government and the attempted substitution of an impracticable composite administration, in which Nicaragua and alien residents were to participate. Failure was followed by an insurrection which for a time subverted Nicaraguan rule, expelling her officers and restoring the old organization. This in turn gave place to the existing local government established and upheld by Nicaragua.

Although the alien interests arrayed against Nicaragua in these transactions have been largely American, and the commerce of that region for some time has been and still is chiefly controlled by our citizens, we cannot for that reason challenge the rightful sovereignty of Nicaragua over this important part of her domain. For some months one and during part of the time two of our naval ships have been stationed at Bluefields for the protection of all legitimate interests of our citizens. In September last the Government at Managua expelled from its territory twelve or more foreigners, including two Americans, for alleged participation in seditious or revolutionary movements against the republic at Bluefields already mentioned, but through the earnest remonstrance of this Government the Americans have been permitted to return to the peaceful management of their business. Our naval commanders at the scene of these disturbances, by their constant exhibition of firmness and good judgment, contributed largely to the prevention of more serious consequences and to the restoration of quiet and order.

I regret that in the midst of these occurences there happened a most grave and irritating failure of Nicaraguan justice. An American citizen named Wilson, residing at Rama, in the Mosquito territory, was murdered by one Arguello, the acting Governor of the town. After some delay the murderer was arrested but so insecurely confined or guarded that he escaped, and notwithstanding repeated demands it is claimed that his recapture has been impossible by reason of his flight beyond Nicaraguan jurisdiction.

The Nicaraguan authorities having given notice of forfeiture of the concession to the canal company on grounds purely technical and not embraced in the contracts have receded from that position.

Peru, I regret to say, shows symptoms of domestic disturbance due probably to the slowness of her recuperation from the distresses of the war of 1881. Weakened in resources, her difficulties in facing international obligations invite our kindly sympathy and justly our forbearance in forcing long pending claims. I have felt constrained to testify this sympathy in connection with certain demands urgently preferred by other powers.

Death of the Czar.

The recent death of the Czar of Russia called forth appropriate expressions of sorrow and sympathy on the part of our Government with his bereaved family and the Russian people. As a further demonstration of reciprocal friendship, our Minister at St. Petersburg was directed to represent our Government at the funeral ceremonies.

The sealing interests of Russia in Behring Sea are second only to our own. A modus vivendi was, therefore, concluded with the Imperial Government restrictive of poaching on the Russian rookeries, and of sealing in waters which were not comprehended in the protected area defined in the Paris award.

Occasion has been found to urge upon the Russian Government equality of treatment for our great life insurance companies whose operations have been extended throughout Europe. Admitting as we do foreign corporations to transact business in the United States, we naturally expect tolerance for our own in the ample fields of competition abroad.

But few cases of interference with naturalized citizens returning to Russia have been reported during the current year. One Kizeminski was arrested last summer in a Polish province on a reported charge of unpermitted renunciation of Russian allegiance, but it transpired that the proceedings originated in alleged malfeasance committed by Kizeminski while an imperial officer, a number of years ago. Efforts for his release, which promise to be successful, were in progress when his death was reported.

About Antonia Ezeta.

The Government of Salvador having been overthrown by an abrupt popular outbreak, certain of its military and civil officers, while hotly pursued by infuriated insurgents, sought refuge on board the United States warship Bennington, then lying in a South American port. Although the practice of asylum is not favored by this Government yet, in view of the imminent peril which threatened the fugitives, and solely from considerations of humanity, they were afforded shelter by our naval commander, and, when afterward demanded under our treaty of extradition with Salvador for trial on charges of murder, arson and robbery, I directed that such of them as had not voluntarily left the ship be conveyed to one of our nearest ports, where a hearing could be had before a judicial officer in compliance with the terms of the treaty. On their arrival at San Francisco such a proceeding was promptly instituted before the United States District Judge, who held that the acts constituting the alleged offenses were political and discharged all the accused except one Cienfuegos, who was held for an attempt to murder. Thereupon I was constrained to direct his release for the reason that an attempt to murder was not one of the crimes charged against him and upon which his surrender to the Salvadorean authorities had been demanded.

Spanish Injustice.

Unreasonable injustice imposed by Spain on the vessels and commerce of the United States have demanded from time to time during the last twenty years earnest remonstrance on the part of our Government. In the immediate past exorbitant penalties have been imposed upon our vessels and goods by customs authorities of Cuba and Porto Rico for clerical errors of the most trivial character in the manifests or bills of lading. In some cases fines amounting to thousands of dollars have been levied upon cargoes or the carrying vessels when the goods in question were entitled to free entry. Fines have been exacted even when the error was detected and the Spanish authorities notified before the arrival of the goods in port. This conduct is in strange contrast with the considerate and liberal treatment extended to Spanish vessels and cargoes in our ports in like cases. No satisfactory settlement of these momentous questions has been yet reached.

The Mora case referred to in my last annual message remains unsettled. From diplomatic correspondence on this subject, which has been laid before the Senate, it will be seen that this Government has offered to conclude a convention with Spain for the disposal by arbitration of outstanding claims between the two countries, except the Mora claim, which, having been long ago adjusted, now only awaits payments as stipulated, and of course it could not be included in the proposed convention. It was hoped that this offer would remove the parliamentary obstacles encountered by the Spanish Government in providing payment of the Mora indemnity. I regret to say that no definite reply to this offer has yet been made, and all efforts to secure the payment of this settled claim have been unavailing.

Law to the Porte.

In my last annual message I adverted to the claim on the part of Turkey of the right to expel, as persons undesirable and dangerous, Armenians naturalized in the United States and returning to Turkish jurisdiction. Numerous questions in this relation have arisen.

While this Government acquiesced in the asserted rights of expulsion, it would not consent that Armenians may be imprisoned or otherwise punished for no other reason than that of having acquired, without imperial consent, American citizenship.

Three of the assailants of Miss Melton, an American teacher in Mosul, have been convicted by the Ottoman courts, and I am advised that an appeal against the acquittal of the remaining five has been taken by the Turkish prosecuting officer.

A convention has been concluded with Venezuela for the arbitration of a long-disputed claim growing out of the seizure of certain vessels, the property of citizens of the United States. Although signed, the treaty of extradition with Venezuela is not yet in force, owing to the insistence of that Government that when surrendered its citizens shall in no case be liable to capital punishment.

Collisions at Sea.

The rules for the prevention of collisions at sea, which were framed by the Maritime Conference held in this city in 1889, having been concurrently incorporated in the statutes of the United States and Great Britain, have been announced to take effect March 1, 1895, and invitations have been extended to all maritime nations to adhere to them. Favorable responses have thus far been received from Austria, France, Portugal, Spain and Sweden.

The Samoan Imbroglio.

In my last annual message I referred briefly to the unsatisfactory state of affairs in Samoa, under the operation of the Berlin treaty, as signally illustrating the impolicy of entangling alliances with foreign powers, and on May 9, 1894, in response to a resolution in the Senate, I sent a special message and documents to that body on the same subject, which emphasized my previously expressed opinions. Later occurrences, the correspondence in regard to which will be laid before Congress, further demonstrate that the Government, which was devised by the three powers and forced upon the Samoans against their inveterate hostility, can be maintained only by the continued presence of foreign military force and at no small sacrifice of life and treasure.

The suppression of the Mataafa insurrection by the powers and the subsequent banishment of the leader and eleven other chiefs, as recited in my last message, did not bring lasting peace to the islands. Formidable uprisings continued and finally a rebellion broke out in the capitol island, Upolu, headed at Aana in the western district by the younger Tamasese and in Atua, the eastern district, by other leaders. The insurgents ravaged the country and fought the Government's troops up to the very doors of Apia. The King again appealed to the powers for help, and the combined British and German naval forces reduced the Atuans to apparent subjection, not, however, without considerable loss to the natives. A few days later Tamasese and his adherents, fearing the ships and the marines, professed submission.

Reports received from our agents at Apia do not justify the belief that the peace thus brought about will be of long duration. It is their conviction that the natives are, at heart, hostile to the present Government, that such of them as profess loyalty to it do so from fear of the powers, and that it would speedily go to pieces if the warships were withdrawn.

In reporting to his Government on the unsatisfactory situation since the suppression of the late revolt by foreign armed forces, the German Consul at Apia stated: "That peace will be lasting is hardly to be presumed. The lesson given by firing on Atua was not sufficiently sharp and incisive to leave a lasting impression on the forgetful Samoan temperament. In fact, conditions are existing which show that peace will not last and is not seriously intended. Malietoa, the King, and his chiefs are convinced that the departure of the warships will be a signal for the renewal of war. The circumstance that the representatives of the villages of all the districts which were opposed to the Government have already withdrawn to Atua to hold meetings, and that both Atua and Aana have forbidden inhabitants of these districts which fought on the side of the Government to return to their villages, and have already partly burned down the latter, indicates that a real conciliation of the parties is still far off."

And in a note of the 10th ult., inclosing a piece of that report for the information of this Government, the German Embassador said: "The contents of the report awakened in the Imperial Government apprehension that under existing circumstances the peace concluded with the rebels will afford no assurance of the lasting restoration of tranquility in the islands."

The present Government has utterly failed to correct, if, indeed, it has not aggravated, the very evils it was intended to prevent. It has not stimulated our commerce with the islands. Our participation in its establishment against the wishes of the natives was in plain defiance of the conservative teachings and warnings of the wise and patriotic men who laid the foundations of our free institutions, and I invite an expression of the judgment of Congress on the propriety of steps being taken by this Government looking to the withdrawal from its engagements with the other powers on some reasonable terms not prejudicial to any of our existing rights.

That Growing Deficit.

The Secretary of the Treasury reports that the receipts of the Government from all sources of revenue during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, amounted to $372,802,498 29, and its expenditures to $442,605,758 87, leaving a deficit of $69,803,260 58. There was a decrease of $15,952,674 66 in the ordinary expenses of the Government as compared with the fiscal year 1893. There was collected from customs $131,818,530 62, and from internal revenue $147,168,449 70. The balance of the income for the year, amounting to $93,815,617 97, was derived from the sale of lands and other sources.

The value of our total dutiable imports amounted to $275,199,086, being $146,657,625 less than during the preceding year, and the importations free of duty amounted to $379,795,536, being $64,748,675 less than during the preceding year. The receipts from customs were $73,536,486 11 less and from internal revenue $13,836,539 97 less than in 1893. The total tax collected from distilled spirits was $85,259,250 25, on manufactured tobacco $8,617,898 62, and on fermented liquors $31,414,788 04. Our exports of merchandise, domestic and foreign, amounted during the year to $892,140,572, being an increase over the preceding year of $44,495,378.

The total amount of gold exported during the fiscal year was $76,898,061, as against $108,680,444 during the fiscal year 1893. The amount imported was $72,449,119, against $21,174,381 during the previous year. The imports of silver were $13,286,552 and the exports were $50,451,265.

The total bounty paid upon the production of sugar in the United States for the fiscal year was $12,100,208 89, being an increase of $2,725,078 01 over the payments made during the preceding year. The amount of bounty paid from July 1, 1894, to August 28, 1894, the time when further payments ceased by operation of law, was $966,185 84. The total expenses incurred in the payment of the bounty upon sugar during the fiscal year was $130,140 85.

It is estimated that upon the basis of our present revenue laws the receipts of the Government during the current fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, will be $424,427,748 44, and its expenditures $444,427,748 44, resulting in a deficit of $20,000,000. On the 1st day of November, 1894, the total stock of money of all kinds in the country was $2,240,773,888, as against $2,204,651,000 on the 1st of November, 1893, and the money of all kinds in circulation or not included in the Treasury holdings was $1,673,093,428, or $24 27 per capita upon an estimated population of 68,387,000. At the same time there was held in the Treasury gold bullion amounting to $44,615,177 15, and silver bullion which was purchased at a cost of $127,778,900. The purchase of silver bullion under the act of July 16, 1890, ceased on the 1st day of November, 1893, and up to that time there had been purchased during the fiscal year 11,917,658.78 fine ounces at a cost of $8,715,621 23, an average cost of $0.7313 fine per ounce. The total amount of silver purchased from the time that law took effect until the repeal of the purchase clause on the date last mentioned was 168,674,682.53 fine ounces, which cost $155,931,002 25, the average price per fine ounce being $0.9244. The total amount of standard silver dollars coined at the mints of the United States since the passage of the act of February 28, 1889, is $421,776,408, of which $378,166,793 were coined under the provisions of that act, $38,531,143 under the provisions of the act of July 14, 1890, and $5,078,472 under the act providing for the coinage of trade dollar bullion.

The coinage of all metals of our mints during the last fiscal year consisted of 63,485,220 pieces, valued at $106,216,730 06, of which there were $99,474,912 50 in gold coined, $758 in standard silver dollars, $6,026,140 30 in subsidiary silver coin and $716,919 26 in minor coin.

During the calendar year 1893 the production of precious metals in the United States was estimated at 1,739,323 fine ounces of gold of the commercial and coinage value of $35,955,000 and 60,000,000 fine ounces of silver of the bullion or market value of $46,800,000, and of the coinage value of $77,576,000. It is estimated that on the 1st day of July, 1894, the stock of metallic money in the United States, consisting of coin and bullion, amounted to $1,251,840,958, of which $627,923,201 was gold and $624,347,757 was silver.

Fifty national banks were organized during the year ending October 31, 1894, with a capital of $5,285,000, and seventy-nine with a capital of $10,475,000 went into voluntary liquidation. Twenty-one banks with a capital of $2,770,000 were placed in the hands of receivers. The total number of national banks in existence on the 31st day of October last was 3756, being forty less than on the 31st day of October, 1893. The capital stock paid in was $672,671,365, being $9,698,491 less than at the same time in the previous year, and the surplus fund and undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid, amounted to $324,121,032 10, which was $16,989,780 less than on October 31, 1893.

The circulation was decreased $1,741,563. The obligations of the banks to each other were increased $117,163,334 and the individual deposits were $277,294,439 less than for the corresponding date in the previous year, and checks and other cash items were $99,349,963 more. The total resources of the banks of the date mentioned amounted to $3,421,022,055, against $3,109,503,294 26 in 1893.

Need a Larger Army.

From the report of the Secretary of War it appears that the strength of the army on September 30, 1894, was 3136 officers and 25,765 enlisted men. Although this is apparently a very slight decrease compared with the previous year, the actual effective force has been increased to the equivalent of nearly two regiments through the reorganization of the system of recruiting and the consequent release to regimental duty of the large force of men hitherto serving at the recruiting depots. The abolition of these depots, it is predicted, will furthermore effect an annual reduction approximating $250,000 in the direct expenditures, besides promoting generally the health, morals and discipline of the troops.

The execution of the policy of concentrating the army at important centers of population and transportation, foreshadowed in the last annual report of the Secretary, has resulted in the abandonment of fifteen of the smaller posts, which was effected under a plan which assembles organization of the same regiments hitherto widely separated. This renders our small forces more readily effective for any service which they may be called upon to perform, increases the extent of the territory under protection without diminishing the security heretofore afforded to any locality, and improves the discipline, training and esprit de corps of the army, besides considerably decreasing the cost of its maintenance. Though the forces of the department of the East have been somewhat increased, more than three-quarters of the army is still stationed west of the Mississippi. This carefully matured policy which secures the best and greatest service in the interest of the general welfare from the small force comprising our regular army should not be thoughtlessly embarrassed by creation of new and unnecessary posts through acts of Congress to gratify the ambitions or interests of localities.

While the maximum legal strength of the army is 25,000 men, the effective strength, through various causes, is but little over 20,000 men. The purpose of Congress does not therefore seem to be fully attained by the existing condition. While no considerable increase in the army is in my judgment demanded by recent events, the policy of seacoast fortification, in the prosecution of which we have been steadily engaged for some years, has so far developed as to suggest that the effective strength of the army be now made at least equal to the legal strength. Measures taken by the department during the year as indicated have already considerably augmented the effective force, and the Secretary of War presents a plan which I recommend to the consideration of Congress to attain the desired end. Economies effected in the department in other lines of work will offset to a great extent the expenditure involved in the proposition submitted. Among other things this contemplates the adoption of the three battalion formation of regiments, which for several years has been indorsed by the Secretaries of War and the generals commanding the army. Compact in itself, it provides a skeleton organization, ready to be filled out in the event of war, which is peculiarly adapted to our strength and requirements; and the fact that every other nation, with a single exception, has adopted this formation to meet the conditions of modern warfare, should alone secure for the recommendation an early consideration.

It is hardly necessary to recall the fact that, in obedience to the commands of the constitution and the laws, and for the purpose of protecting the property of the United States, aiding the process of Federal courts and removing lawless obstructions to the performance by the Government of its legitimate functions, it became necessary in various localities during the year to employ a considerable portion of the Federal troops. The duty was discharged promptly, courageously and with marked discretion by the officers and men, and the most gratifying proof was thus afforded that the army deserves that complete confidence in its efficiency and discipline which the country has at all times manifested.

The year has been free from disturbances of Indians, and the chances of further depredations on their part are constantly becoming more remote and improbable.

The total expenditures for the War Department for the year ending June 30, 1894, amounted to $56,039,009 34; of this sum $2,000,614 99 was for salaries and contingent expenses, $23,665,156 16 for the support of the military establishments, $5,001,682 23 for miscellaneous objects and $25,371,155 96 for public works. This latter sum includes $19,494,037 49 for river and harbor improvements and $3,947,863 56 for fortifications and other works of defense. The appropriations for the current year aggregate $52,429,112 73, and the estimates submitted by the Secretary of War for the next fiscal year call for appropriations amounting to $52,318,629 55.

The skill and industry of our ordnance officers and inventors have, it is believed, overcome the mechanical obstacles which have heretofore delayed the armament of our coasts, and this great national undertaking upon which we have entered may now proceed as rapidly as Congress shall determine. With a supply of finished guns of large caliber already on hand, to which additions should now rapidly follow, the wisdom of providing carriages and emplacement for their mounting cannot be too strongly urged.

The total enrollment of the militia of the several States is 117,533 officers and enlisted men, an increase of 5343 over the number reported at the close of the previous year. The reports of militia inspections by the regular army officers show a marked increase in interest and efficiency in the State organizations, and I strongly recommend a continuance of the policy of affording every practical encouragement possible to this important auxiliary of our military establishment.

The condition of the Apache Indians held as prisoners by the Government for eight years, at a cost of half a million dollars, has been changed during the year from captivity to one which gives them an opportunity to demonstrate their capacity for self-support and at least partial civilization. Legislation enacted at the late session of Congress gave the War Department authority to transfer the survivors, numbering 346, from Mount Vernon barracks, in Alabama, to any suitable reservation. The department selected as their future home the military lands near Fort Sill, Indian Territory, where, under military surveillance, the former prisoners have been established in agriculture under conditions favorable to their advancement.

In recognition of the long and distinguished military services and faithful discharge of the delicate and responsible civil duties by Major-General John M. Schofield, now general commanding the army, it is suggested to Congress that the temporary revival of the grade of lieutenant-general in his behalf would be a just and gracious act and would permit his retirement now near at hand with rank befitting his merits.

Mr. Olney's Department.

The report of the Attorney-General notes the gratifying progress made by the Supreme Court in overcoming the arrears of its business and in reaching a condition in which it will be able to dispose of cases as they arise without any unreasonable delay. This result is, of course, very largely due to the successful working of the plan inaugurating Circuit Courts of Appeals. In respect to these tribunals a suggestion is made in quarters entitled to the highest consideration that an additional Circuit Judge for each circuit would greatly strengthen these courts and the confidence reposed in their adjudications, and that such an addition would not create a greater force of Judges than the increasing business of such courts requires. I commend the suggestion to the careful consideration of Congress.

Other important topics are adverted to in the report, accompanied by recommendations, many of which have been treated at large in previous messages, and at this time, therefore, need only be named. I refer to the abolition of the fee system as a measure of compensation to Federal officers; the enlargement of the powers of United States Commissioners, at least in the Territories; the allowance of writs of error in criminal cases on behalf of the United States, and the establishment of degrees in the crime of murder.

A topic dealt with by the Attorney-General of much importance is the condition of the administration of justice in Indian Territory. The permanent solution of what is called the Indian problem is probably not to be expected at once, but meanwhile such ameliorations of present conditions as the existing system will admit of ought not to be neglected. I am satisfied that there should be a Federal court established for the Territory with sufficient Judges, and that this court should sit within the Territory and have the same jurisdiction as to Territorial affairs as is now vested in the Federal courts sitting in Arkansas and Texas.

Another subject of pressing moment referred to by the Attorney-General is the reorganization of the Union Pacific Railway Company on a basis equitable as regards all private interests and as favorable to the Government as existing conditions will permit. The operation of a railroad by a court through a receiver is an anomalous state of things which should be terminated, on all grounds, public and private, at the earliest possible moment. Besides, not to enact the needed enabling legislation at the present session postpones the whole matter until the assembling of a new Congress and inevitably increases all the complications of the situation, and could not but be regarded as a signal failure to solve a problem which has practically been before the present Congress ever since its organization.

Federal Prisons.

Eight years ago, in my annual message, I urged upon Congress as strongly as I could the location and construction of two prisons for the confinement of United States prisoners. A similar recommendation has been made from time to time since, and a few years ago a law was passed providing for the selection of sites for these institutions. No appropriation has, however, been made to carry the act into effect, and the old and discreditable condition still exists. It is not my purpose at this time to repeat the considerations which make an impregnable case in favor of the ownership and management by the Government of the penal institutions in which Federal prisoners are confined. I simply desire to again urge former recommendations on the subject, and to particularly call the attention of Congress to that part of the report of the Secretary of War in which he states that the military prison at Fort Leavenworth, Kans., can be turned over to the Government as a prison for Federal convicts without the least difficulty and with an actual saving of money from every point of view.

Pending a more complete reform, I hope that by the adoption of the suggestion of the Secretary of War this easy step may be taken in the direction of the proper care of its convicts by the Government of the United States.

Postoffice Buildings.

The report of the Postmaster-General presents a comprehensive statement of the operations of the Postoffice Department for the last fiscal year. The receipts of the department during the year amounted to $75,080,479 04 and the expenditures to $84,824,414 15. The transactions of the postal service indicate with barometric certainty the fluctuations in the business of the country. As such business complications continued to exist throughout the last year to an unforeseen extent it is not surprising that there is a deficiency of revenue to meet the expenditures of the Postoffice Department, which was estimated in advance at about $8,000,000. The ascertained revenues of the last year, which were the basis of calculation for the current year, being less than estimated, the deficiency for the current year will be correspondingly greater, though the Postmaster-General states that the latest indications are so favorable that he confidently predicts an increase of at least 8 per cent in the revenues of the current year over those of the last year.

The expenditures increase steadily and necessarily with the growth and needs of the country, so that the deficiency is greater or less in any year, depending upon the volume of receipts. The Postmaster-General states that this deficiency is unnecessary and might be obviated at once if the law regulating rates upon mail matter of the second class was modified. The rate received for the transmission of this second-class matter is 1 cent per pound, while the cost of such transmission to the Government is eight times that amount. In the general terms of the law this rate covers newspapers and periodicals. The extensions of the meaning of the terms from time to time have admitted to the privileges intended for legitimate newspapers and periodicals a surprising range of publications and created abuses the cost of which amount in the aggregate to the total deficiency of the Postoffice Department.

Pretended newspapers are started by business houses for the mere purpose of advertising goods, complying with the law in form only and discontinuing publication as soon as the period of advertising is over. "Sample copies" of pretended newspapers are issued in great numbers for a like purpose only. The result is a great loss of revenue to the Government, besides its humiliating use as an agency to aid in carrying out the scheme of a business house to advertise its goods by means of a trick upon both its rival houses and the regular and legitimate newspapers. Paper-covered literature, consisting mainly of trashy novels, to the extent of many thousands of tons, is sent through the mails at one cent per pound, while the publishers of standard works are required to pay eight times that amount in sending their publications.

Another abuse consists in the free carriage through the mails of hundreds of tons of seed and grain uselessly distributed through the Department of Agriculture. The Postmaster-General predicts that if the law be so amended as to eradicate these abuses not only will the Postoffice Department not show a deficiency, but he believes that in the near future all legitimate newspapers and periodical magazines might be properly transmitted through the mails to their subscribers free of cost. I invite your prompt consideration of this subject and fully indorse the views of the Postmaster-General.

The total number of postoffices in the United States on the 30th day of June, 1894, was 69,805, an increase of 1403 over the preceding year. Of these 3428 were presidential, an increase in that class of sixty-eight over the preceding year.

Six hundred and ten cities and towns are provided with free delivery and ninety-three other cities and towns entitled to this service under the law have not been accorded it on account of insufficient funds. The expense of free delivery for the current fiscal year will be more than $12,300,000, and under existing legislation this item of expenditure is subject to constant increase. The estimated cost of rural free delivery generally is so very large that it ought not to be considered in the present condition of affairs.

During the year 830 additional domestic money-order offices were established. The total number of these offices at the close of the year was 19,366. There were 14,408,041 money orders issued during the year, being an increase over the preceding year of 994,306. The value of these orders amounted to $138,793,579 49, an increase of $11,217,145 84. There were also issued during the year postal notes amounting to $12,649,094 55.

During the year 218 international money order offices were added to those already established, making a total of 2625 such offices in operation June 30, 1894. The number of international money orders issued during the year was 917,823, a decrease in number of 138,176; and their value was $13,792,455 31, a decrease in amount of $2,549,382 55. The number of orders paid was 361,180, an increase over the preceding year of 60,263 and their value was $6,568,493 78, an increase of $1,285,118 03. From the foregoing statements it appears that the total issue of money orders and postal notes for the year amounted to $165,235,129 35.

The number of letters and packages mailed during the year for especial delivery was 3,436,970. The special delivery stamps used upon these letters and packages amounted to $343,697. The messengers' fees paid for their delivery amounted to $261,209 70, leaving a balance in favor of the Government of $82,487 30.

The report shows most gratifying results in the way of economies worked out without affecting the efficiency of the postal service. These consist in the abrogation of steamship subsidy contracts, reletting of mail transportation contract and in the cost and amount of supplies used in the service, amounting in all to $16,619,047 42.

This report also contains a valuable contribution to the history of the universal postal union, an arrangement which amounts practically to the establishment of one postal system for the entire civilized world. Special attention is directed to this subject at this time, in view of the fact that the next congress of the union will meet in Washington in 1897, and it is hoped that timely action will be taken in the direction of perfecting preparations for that event.

The Postmaster-General renews the suggestion made in a previous report that the department organization be increased to the extent of creating a direct district supervision of all postal affairs, and in this suggestion I fully concur.

There are connected with the Postoffice's establishment 32,661 employes, who are in the classified service. This includes many who have been classified on the suggestion of the Postmaster-General. He says that another year's experience at the head of the department serves only to strengthen the conviction as to the excellent working of the civil service law in this branch of the public service.

The New Navy.

Attention is called to the report of the Secretary of Navy, which shows very gratifying progress in the construction of ships for our new navy. All the vessels now building, including the torpedo-boats authorized at the last session of Congress, and excepting the first-class battle-ship Iowa, will probably be completed during the coming fiscal year. The estimates for the increase of the navy for the year ending June 30, 1895, are large, but they include practically the entire sum necessary to complete and equip all the new ships not now in commission, so that unless new ships are authorized the appropriations for the naval service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, should fall below the estimates for the coming year by at least $12,000,000.

The Secretary presents with much earnestness a plea for the authorization of three additional battle-ships and ten or twelve torpedo-boats. While the unarmored vessels heretofore authorized, including those now nearing completion, will constitute a fleet which, it is believed, is sufficient for ordinary cruising purposes in time of peace, we have now completed and in process of construction but four first-class battle-ships and but two torpedo-boats. If we are to have a navy for warlike operations, offensive and defensive, we certainly ought to increase both the number of battle-ships and torpedo-boats.

The manufacture of iron requires an expensive plant and the aggregation of many skilled workmen. All the armor necessary to complete the vessels now building will be delivered before the 1st of June next. If no new contracts are given out contractors must disband their workmen and their plants must lie idle. Battle-ships authorized at this time would not be well under way until late in the coming fiscal year, and at least three and a half years from the date of contract would be required for their completion. The Secretary states that not more than 15 per cent of the cost of such ships need be included in the appropriation for the coming year. I recommend that provision be made for the construction of additional battle-ships and torpedo-boats.

The Secretary recommends the manufacture not only of ordnance and ordnance material for ships for the navy, but a supply for the auxiliary fleet of guns, and their appurtenances should be provided and kept on hand for both these purposes. We have not to-day a single gun that could be put on the ships Paris or New York of the International Navigation Company, or any other ship of our reserve navy. The manufacture of guns at the Washington Navy-yard is proceeding satisfactorily, and none of our new ships will be required to wait for their guns or ordnance equipment.

An important order has been issued by the Secretary of the Navy co-ordinating the duties of the several bureaus concerned in the construction of ships. This order, it is believed, will secure to a greater extent than has heretofore been possible the harmonious action of these several bureaus and make the attainment of the best results more certain.

During the past year there has been an unusual and pressing demand in many quarters of the world for the presence of vessels to guard American interests. In January last, during the Brazilian insurrection, a large fleet was concentrated in the harbor of Rio de Janeiro. The vigorous action of Rear-Admiral Benham in protecting the personal and commercial rights of our citizens during the disturbed conditions afforded results which will, it is believed, have a far-reaching and wholesome influence whenever in like circumstances it may become necessary for our naval commanders to interfere on behalf of our people in foreign ports. The war now in progress between China and Japan has rendered it necessary or expedient to dispatch eight vessels to those waters.

Transfer the Coast Survey.

The Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Treasury recommend the transfer of the work of the coast survey proper to the Navy Department. I heartily concur in this recommendation. Excluding Alaska and a very small area besides, all the work of mapping and charting our coast has been completed. The hydrographic work, which must be done over and over again by reason of the shifting and varying depths of water consequent upon the action of streams and tides, has heretofore been done under the direction of naval officers in subordination to the superintendent of the coast survey. There seems to be no good reason why the navy should not have entire charge hereafter of such work, especially as the hydrographic office of the Navy Department is now and has been for many years engaged in making efficient maps entirely similar to those prepared by the coast survey.

Promotion in the Navy.

I feel it my imperative duty to call attention to the recommendation of the Secretary in regard to the personnel of the line of the navy. The stagnation of promotion in this, the vital branch of the service, is so great as to seriously impair its efficiency. I consider it of the utmost importance that the young and middle-aged officers should, before the eve of retirement, be permitted to reach a grade entitling them to active and important duty.

The system adopted a few years ago regulating the employment of labor at the navy-yards is rigidly upheld, and has fully demonstrated its usefulness and efficiency. It is within the domain of civil service reform, inasmuch as workmen are employed through a board of labor selected at each navy-yard, and are given work without reference to politics and in the order of their application, preference, however, being given to army and navy veterans and those having former navy-yard experience. Amendments, suggested by experience, have been made to the rules regulating the system. Through its operation the work in our navy-yards has been improved in efficiency, and the opportunity to work has been honestly and fairly afforded to willing and competent applicants. It is hoped that, if this system continues to be strictly adhered to, there will soon be, as a natural consequence, such an equalization of party benefit as will remove all temptation to relax or abandon it.

Hoke Smith's Report.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior exhibits the situation of the numerous and interesting branches of the public service connected with his department. I commend this report and the valuable recommendations of the Secretary to the careful attention of Congress. The public land disposed of during the year amounted to 10,408,100.77 acres, including 28,867.05 of Indian lands. It is estimated that the public domain still remaining amounts to a little more than 600,000,000 acres, excluding, however, about 360,000,000 acres in Alaska, as well as military reservations and railroad and other sections of lands yet unadjudicated. The total cash receipts from the sale of lands amounted to $2,674,285 79, including $91,981 03 received for Indian lands. Thirty-five thousand patents were issued for agricultural land and 3100 patents were issued Indians on allotments of their lands in severalty, the land so allotted being inalienable by the Indian allottees for a period of twenty-five years after patent.

There were certified and patented on account of railroad and wagon-road grants during the year 863,556.45 acres of land, and at the close of the year 29,000,000 acres were embraced in the lists of selections made by railroad and wagon-road companies and awaiting settlement. The selections of swamp lands and that taken as indemnity therefor since the passage of the act providing for the same in 1849 amount to nearly or quite 80,500,000 acres, of which 58,000,000 have been patented to States. About 138,000 acres were patented during the last year, nearly 820,000 acres of school and educational grants were approved during the year and at its close 1,250,363.81 acres remained unadjusted.

It appears that the appropriation for the current year on account of special service for the protection of the public lands and the timber thereon is much less than those for previous years and is inadequate for an efficient performance of the work. A larger sum of money than has been appropriated during a number of years past on this account has been returned to the Government as a result of the labors of those employed in the particular service mentioned and I hope it will not be crippled by insufficient appropriation.

I fully indorse the recommendations of the Secretary that adequate appropriation should be provided for our forest reserves and that a comprehensive forestry system be inaugurated, and such keepers and superintendents as are necessary to protect the forests already reserved should be provided. I am of the opinion that there should be an abandonment of the policy maintained by present laws and under which the Government, for a very small consideration, is rapidly losing title to immense tracts of land covered with timber, which should be properly reserved as a permanent source of timber supply. The suggestion that change be made in the manner of securing surveys of the public lands is especially worthy of consideration. I am satisfied that these surveys should be made by a corps of competent surveyors, under the immediate control and direction of the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

An exceedingly important recommendation of the Secretary relates to the manner in which contests and litigated cases, growing out of efforts to obtain Government lands, are now determined. The entire testimony upon which these controversies depend in all their stages is taken before the local registers and receivers, and yet these officers have no power to subpena witnesses or to enforce their attendance to testify. These cases, numbering 3000 or 4000 annually, are sent by the local officers to the Commissioner of the General Land Office for his action. The exigencies of his other duties oblige him to act upon the decisions of the registers and receivers without an opportunity for thorough personal examination. Nearly 2000 of these cases are appealed annually from the Commissioner to the Secretary of the Interior. Burdened with other important administrative duties, his determination of these appeals must be almost perfunctory and based upon the examination of others, though this determination of the Secretary operates final adjudication upon rights of very great importance.

I concur in the opinion that the Commissioner of the General Land Office should be relieved from the duty of deciding litigated land cases; that a non-partisan court should be created to pass on such cases, and that the decisions of this court should be final, at least so far as the decisions of the department are now final. The proposed court might be given authority to certify questions of law in matters of special importance to the Supreme Court of the United States or the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia for decision. The creation of such a tribunal would expedite the disposal of cases and insure decisions of a more satisfactory character. The registers and receivers who originally hear and decide these disputes should be invested with authority to compel witnesses to attend and testify before them.

State of the Indians.

Though the condition of the Indians shows a steady and a healthy progress, their situation is not satisfactory at all points. Some of them to whom allotments of land have been made are found to be unable or disinclined to follow agricultural pursuits or to otherwise beneficially manage their land. This is especially true of the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, who, as it appears by the report of their agent, have in many instances never been located upon their allotments, and in some cases do not even know where their allotments are. Their condition has deteriorated. They are not self-supporting, and they live in camps and spend their time in idleness. I have always believed that allotments of reservation lands to Indians in severalty should be made sparingly, or at least slowly and with the utmost caution.

In these days when white agriculturists and stockraisers of experience and intelligence find their lot a hard one, we ought not to expect Indians, unless far advanced in civilization and habits of industry, to support themselves on the small tracts of land usually allotted to them. If the self-supporting scheme by allotment fails the wretched pauperism of the allottees result, which is worse than their original condition of regulated dependence. It is evident that the evil consequences of ill-advised allotment are intensified in cases where the false step cannot be retreated on account of the purchases by the Government of reservation lands remaining after allotments are made and the disposition of such remaining lands to settlers or purchasers from the Government.

I am convinced that the proper solution of the Indian problem and the success of every step taken in that direction depends to a very large extent upon the intelligence and honesty of reservation agents and the interest they have in their work. An agent fitted for his place can do much toward preparing the Indians under his charge for citizenship and allotment of their lands and his advice as to any matter concerning their welfare will not mislead. An unfit agent will make no effort to advance the Indians on his reservation toward civilization or preparation for allotment of lands in severalty, and his opinion as to their condition in this and other regards is heedless and valueless. The indications are that the detail of army officers as Indian agents will result in improved management on the reservations.

Whenever allotments are made, and any Indian on the reservation has previously settled upon a lot and cultivated it or shown a disposition to improve it in any way, such lot should certainly be allotted to him, and this should be made plainly obligatory by statute. In the light of experience, and considering the uncertainty of the entire Indian situation and its exigencies, in the future I am not only disposed to be very cautious in making allotments, but I incline to agree with the Secretary of the Interior in the opinion that when allotments are made, the balance of the reservation land remaining after allotment, instead of being bought by the Government from the Indians and opened for settlement with such scandals and unfair practices as seem unavoidable, should remain for a time at least as common land or be sold by the Government on behalf of the Indians in an orderly way and at fixed prices to be determined by its location and desirability, and that the proceeds, less expenses, shall be held in trust for the benefit of the Indian proprietors.

The intelligent Indian school management of the past year has been followed by gratifying results. Efforts have been made to advance the work in a sound and practical manner. Five institutes of Indian teachers have been held during the year and have proved very beneficial through the views exchanged and methods discussed particularly applicable to Indian education. Efforts are being made in the direction of a gradual reduction of the number of Indian contract schools, so that in a comparatively short time they may give way altogether to Government schools, and it is hoped that the change may be so gradual as to be perfected without too great expense to the Government or due disregard of the investments made by those who have established and are maintaining such contract schools. The appropriation for the current year, ending June 30, 1895, applicable to the ordinary expenses of Indian service amounts to $6,733,003 18, being $633,240 64 less than the appropriation in the same account for the previous year.

On the Pension Rolls.

At the close of the last fiscal year, on the 30th day of June, 1894, there were 969,544 persons on our pension rolls, being a net increase of 3532 over the number reported at the end of the previous year. These pensioners may be classified as follows: Soldiers and sailors, survivors of all wars, 753,968; widows and relatives of deceased soldiers, 215,162; army nurses in the war of the Rebellion, 414. Of these pensioners 32,039 are surviving soldiers of Indian and other wars prior to the late civil war and the widows or relatives of such soldiers. The remainder, numbering 937,505, are receiving pensions on account of the War of the Rebellion, and of these 469,344 are on the rolls under the authority of the act of June 17, 1890, sometimes called the dependent pension law. The total amount expended for pensions during the year was $139,804,461 05, leaving an unexpended balance from the sum appropriated of $25,205,712 65.

The sum necessary to meet pension expenditures for the year ending June 30, 1896, is estimated at $140,000,000. The Commissioner of Pensions is of the opinion that the year 1895, being the thirtieth after the close of the War of the Rebellion, must, according to all sensible human calculation, see the highest limit of the pension roll, and that after that year it must begin to decline.

The claims pending in the bureau have decreased more than 90,000 during the year. A large proportion of the new claims filed are for increase of pension by those now on the rolls. The number of certificates issued was 80,213. The names dropped from the rolls for all causes during the year numbered 37,951.

Among our pensioners are nine widows and three daughters of soldiers of the revolution and forty-five survivors of the War of 1812.

The bare-faced and extensive pension frauds exposed under the direction of the courageous and generous veteran soldier now at the head of the bureau leave no room for the claim that no purgation of our pension-rolls was needed, or that continued vigilance and prompt action are not necessary to the same end. The accusation that an effort to detect pension frauds is evidence of unfriendliness toward our worthy veterans and a denial of their claims to the generosity of the Government suggests an unfortunate indifference to the commission of an offense which has for motive the securing of a pension, and indicates a willingness to be blind to the existence of mean and treacherous crimes, which play upon demagogic fears and make sport of the patriotic impulse of a grateful people.

Eleventh Census.

The completion of the eleventh census is now in charge of the Commissioner of Labor. The total disbursements on account of the work for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, amounted to $10,365,573 81. At the close of the year the number of persons employed in the Census Office was 679; at present there are about 496. The whole number of volumes necessary to comprehend the eleventh census will be twenty-five, and they will contain 22,270 printed pages, while the assurance is confidently made that before the close of the present calendar year the material still incomplete will be practically in hand and the census can certainly be closed on the 4th of March, 1895. After that the revision and proof-reading necessary to bring out the volumes will still be required.

The text of the census volumes has been limited as far as possible to the analysis of statistics presented. The method, which is in accordance with law, has caused more or less friction, and in some instances individual disappointment, for when the Commissioner of Labor took charge of the work he found much matter on hand which, according to this rule, he was compelled to discard. The census is being prepared according to the theory that it is designed to collect facts and certify them to

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