Omaha, Dec. 10, 1897.

The World is Full

Of philosophers who do not practice what they preach. It is said that it should be so, as the good suffers as much as the bad—Good mer-merchandising like good philosophy must stand on facts,

CLOAKS We sell thousands of ladies' cloaks, that is a fact, there must be a reason for this and ladies know it is a good one.

The first is—Everything we have is new and stylish.
Second reason—We sell these new and stylish Cloaks even cheaper than other stores sell old garments.
SPECIAL bargains in Children's Reefers—6 and 8 years sizes—price $3.75, $4.00 and $5.00—worth $5.00, $6.00 and $10.00.
SPECIAL bargains in misses' Coats—14, 16 and 18 years—$3.75, $5.00, $7.50—regularly sold at $5.00, $7.50 and $10.00.
Ladies' Capes—from $3.75 to $15.00.
SPECIAL BARGAIN—A fine Astrakhan Cloth Jacket, in black, body all silk lined—at 5.75—worth $10.00.

OSTRICH AND PLUMAGE BOAS Make nice Christmas gifts.

20-inch Ostrich Boas—$2.50, $3.00, $4.00, $4.50 and $6.00 each.
27-inch Ostrich Boas, $3.00, $6.00 and $8 each.
36-inch Ostrich Boas—$5.00, $6.00, $8.00 and $9.00 each.
45-inch and 54-inch Ostrich Boas, $15.00, $15.50, $17.00 and $18.00 each.
45-inch Plumage Boas—75c, $1.00, $1.25, $1.50 and $2.75 each.

KID GLOVES Dainty hand coverings are these beautifully made gloves for women.

In blacks and whites and delicate shades of pearl, slates, modes, tans, and in fact almost any color you may wish.
The genuine Foster lace and the Trefousse clasp Gloves are our specialties.
See our new Jewel Lace Glove, embroidered in colors to match the jewels—price $2.00 per pair.

HOLIDAY HANDKERCHIEFS

A Christmas without handkerchiefs is like the play of Hamlet without Hamlet.

Profiting by former experiences, we have bought what we believe to be the grandest collection of Handkerchiefs ever brought into this city.
Handkerchiefs for men, women and children—and all so modestly priced that you can well afford to dip deep into this Handkerchief matter.
Ladies' all linen Handkerchiefs—hand embroidered—all new patterns—25c each.

FLANNELS Prices are advancing all along the line, but we continue to offer many attractive items at the lowest prices yet touched.

Cream White Flannels—at 20c, 25c, 30c, 35c, 40c, 50c, 60c per yard.
Eiderdown Flannels—30c and 45c per yard.
Cotton Swansdown—handsome new designs—at 15c per yard.
French Flannels—for ladies' dressing sacques wrapeprs and fancy waists—at 60c per yard—best grade.

CORSETS 537 W. C. C. corset.

The very latest made—low bust and short hips—made in black and drab sateen—at $2.00 each.
Ferris' child's Good Sense Waist—with supporters attached—at 50c each.

MEN'S FURNISHINGS A few suggestions for useful Christmas presents.

Kid Gloves—extra value at $1.00 and $1.50 a pair.
Mocha Gloves—unlined or with a light silk lining—$1.50 a pair.
"Foster" Kid Gloves—in black, browns, tans and English red—$1.50 a pair.
Silk lined Walking Gloves—$2.00 a pair.
Boys' Kid Gloves—sizes 4½ to 6½—$1.00 a pair.
Men's gold plated Link Cuff Buttons—75c, $1.00 and $1.25.
Gold plated Shirt Studs—50c and 75c a set.
Boys' gold plated Cuff Buttons—reversable ends—25c.
Men's Silk Garters—25c and 50c.
The "Eighmie" Shirt—either laundered or unlaundered—$1.00 each.
Good quality White Laundered Shirt—75c.
The "Monarch" Colored Shirt—to be worn with white collars—$1.00 each.
"Coon" brand Collars—20c, or 3 for 50c.
"Domino" Collars—4-ply—only 10c.
Linen Cuffs—at 20c or 3 for 50c, 25c and 35c a pair.
Complete line of new Neckwear at popular prices.

UNDERWEAR We carry the Portage "Knit to Fit" Underwear in combination suits and separate garments.

Strictly all wool and regular made.
Combination Suits — in pink, blue, black and natural—$5.00 each.
Separate garments in same colors—$2.50 each.
Tights—in black and colors—$2.50 each.
These garments are all made with expansion shoulders, expansion hips and perfect fitting waists.

HOSIERY Ladies' Superior lisle thread hose.

High colored tops—with black boot—in all sizes—35c.
Ladies' stainless black Cotton Hose—extra fine quality—with high spliced heels and double soles—only 18c, 3 pairs, 50c.
We have a very good ladies' plain black seamless Cashmere Hose—narrowed ankle and foot—25c.
Misses' black ribbed Cashmere Hose—with spliced knees and double toe and heel—50c pair.
Children's black ribbed Wool Hose—seamless—with double sole and heel; in all sizes—18c, 3 pair, 50c.

NOTIONS We are showing a magnificent line of Shell Hair pins.

Made full rounded and handsomely finished.
They come in black amber and shell—straight and crimped—at 10c, 25c, 35c and 50c per dozen.
Side and Pompadour Combs—the proper color and marking of genuine shell is closely imitated—we have them at 10c, 12½c, 15c and 20c per pair.
Ladies will do well to consult our offerings if interested in hair ornaments of any description.

REMANTS The DRESS GOODS Remnant counter will be very rich in choice material for Saturday's trade.

Many good lengths are to be found.
BLACK AND COLORED Dress Goods Remnants—many of the choicest pieces find their way here—and whether in skirt or waist lengths are marked so as to assure prompt selling.

Agents for McCalls Bazaar Patterns—10c and 15c, None higher.

THOMPSON, BELDEN & CO.

HOUSE PASSES THE PENSION BILL.

All Amendments Offered by Democrats Are Ruled Out.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—The house today passed the pension appropriation bill without amendment and adjourned until Monday. The amendments offered by democrats to correct alleged existing abuses were all ruled out on the point of order that they were new legislation. As passed the bill carries $141,263,880.

The debate today covered a wide range. It touched not only the question of our pension policy, but that of civil service reform, and the receipts and expenditures of the treasury under the Dingley law. On the latter question Mr. Dingley made an important statement in which he expressed the opinion that the receipts would equal the expenditures before the close of the present fiscal year and predicted a surplus of $10,000,000 next year.

The civil service law was savagely attacked by several members, notably by Mr. Brown, republican of Ohio, and Mr. Lindsey, republican of North Carolina, and was warmly defended by Mr. Johnson, republican of Indiana.

Just before the close of the session Mr. Hitt, chairman of the foreign affairs committee, attempted to secure unanimous consent for the bill prohibiting pelagic sealing by American citizens, but objection was made. It will, under agreement, however, be considered Monday.

BASIS FOR POSTOFFICE SALARIES.

House Bill Which Proposes Some Radical Changes.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—The bill for the classification of postoffice clerks in first and second-class offices was introduced in the house by Mr. Lorimer of Illinois. By its provision those holding the office of assistant postmaster are to receive 50 per cent of the salary of postmaster; second assistant, 30 per cent; secretary to the official postmaster, from $1,200 to $1,800; cashier, auditor, superintendent of mails, superintendent of delivery, superintendent of registry, and superintendent of money orders, 45 per cent of the salary of the postmaster. Assistants of these last named, and superintendent of the stamp division, foreign mails, money order division, second class matter, and of rating, inquiry and supply department, and inspector of station, $1,200 to $2,400; bookkeeper, accountant and finance clerk, $1,200 to $1,800, etc. This grading applies to all first class offices.

In second class offices assistant postmasters or chief clerks are to receive from $900 to 50 per cent of the postmaster's salary, and all clerks are to be appointed at $500, and increased annually $100 until the salary is $1,000.

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS IS CALLED.

Will Consider Cuba, Hawaii, Finance and Bankruptcy.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Chairman Richardson of the democratic caucus today issued a call for a caucus of democratic members and delegates of the house to meet in the hall of the house on Tuesday evening next, at 7:30. The caucus will consider the four subjects of Cuba, Hawaii, finance and bankruptcy. As to the action on these a pretty general understanding has been reached among the democratic leaders.

On the subject of Cuba, the sentiment is practically unanimous in favor of a resolution favoring the recognition of Cuban belligerency; on financial questions, the caucus probably will take a position against the several plans of financial reform recommended by Secretary Gage; opposition to the bankruptcy bill is also contemplated by the caucus; on the question of Hawaiian annexation it will be practically unanimous against annexation, either by treaty or legislation.

HEARING ON ANTI-SCALPER BILL.

Commerce Committee Decides to Push the Sherman Measure.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—The house committee on interstate and foreign commerce has set Friday, December 17, at 10 o'clock, for a hearing on the anti-scalper bill.

At today's meeting of the commerce committee it was decided to press the anti-scalping bill introduced at the extra session by Representative Sherman, and all parties interested have been notified to appear on the date mentioned. The Sherman bill makes unlawful the sale, barter or other transfer of any kind of railway tickets by any persons not showing certificate of authority from the common carrier over whose road the transportation is sold.

Plotting Against Civil Service.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Representative Pearson of North Carolina has secured seventy-two signatures to the paper circulated among republican members of congress for a conference relative to the civil service law. It was decided to hold the meeting in the rivers and harbors committee room on Saturday evening.

Daily Treasury Statement.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Today's statement of the condition of the treasury shows: Available cash balances, $237,966,492; gold reserve, $158,549,774.

...THE BEE Voting Contest FOR... Queen of the Ice Carnival

MY CHOICE FOR QUEEN POLARIS

IS

Ballot Boxes located at Millard Hotel, Bee Bldg, King Pharmacy, 27th and Leavenworth sts.; Chas. A. Tracy's, 16th and Douglas; Shrader's Drug Store, North 24th and Seward sts.

NORRIS & LOVE, Carnival Managers.

DEC. 11

This ballot must be deposited within 3 days from date. Coupons may be mailed within two days to Carnival Dep't., Bee Office, Omaha.

MOVE TO POSTPONE SALE

Attorney General Takes Action in the Kansas Pacific Case.

DEFERS TO THE WISHES OF THE SENATE

Prospect that the Railroad Will Not Be Sold December 15—Hoadley Ordered to Prepare the Petition.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Attorney General McKenna has taken steps looking to the postponement of the sale of the Kansas Pacific. As soon as he received a copy of yesterday's senate resolution he telegraphed its substance to Special Counsel Ex-Governor Hoadley of New York, with a request that he prepare at once a motion asking for a postponement for sixty days, or until about February 15. The attorney general also telegraphed the president a synopsis of the resolution. Up to noon today Mr. McKenna had heard nothing of the reported decision of the reorganization committee, as stated by a New York newspaper, to offer a guarantee bid of $6,303,000, the amount of the principal of the government claim, nor would the attorney general say, in speaking of the matter today, what would be done in case such an offer was made before the motion for a postponement was filed. There is no reasonable doubt that this offer, if it had been made prior to the adoption of the senate resolution, would have been accepted. It may be, it is said, that the president would consider himself bound, in courtesy to the senate, to ask for a postponement, irrespective of any offer that might now be made, that he might ascertain the views of the leaders in congress upon the acceptance of a bid of $6,303,000, should it be made, and act accordingly.

The attorney general today expressed no doubt that a postponement would be granted by the court upon the showing the government would be able to make. In addition to the very potent resolution, that the senate, representing the people of the whole country, had requested this action, there was another, he said, of little less importance. Other responsible parties, outside of the reorganization committee, were just now taking an interest in the Kansas Pacific road with a view, no doubt, to becoming bidders if their investigations warranted such a step. Who these parties were the attorney general was not at liberty to state, but all things considered, he thought the reasons for a postponement were ample.

In the meantime the preparations for presenting the question to the court, should the reorganization committee, who are understood to be the owners of a large share of the first mortgage bonds, object to the delay, will be proceeded with. Ex-Governor Hoadley was requested by the attorney general to confer with the committee today and wire him any conclusions reached.

Representative Powers of Montana, chairman of the house committee on railways, said today that there was not likely to be any strong opposition to the move toward postponing the sale of the Kansas Pacific railway. The subject will be taken up before the house committee at its next meeting, a postponement resolution having been introduced by Mr. Fleming of Georgia. Chairman Powers feels that the postponement can do little or no harm and is therefore disposed to acquiesce in it.

SQUARING SPOFFORD'S ACCOUNTS.

Accounting for the Veteran Librarian's Alleged Shortage.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—An investigation now being made between the officials of the congressional library and the officials of the Postoffice department promises to throw a great deal of light upon the recently widely discussed shortage of former Librarian Ainsworth R. Spofford. It will be remembered that an investigation by the Treasury department about a year ago showed Librarian Spofford to be about $30,000 short in his accounts. Few people who knew him looked upon this at the time as anything more than an evidence of clerical negligence in his department. Now it appears that a large part, if not all of this deficiency, which Mr. Spofford promptly made good out of his own pocket, will be accounted for by a great batch of old money orders, which the absent-minded librarian forgot to cash.

The Postoffice department gets a great many records of money orders from postmasters which are never presented for payment by the parties receiving them. The number of these uncashed orders addressed to the librarian of congress is perhaps greater than all of the others combined. While Mr. Spofford was in office Mr. Metcalf, chief of the money order division of the Postoffice department, would notify the librarian that there were orders on hand which he should cash. Sometimes he would get a few in response to these notifications, and sometimes not.

Since J. Russell Young has been placed in charge of the library, however, he and First Assistant Postmaster General Heath have made a systematic search of the old library records, and tucked away in one place or another they have unearthed hundreds of old orders, which the former librarian had put aside and apparently forgotten, and more are coming to light every day. Just what the total sum will amount to has not yet been established, but it probably will come near wiping out the discrepancies in Mr. Spofford's accounts. Some of the orders date back twenty-two years, and one of the largest was for $36. Many of the orders have expired by limitation, but they will all be paid by cash or warrant on the treasury, and the money will be turned over to Mr. Spofford up to the amount that he has paid out in rectifying his own accounts.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FOR ARIZONA.

Bill by Delegate Smith Proposes Numerous Changes.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Delegate Smith of Arizona introduced a bill today which provides for a rather radical change in the conditions now existing in that territory. It provides for the election on the first Monday in November, 1898, the following territorial officers, who shall hold office for four years unless otherwise prescribed by the legislative assembly of the territory: Governor, secretary of state, auditor, treasurer, attorney general, superintendent of public instruction, one chief justice and three associate justices of the supreme court.

These officers are to have the same powers as such officers now hold. All other territorial officers are to be appointed by the governor, by and with the consent of the territorial council. The salary and compensation of these officers shall be paid at the time and in the manner prescribed by law. At present the governor and secretary are appointed by the president of the United States and confirmed by the senate. The other officers named are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the territorial council. Mr. Smith's bill would give local self-government to Arizona.

A LITTLE SUFFERER

Face, Hands and Arms Covered With Scrofulous Humors—How a Cure Was Effected.

"When five years old my little boy had scrofula on his face, hands and arms. It was worst on his chin, although the sores on his cheeks and hands were very bad. It appeared in the form of red pimples which would fester, break open and run and then scab over. After disappearing they would break out again. They caused intense itching and the little sufferer had to be watched continually to keep him from scratching the sores. We became greatly alarmed at his condition. My wife's mother had had scrofula and the only medicine which had helped her was Hood's Sarsaparilla. We decided to give it to our boy and we noted an improvement in his case very soon. After giving him four bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla the humor had all been driven out of his blood and it has never since returned." WILLIAM BARTZ, 416 South Williams St., South Bend, Indiana.

You can buy Hood's Sarsaparilla of all druggists. Be sure to get only Hood's.

Hood's Pills cure Liver Ills; easy to take, easy to operate. 25 cents.

MERCER LOOKS UP CANAIGRE.

Doubt About Its Being Successfully Grown in Nebraska.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—(Special Telegram.)—Congressman Mercer, having received numerous requests from his constituents asking for information as to the possibility of raising canaigre in Nebraska, called upon W. R. Smith, superintendent of the botanical gardens, to obtain his opinion thereon. The superintendent seriously doubted if this plant, which is now used extensively in tanning, could be successfully grown in Nebraska.

Congressman Maxwell made his maiden speech in the house this afternoon. He spoke for about five minutes upon his amendment increasing the appropriation for pensions from $141,000,000 to $165,000,000. He delivered his speech from manuscript and in so low a tone of voice that those within four or five seats from him could not hear a word. The speech, however, was well prepared and consisted of a strong plea for pensioning all deserving old soldiers who are now suffering from disabilities. He also introduced a bill to punish bribery, intimidation, etc., at elections. It provides that any one who shall bribe or attempt to influence any elector in giving his vote or ballot at any election held pursuant to the laws of the United States shall, on conviction, be imprisoned in the penitentiary not over one year and be fined $1,000. The person bribed is declared to be a competent witness, and not liable to prosecution under this act. The bill also provides imprisonment of not more than one year for any creditor, master, employer, overseer or agent who attempts to coerce or intimidate any electors, debtors or other person under their authority to vote contrary to their inclination or deter him from voting.

The subcommittee on Indian affairs of the house today agreed to appropriate $10,000 for a steam heating plant at the Genoa Indian school. This amount was carried in the Fifty-fourth congress, but lapsed through mistakes in the manner in which the appropriation was indexed.

Senator Allen stated today that he would attempt to pass the bill appropriating $50,000 for an Indian congress at Omaha next year early next week and hoped to have it in the house before the holiday recess. Representatives of the Indian office are enthusiastically in favor of the measure, realizing what a civilizing influence it will have on the tribes that have thus far held out against education.

Messrs. C. C. Flansburg, G. M. Lambertson and John H. Ames of Lincoln, who have been in Washington for some time past waiting upon the supreme court to take up the case of Stuart against Hayden, left for Nebraska today.

Postmasters appointed: Nebraska—Carleton, Thayer county, William R. Hall, vice M. V. Deaver resigned; Elk Creek, Johnson county, N. H. Libby, vice C. A. Phelps removed; Hoskins, Wayne county, Ludwig Ziemer, vice W. Zutz resigned; Somerset, Lincoln county, George Turner, vice Alex Green removed.

Iowa—Essex, Page County, John Carlson.

BANKING COMMITTEE DISAPPOINTED

Secretary Gage Embodies His Ideas in Several Bills.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—It was stated in reliable quarters about the house of representatives today that Secretary Gage had made his purpose known not to embody his financial views in one comprehensive bill, but to cover special subjects in a number of special bills, some of which would go before the house committee on banking and currency and others before the committee on ways and means. The banking and currency committee had formally invited the secretary to present a bill covering all the phases of financial reform suggested in his recent recommendations to congress and the desire of members of the committee was to treat the subject as an entirety. For that reason there was considerable comment when it was stated that Mr. Gage would divide the subject into several bills, some of which would go before the ways and means committee.

It was this last feature which occasioned the liveliest comment owing to the sharp contests between the ways and means committee and the banking and currency committee respectively to control legislation designed to bring about currency reform. This feeling found expression on the floor of the house the second day of the session, and after a spirited contest between Mr. Dingley and Mr. Walker, the chairmen of the two committees, the matter was compromised. The ways and means committee felt it had carried the day and at its meeting on Wednesday the formal invitation was extended to Secretary Gage to present a bill based on his recommendations to congress.

When Secretary Gage this afternoon was informed of the reports in circulation about the house of representatives, he said that he had not yet made up his mind whether to submit his propositions in one, two or three bills. His plan might be better understood if divided, but he had not yet decided about the matter and was still at work on the proposed legislation.

When Mr. Hill was asked as to the report he said he could not say what the secretary would determine to do. The latter had received an invitation from the committee on banking and currency with such courtesy and said he would appear before the committee at an early day. While Mr. Gage did not outline what he would do as to framing one or more bills, yet the impression of Mr. Hill was that the secretary had under consideration bills of several phases of financial reform. If the secretary concluded to adopt this plan it is said that the bills providing for bonds, refunding the public debt and placing a tax on circulation would go to the ways and means committee, while bills for the establishment of small banks in rural communities, allowing circulation up to the par value of bonds deposited and other phases directly connected with the banking business would go to the committee on banking and currency.

FOR WESTERN WEATHER STATIONS.

Secretary Wilson Asks for Increased Appropriations.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—The members of the house committee on agriculture have had a conference with Secretary Wilson respecting the needs of the Agricultural department and have been informed that the secretary desires increased appropriations for weather stations in the west and in the vicinity of the Great Lakes. The establishment of additional forecast stations, the secretary thinks, would be greatly to the benefit of the fruit industry of California, which suffers considerably when there are not proper warnings of approaching storms, while on the lakes extra stations are needed for the protection of the maritime interests.

Another branch of the service which requires more money is that of the microscopic division which inspects meats designed for export. The force now available is inadequate, the secretary says.

Patents to Western Inventors.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—(Special.)—Patents were issued today to inventors in Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota as follows:

Nebraska—Helen Baum, Omaha, combination table and desk; Frank Erxleben, Wayne, locking pin or bolt; Thomas S. Fergusco, Omaha, egg carrier.

Iowa—Modestus J. Cushman, Waterloo, apparatus for milking cows; Freeling H. Hedrick, Glidden, nut lock; John H. Foreman, St. Lucas, fence making machine; David Fontney, Otho, fracture apparatus; Frank F. Funk, Kinross, fruit gatherer; William F. Gould, Des Moines, balancing slide valve; Thomas Green, Davenport, wrench; Lincoln C. Hall, Burlington, bicycle brake; Edwin S. Johnson and J. N. Kyle, Mount Vernon, wire stretcher; George A. and J. E. Lockwood, Chariton, stem winding and setting watch; Edwin J. Nixon, Red Oak, inkstand; George E. Pooler, Cedar Bluff, sewing machine; James Prentice, Colesburg, straddle-row wheel cultivator; Charles A. Webster, Independence, blowpipe.

South Dakota—Charles G. Brunell, Custer, fuse cutter, splitter and crimper; James M. Fuller, Sioux Falls, tender for traction engine.

FAVOR THE INDIAN EXHIBIT

Letters Received by Senator Allen Recommending the Plan.

INTRODUCED ALONG WITH THE BILL

Assistance of the Departments Offered to Help Along the Scheme for a Congress of Red Men.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—(Special.)—The following letters in relation to the bill appropriating $100,000 for a congress of representative families of Indian tribes next year at Omaha were introduced by Senator Allen at the time he presented the bill, which has been referred to the committee on Indian affairs:

Hon. William V. Allen, United States Senate: Dear Sir—Your favor of the 3d inst. was duly received. This department will cheerfully co-operate in any well devised plan that may be adopted to carry out the scheme for providing an Indian exhibit, as suggested by you, at the Transmississippi and International Exposition. It should, however, be understood by the friends of the plan that to provide such an exhibition will involve a very large expense, and will require a special appropriation by congress, as the share of the present appropriation assigned to the Department of the Interior is only $18,500, a sum barely sufficient for the ordinary exhibition already authorized.

I will refer your letter to the commissioner of Indian affairs for his opinion regarding the practicability of securing the co-operation of the Indians and for the estimate of the probable expense involved and will advise you further regarding the matter at an early date. Yours truly,

C. N. BLISS, Secretary.

Smithsonian Institution Bureau of American Ethnology, Washington, Dec. 4, 1897.—Hon. William V. Allen, Chairman, Committee on Forest Reservation and the Protection of Game, United States Senate: Dear Sir—In response to your letter of the 3d instant I beg to make the following reply:

I am of the opinion that groups of Indians from selected tribes of the United States could be made very attractive and instructive by installing them in domiciles of their own construction made of the materials of their own collection. The structures themselves would be a novel feature and exhibit the deftness with which they protect themselves from the inclemency of the weather. If, then, they were induced to bring the materials necessary for carrying on their primitive arts and engage in the making of articles for sale on the grounds, the arts themselves would be of the greatest interest. Living on the grounds they would necessarily engage in their games and ceremonial institutions and the exhibition of Indian life thus produced would be of supreme interest.

By such means the arts and institutions of savage life would be vividly portrayed to a large body of the people of the United States, who would thus be able to understand more clearly the nature and characteristics of savagery and the problem which is presented to the Indian department in the endeavor to lift the aboriginal inhabitants of the country into the status of civilization. The general government from its organization more than a century ago has been steadily attempting to accomplish this purpose, in which it has expended more than $300,000,000 and in lieu of these efforts it has by treaty stipulations purchased the hunting grounds of the tribes, leaving in their possession small tracts of land as reservations which they are gradually inducing the tribesmen to take in severalty.

The great body of the people necessarily have a very imperfect idea of the nature of the task which has been imposed by law upon the Indian department. Such an exhibition would be of inestimable value. I am, with great respect, yours cordially,

J. W. POWELL.

Herbert Welsh, secretary of Indian Rights association, writes as follows:

Hon. William V. Allen, Senate Chamber, Washington, D. C.—My Dear Sir: Your favor of December 2 with enclosures relative to your proposition that a congress of the Indian tribes of the United States should be held next year at Omaha in connection with the Transmississippi and International Exposition, has just reached me. I heartily approve what I take to be the spirit and purpose of this measure, and I quite agree with you in thinking that if carried out under direction of the secretary of the interior and with judicial safeguards, that it will prove of great importance in illustrating the progress the Indians have made and are making under the present system of education and civilization."

I believe your project deserves high commendation and strong support. I trust that it will receive both and that it will be carried into practical operation. As I understand it, there would be presented to popular observation the striking contrast between the original savage condition of the Indian—under which he is so unfit for contact with civilization—and the present state of moral, mental, and, so far as civilized requirements are concerned, physical development, to which the rising generation of the Indian race is now being brought by the generous education which the government affords, and in which missionary and philanthropic bodies have aided. There is no better means of reaching the popular mind, and touching the warm and true instincts of the American heart, than by such an object lesson as this. It is because the better class of our people have so long remained in ignorance of the possibilities of Indian education and civilization, and of the wrongs which have been inflicted upon the Indian race, that these people have been in so many instances the prey of designing, avaricious or ignorant men. During the last twenty-five years remarkable progress has been made in the work of Indian civilization and in raising the standard of our national treatment of the red men. Such a project as that which you have kindly brought to my attention it seems to me would reveal these changed and hopeful conditions with the clearness and vividness of a panoramic picture. What the Indian is in his natural state, and what he may become through intelligent guidance and care, would be shown at a glance to the thousands who would visit this exposition. In no way could prejudice be more quickly disarmed, mistaken notions be corrected, or a fuller sentiment than now supports the measures of the government for the education and protection of the Indian be secured.

Of course such a project would have to be carefully guarded from the designs of persons who might be disposed to divert it to personal schemes of money-making notoriety, but that danger, which is always a real one in connection with great projects, would no doubt be amply guarded against by the secretary of the interior and his assistants, to whom the execution of the plan would be intrusted. Regarding the details of your bill, you are better fitted to determine than I am. I will only suggest that the Washington agent of our association, Mr. Francis E. Leupp, might call on you to confer on this subject; if he can lend you any aid I am sure he will gladly do so. I write in my individual capacity, and not officially, as secretary of the Indian Rights association, but I think I am safe in declaring that the opinions which I now express on this subject will be entertained by every member of our executive committee and of the members of our society. Personally, I most sincerely commend your project, under the qualifications specified, and I wish it the fullest success.

CHINAMAN'S PECULIAR POSITION.

Business Reverses Prevent His Return to This Country.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—A singular Chinese case has come to the attention of the Treasury department. A former member of the Chinese firm of Hong Chung & Co., merchants of New York, now desires to visit China and later to return to this country. As a merchant he was not required to register under the act of 1893, but meeting with business reverses he is now compelled to perform manual labor. Under the regulations made pursuant to the provisions of our treaty with China, providing for the departure and return of Chinese laborers, certificates of registration must be furnished in each instance. The matter was referred to the solicitor of the treasury, who holds that the Chinaman has no right to return, should he leave the country. Another question involved in the case, but which has not yet been passed upon, is whether the Chinaman is legally in this country.

HAWAIIANS CALL ON SHERMAN.

Present a Protest Against Annexation of Their Islands.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—The delegation of native Hawaiians which has been in Washington for the last few days called at the State department today and was accorded an interview with Secretary Sherman. There were four present: Hon. John Kauli, president of the Hawaiian Patriotic league; Joseph Heleluhe, K. C. C., secretary and general of Liliuokalani and a commissioner of the league; Hon. David Kalanokalani, president of the Hawaiian association, Hui Kalaiana, and William Auld, secretary and commissioner of the Hawaiian association. The interview lasted only a few minutes. They presented the secretary a memorial represented to be in behalf of 20,000 native Hawaiians, protesting against annexation, or, at least soliciting a secret plebiscite of the Hawaiian population before such a course was determined upon by the government of the United States. Secretary Sherman treated his visitors with courtesy, and, without making any promises, said he would lay the petition before the senate, which body now had the annexation treaty before it. Accordingly he submitted the document to Senator Hoar, a member of the senate committee on foreign relations.

The delegation of Hawaiian natives which is here in opposition to the annexation treaty called upon several senators at the capitol today to urge their views. They have attempted no canvass of the senate, but say they have received considerable encouragement.

Senator Davis, chairman of the committee on foreign relations, declines to divulge his plans, but his friends in the senate say that he will be governed in his action largely by circumstances and that he expects to get the treaty up within the next ten days. He has now no purpose of abandoning the plan of considering the treaty as such and of attempting to secure the same result by legislation.

STOPS TWO HOURS IN WASHINGTON.

Ex-President Cleveland Spends the Time in His Private Car.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Former President Grover Cleveland arrived in Washington this afternoon, en route to South Carolina on a hunting trip. Although this was the first time Mr. Cleveland had been in Washington since he left the Executive Mansion last March, he did not leave his car during the two hours it was in the city. He was met at the Sixth street station by Captain R. D. Evans of the lighthouse board; General Anson G. McCook, United States marshal; A. A. Wilson and two or three other intimate friends.

Mr. Cleveland said he was enjoying excellent health. He declined to discuss politics or public affairs, but laughingly suggested that he might have some interesting stories on duck shooting to tell upon his return from the south. He is on his way to South Island, about thirty miles from Charleston, S. C., where he will be the guest of General E. P. Alexander, the distinguished chief of the confederate artillery forces at the battle of Gettysburg and now president of the Georgia Central railroad. He left Washington at 3:46, accompanied by Captain Evans, General McCook and Captain Lambertson of the lighthouse service.

Mr. Cleveland and General McCook will remain in camp for ten days or two weeks. Captain Evans will remain with them for a week, and will then proceed on his proposed tour of inspection of the lighthouse establishments along the south Atlantic and gulf coasts as far as Galveston. He will be absent probably until March.

COMPARATIVE PRICES OF GRAIN.

Crop Circular Issued by the Department of Agriculture.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—The Agricultural department today issued the following:

The department's special wheat investigation is still lacking a few important returns, but the general result will be made public Monday. The department's final estimates of the production of the principal crops are based principally on the December returns and in accordance with the department's practice they will not be made public before December 13 at the earliest.

The only information now available relates to the average farm price of certain products on the first day of the present month. The farm price of corn as indicated averages 26.5 cents per bushel, against 21.5 cents last year; that of oats, 21.5 cents, against 18.7 cents last year; that of barley 37.7 cents, against 32.3 cents last year; that of rye 44.7 cents, against 40.9 cents last year; that of buckwheat 42.1 cents, against 39.2 cents last year that of hay, $6.65 per ton, against $6.55 last year.

The averages of products not given are withheld for revision, as are the estimates of the acreage of winter wheat and rye and the condition of these products.

WILL PROSECUTE A COAL COMBINE.

Department of Justice Takes Initiative Against a Trust.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—The attorney general today directed United States Attorney H. S. Foote at San Francisco to file a bill in equity against the Coal Dealers' association of California, for violation of the anti-trust law of July 2, 1890. It is stated that the association is composed of retail dealers of San Francisco and has for its object the control of the retail trade. The constitution and by-laws of the association, which have been under consideration in the department of justice for some time, are said to disclose the fact that the members are bound under severe penalties not to sell coal at a less price than is fixed by the association, and otherwise to observe all of its rules.

News for the Army.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—(Special Telegram.)—The following assignment of officers to regiments are announced: Captain George H. Sands, to Sixth cavalry, troop B; he will join his troop January 20; Captain John S. Mallory, to Second infantry, company E; First Lieutenant John B. Bennett, to Second infantry, company I. He will join his company. Additional Second Lieutenant Henry M. Dichmann, to the vacancy of second lieutenant, Seventh infantry, company D. He will join his company.

Leaves of absence: Captain George F. Chase, Third cavalry, two months; Captain Colville P. Terrell, Eighth infantry, seventy-five days; Lieutenant Kenneth Morton, Third artillery, forty-five days.

Bright Outlook for Venezuela.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—The United States minister at Caracas has written the State department denying the report that a revolution had broken out in Venezuela. The indications are, the minister adds, that Venezuela is about to enter upon a more prosperous career than it ever before enjoyed and emerge from the business depression which has prevailed for the last three years.

Eckels Leaves for St. Louis.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Mr. Eckels, the comptroller of the currency, left here today for St. Louis, where he will deliver an address next Monday evening before the Commercial club.

River Touches Record Low Water.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 10.—The Mississippi river has reached the low water mark of 1861. The gauge stood at zero at 7 a. m. today. Assistant Local Weather Observer Herndon says the prospects are that the gorges in the Illinois river are breaking and this, with the heavy rains in the central valley, will make a decided rise.

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