

The Princeton Union.

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It is alleged that the catacombs of Rome contain the remains of about 6,000,000 human beings and those of Paris about 3,000,000.

A KANSAS statesman, in an appropriate note of thanks to the proprietor of the woolsen mills at Fort Scott, acknowledges the "recette of a butiful pare of woolinsox."

Two brothers were wrestling at Northwood, Iowa, the other day, when one of them was thrown with such violence that his neck was broken.

JOHN BANCROFT, who went to Portland, Ore., a very poor man eight years ago, died lately and left a comfortable fortune to a woman who once gave him some good advice and a breakfast.

THE Cincinnati Enquirer does not allow the mention of John L. Sullivan's name in its columns. How soon the drunken pugilist would flatten out if the press generally followed the Enquirer's example.

THE fastest vessel afloat is said to be the 3,200-ton English built warship intended for the Argentine Government. She made 21.2 knots under ordinary draft, and 22.4 knots with forced draft.

THE accumulation of wealth, estimated at 14 per cent. of the gross earnings of mankind, now aggregates \$5,000,000,000 per annum, and is increasing, relatively as well as absolutely, from year to year.

SMOKELESS powders are not noiseless, as is so frequently stated. The noise is somewhat different from that of black powder, being on a higher key; but it can be heard quite as distinctly and as far as when the latter is used.

A MARRIAGE occurred at Parkersburg, W. Va., recently at which there was only one high contracting party. The groom was nearly seven feet tall, while the bride was but three in height. The bride said, "Love me little," and the groom responded, "Love me long."

ONE of the three daughters of John D. Rockefeller, while a student at Vassar, had a handsome allowance in the way of money from home. Instead of spending this on rich gowns and apartments she paid for two years the tuition and expenses of a girl from the country who was not able to pay them herself.

ABOUT three years ago seven men in Perry, Ga., paid \$1 each to start a savings-bank. The bank is now operated under a State charter, is located in a building owned by its stockholders, and during the last twelve months over \$200,000 of business was transacted through its cashier.

An extraordinary incident occurred recently in England during a run with the hounds of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn. In passing a cottage the fox found himself among a lot of fowls. Absolutely regardless of possible consequences, he snatched up one of the birds and carried it in his mouth to the end of the run, and was killed with it in his mouth.

THE smallest town in the United States which has an electric street railway in operation is Southington, Conn., with a population of 5,400. The cars are in service over two miles of track, and the average daily receipt are \$9 per car. The power for the operation of this road is furnished by the local lighting company, and costs \$1.25 per car per day.

It was at one time claimed and attempted to be showed that the Puritan Mayflower of 1620 was afterward used as a slave ship. Close research revealed the fact that the slave was another ship of the same name and different burden. Historical records show that about the year 1474 Richard, Duke of Gloucester, had a ship called the Mayflower, and Hunter, in his "Founders of New England" mentioned some 20 ships as bearing that name between the years 1583 and 1683.

THE WEEK'S DIGEST.

A Brief Record of the Happenings of the Past Week.

WASHINGTON.

Senator Pettigrew has introduced a bill in congress to prohibit the sale of arms and ammunition to Indians on reservations, providing a penalty of two years' imprisonment or \$300 fine of each offense. It also prohibits the Indians from carrying arms, unless they have a written permission from the agent in charge of the reservation.

The secretary of the interior has reversed a decision of the land commissioner under the last administration which will give to William Jones his homestead in section 3, township 62, range 14, of the Duluth district. The secretary goes into the case in detail, showing that Jones was a poor man, who was obliged to leave his land occasionally in order to earn money on which to live. Testimony was submitted to the secretary that he was held in high esteem by many prominent men; that his absence from his land was about two days every two weeks, on the average, and that he was a sufferer from epileptic fits. The secretary says an injustice was done him in refusing to accept his final proof, and orders that this shall be done.

PERSONAL.

Prof. Snow, of the Kansas State university, has discovered the existence of a disease which kills chinch bugs. Infected bugs were let loose in a bug-infested field. The disease spread so rapidly and was so fatal that the field was soon rid of the pests.

CASUALTIES.

The fire at Minden, Neb., destroyed eight business houses. The loss will not exceed \$35,000, with insurance of probably a third.

A passenger train on the Baltimore and Ohio ran into a snow bank near Harrisonburg, Va., and was wrecked. Six trainmen were injured, but the passengers escaped with a bad shaking up.

A pilot boat employed in Bogue Inlet has drifted ashore at Beaufort, N. C. A heavy gale has prevailed for several days, and it is thought that the pilots who were on the boat have been drowned.

The Burton block, between Canal and Clinton streets, Chicago, was burned. The loss on the building and contents will aggregate \$80,000, most of which is covered by insurance.

At Southport, Conn., fears are entertained that the steamship City of Utica of New York, bound for Westport, with coal, has gone to the bottom of the sound with all aboard. Wreckage bearing the name City of Utica has been washed ashore.

Much havoc has been wrought by storms on the southern coast of Europe especially around Sardinia, in which vicinity eleven persons are known to have been killed and fifty injured, while many vessels were wrecked and a number of houses shattered.

Lula Steigler of Attica, Ohio, and May Stevens of Clifton Springs, N. Y., who were the worst burned of the victims of the birthday party at the Buchtel college, at Akron, O., have died. May Baker of Johnson Creek, N. Y., and Aurelia Wierick of Storm Lake, Iowa, are most seriously injured of the surviving members of the party, but the physicians say there is no immediate danger.

Two freight trains on the Union Pacific collided near Coyote Station. Brakeman James was instantly killed. Engineer Nichols and Fireman Giese were seriously injured. Both engines were completely telescoped and the wreck torn up for nearly a mile. The east bound train had orders to side track for the west bound freight, but for some reason did not stop.

Christ's Episcopal church in New York, on the corner of Thirty-fifth street and Fifth avenue, was burned. The church was vacated two years ago, the congregation having consolidated with another church. Recently J. B. Bentley's painting, "The Ideal Head of Christ," was on exhibition in the church. The picture, valued at \$50,000, was destroyed. The damage to the church is also estimated at \$50,000.

WICKEDNESSES.

Pat Killen and Joe Sheehy fight in St. Paul. Sheehy bites Killen, to whom the fight is given on a foul.

Miss Ida Laycock, a young lady teacher near Longmont, Col., was stabbed four times by one of her pupils named Bert Myers, and may die.

At Columbus, Ind., John Pettillott, charged with murdering his wife July 4, has been sentenced to ninety-nine years in the state prison.

McDaniels, the notorious desperado who was the leader of the Cotton Belt train robbery, has been arrested near San Antonio, Texas.

Father R. A. Finerty, pastor of the Sacred Heart church at Dayton Ohio, has been dismissed for alleged immoral conduct with a young lady member of his church.

During the ceremony at a swell wedding in the city of Henry, Ill., vandals stole all the trappings of the guests and the more valuable wedding presents.

Nathaniel Green, cashier and bookkeeper for Farnsworth & Ruggles, draymen of San Francisco, is missing, and the statement is made that the firm's bank account has been overdrawn between \$10,000 and \$15,000.

State Representative Brandt, who died a few days ago, was \$6,000 short as treasurer of Venice township, Seneca county, Ohio. He was also a bankrupt, with liabilities of \$80,000 and assets of only \$10,000.

Nelson C. Jennings, who for four years has been the trusted cashier of the Chicago branch of the Sunday Creek Coal company, has absconded with \$6,380 belonging to the corporation.

In Memphis, Tenn., Miles Ogle, the notorious counterfeiter, was convicted of having in his possession and passing counterfeit money and sentenced to fifteen years in the penitentiary, in addition to a fine of \$5,000.

In Keokuk, Iowa, Joseph Bean and Joseph Marion were indicted for the murder of the latter's husband Sept. 12. Poison was administered to Marion in a piece of pie, and shortly afterward he died in great agony.

Just before the death of an unknown man at Tennyson, Ind., a few days ago he made a startling assertion that he was the murderer of John P. Bilderbach, near Fort Branch, twenty years ago, for which crime Thomas Camp was hanged.

A reward is offered for the arrest of George Roberts, president of the Miners' Union of Ironwood and Hurley, Wis., on the charge of embezzlement. The amount is not known. It is thought that he has gone to Winnipeg. His actions are a great surprise, as he has always been considered a very straight man.

P. E. King was found dead at the Rock Island depot in Chilliote, Ill. His head had been crushed in with a bolt of iron about two feet long. The bloody instrument was found lying by his side. King drew a large sum of money and his may have incited the murder, as his pockets had been rifled.

In a shooting scrape which occurred fifteen miles from Bowen, Miss., Will Blue, Dave McKee and Bob Applewhite all were mortal-

ly wounded. The fight grew out of the killing of a cousin of McKee by Blue at a party in Jefferson county a short time ago. All the parties are young men.

A murderer at Summerville, Mo., is in hiding in a large cave. He is armed to the teeth, and boasts that there are not men enough in the state to capture him. He has a small terrier dog chained near the entrance to the cave, which gives the alarm when any one approaches. A large reward is offered for his capture.

Louis A. Pfeiffer, who was president of the broken Bank of America and vice president of the American Life Insurance company, was arrested in Philadelphia. Bail was fixed at \$20,000 in default of which Pfeiffer was taken to prison. James S. Dungan, who was the cashier of the broken bank, was arrested at Newcastle, Del., where he has been living. Dungan consented to come without a requisition, and on his arrival, in default of \$20,000 bail was locked up.

An encounter took place recently between a band of cowboys and a number of Indians at Ray's ranch, about the mouth of Battle creek, west of the Cheyenne river. The cowboys were armed with a wood pile in Daly's yard, and the Indians attempted to ride through the gate into the ranch when a cowboy named Thompson shot and killed one of them. The other cowboys opened fire and two more Indians fell. The Indians ran on the average, and one of the cowboys was seriously if not fatally wounded.

FOREIGN.

A decree has been issued announcing that the emperor of China will grant a yearly audience to all foreign ministers.

Snow storms prevail everywhere in Great Britain. The fall has been deep and traffic is blocked in many places. A number of wrecks of small vessels have been reported.

The grand duke of Mecklenburg Schwerin undergoing treatment by Prof. Koch for tuberculosis, and has received several injections of lymph.

Moses H. Dery, a riveter at Roach's shipyard, Chester, Pa., is one of the heirs to an estate in Staffordshire, Eng., valued at something over \$5,000,000.

The court of inquiry appointed to investigate the loss of the British cruiser *Serpent*, off the coast of Spain, has decided that the loss of the vessel was due to an error of judgment on the part of the navigation officer.

The reaction against the Koch treatment has increased in violence in Paris. Eight patients have died soon after the injection of the lymph, and this combined with the fact that there is no verified cure, has intensified the public feeling against the experiment. A number of hospital patients in Paris, and in Lyons who have been undergoing the Koch treatment have refused to submit to further trials. Owing to the public furor the inquiry headed by Prof. Napoléon, which is testing the remedy, has decided to maintain absolute silence as to the results until the tests have been completed.

IN GENERAL.

An old ordinance is dug up in Chicago, which may compel the abandonment of the lake front as a site for the world's fair.

Near Fresno, Cal., two men have found what is claimed to be a genuine petrified body of a man. It is remarkably well preserved, and even the lines of the back of the hand are visible.

The Davis Platform Binder Company of Cleveland, Ohio, engaged in manufacturing harvesters and binders, has temporarily gone into the hands of a receiver. Assets, \$400,000; liabilities, about \$30,000.

The Flint & Pere Marquette freight handlers at Ludington, Mich., have struck against a reduction in wages, and there is likely to be trouble if the company imports new men.

The grand jury at Kansas City is investigating the charges of bribery in the city council. The attorney for the incline plane company, it is said, has made startling disclosures.

At a meeting in New York of the wealthy Arab citizens it was decided to form a silk growing and fruit raising syndicate in this country, which will give employment to all Arab emigrants arriving in America.

The deaths resulting from the powder explosion at Taijing, China, in November were more than at first estimated, it being stated that 800 coffins had been taken out of the city and yet they were not enough to bury all the dead.

The Farmers' Alliance of Ateshon county, Kan., at a recent meeting adopted a resolution recommending the retirement of Mr. Ingalls from the senate and the election to his seat of a Farmer's Alliance man.

John Morris obtained a writ of mandamus, to compel the secretary of state of Louisiana to promulgate the lottery bill comply with the law requiring the proposed lottery amendments to the constitution to be submitted to the people.

The Chicago Orchestra society has voted to engage Theodore Thomas as director for at least three years and to secure the auditorium for the concerts of the society. Fifty wealthy citizens subscribed \$100,000 for three years to the society's guaranty fund.

S. A. Kean, doing a banking business under the name of S. A. Kean & Co., made an assignment at Chicago to Benjamin F. Jacobs. The deposits amount to about \$450,000, belonging to well-to-do people. Mr. Kean has turned over all his private property to the receiver.

At has been discovered by Attorney General Miller that the local directory of the world's fair has not accepted the ordinance passed by the city council providing for the issue of \$5,000,000 in bonds in aid of the fair. Until this formality is attended to no further progress toward the issuance of the president's proclamation can be made. The defect will be remedied as quickly as possible.

The Alaskan exploring party has had serious trouble in their camp. The explorers quarreled and divided into three parties. Glave started for New York in disgust. Wells and a band of natives pushed on to the interior. At last accounts they were snowed in for the winter with but forty pounds of flour in their camp. Others of the expedition took another route, striking overland for Southern Alaska.

Caught.

A man who has the rare faculty of keeping in with those best-of-best fellows, the chronic borrowers, without much expense to himself was caught in his own trap the other day. "Look here, Tom, old boy," said the cheerful borrower, "I don't like to ask you, but I must have \$5. I'll return it to you next Saturday." "How unfortunate," said the other. "I have only got \$1 to my name. Half of it's yours, though, old chap," and saying this he thrust his hand into his pocket where he had placed the bill for such an emergency and drew it out. It was a ten. And now he is calling that a cheap administration which will issue \$10 bills without any fluted sides, raised letters, or electric bell attachments so that a fellow can tell one when he gets hold of it in the dark.—From the New York Tribune.

TROOPS HEMMED IN.

Reports That Two Companies in the Yellowstone are Surrounded by Indians.

Gen. Miles Discredits the Reports But Sends Reinforcements to the Scene.

RAPID CITY, S. D., Dec. 24.—A report has reached Gen. Miles via Missoula that two companies of soldiers in the Yellowstone region are surrounded north of Cave Hills by 500 or 600 Indians and have sent couriers out with notification of danger to the settlers. Gen. Miles says there are Indians in that vicinity, but discredits the report that the troops are hemmed in. He has, however, ordered reinforcements sent.

Dispatches to Gen. Miles from Col. Sumner to-day show that nearly all of Sitting Bull's followers together with Big Foot's band have surrendered to him. Col. Sumner in a dispatch says this disposes of all the Indians along the Cheyenne river, and if there are any more of Sitting Bull's people out he does not know where they can be.

Gen. Brooke reports the arrival of friendly Indians at the Bad Lands camp and says the capture of Sitting Bull's people and Big Foot's forces will aid the efforts of the friendly Indians to bring in the hostiles. An Indian scout reports to Gen. Brooke that Short Bull's followers are anxious to come in, but are withheld by the threats of Kicking Bear, one of Sitting Bull's agents. The scout thinks, however, that the friendly will at last succeed in bringing out Short Bull's followers.

The report is that there are about 3,000 Indians, including women and children, who are badly armed, coming on to join those in the Bad Lands. There are about 600 fighting men among them. This report is thought to be somewhat exaggerated, as there is thought to be not over 300 fighting men among them.

ONE GOOD INDIAN.

The Results of One Day's Skirmishing by a Company of Rangers.

DENVER, Dec. 24.—A News special from Hart's ranch, near the Bad Lands, says that last night news was brought in that the rangers on Coal Draw, near Battle creek, killed an Indian, and that he, with others, was trying to set fire to a ranch belonging to a man named Thompson. This report was verified this morning.

About 170 Indians from the Cheyenne agency are known to be coming to Short Bull and Kicking Bear's people in the Bad Lands. Gen. Carr's, Col. Sumner's and other large forces are now out to intercept them before they reach the Bad Lands, and a report of their capture is momentarily expected. Should they make any resistance, a fight will take place. It is reported that there are about 500 Indians nearing the hostile camp who are going to make a strong effort to bring them in, but no success is expected from this move.

It is certain that there are now enough troops around the Indians to compel their absolute surrender. Two companies of the Seventeenth infantry, comprising over 100 men, reported to Gen. Carr to-day, also forty-six Cheyenne Indian scouts reported, which now brings the strength of this command up to over 700 men. A decisive movement of some kind or another with a skirmish with these Indians is momentarily expected.

GATHERING THEM IN.

Sitting Bull's Band of Hostiles Rounded Up by Troops.

At Gen. Ruger's headquarters yesterday it was reported that the band of Sioux under Big Foot had surrendered to Col. Sumner. This latter officer has been in camp on the Cheyenne, near the mouth of Belle Fourche, and marched from there to Cherry creek, where Big Foot's band was captured. Among the prisoners were several of Sitting Bull's band of hostiles.

Advices from Fort Bennett state that Capt. Hurst and Lieut. Hale have captured about forty of Sitting Bull's scattered band, and are returning to that post.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Maj. Gen. Schofield has received a telegram from Gen. Miles, dated Rapid City, S. D., Dec. 22, as follows: "I believe all or very nearly all the followers of Sitting Bull have been captured. Col. Sumner reports to-day the capture of Big Foot's band of Sioux, numbering 150. He has been one of the most defiant and threatening. The result so far has been satisfactory."

STILL HAS HIS SCALE.

A Traveler Crosses the Sioux Reservation Without Being Molested.

PIERRE, S. D., Special Telegram, Dec. 24.—Leo Kauffman has arrived from a trip on horseback across the country from Deadwood. He did not see any hostile Indians, but heard plenty of rumors.

Between Mexican Ed's ranch, on the Cheyenne, and Mitchell creek there are soldiers patrolling to prevent hostiles from crossing north and south.

James Hall, a merchant at Midland, ninety miles from Pierre, arrived to-day and says the Indians are breaking up into small bands and marauding any unprotected places before the troops reach them. All the people living in this country have fled to places of safety.

Cavanaugh, who has a big ranch and store on Plum creek, was together with his men, ordered away by Big Foot's men, who told them they would be killed if they stayed. After they left the Indians killed some cattle and pillaged the store.

Nothing Serious Before Spring.

WASHINGTON, Special Telegram, Dec. 24.—"If any serious trouble is had with the Sioux," said Senator Moody after he had read the dispatches in this morning's papers, "it will come in this morning's news. I do not think there will be anything serious now during the winter. The greatest fear is from scattering raiding bands. One of the most serious effects of the whole business will be seen when spring comes, and farmers are kept from their farms through fear of their lives. That will be a bad thing all around."

Depew as Usual.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The eighty-fifth anniversary dinner of the New England society was held in the Madison Square garden concert hall to-night. Nearly five hundred members and guests were present. J. Piermont Moran, president of the society, was the speaker of the evening. He delivered a brief address in introducing

Money for a College.

PIERRE, S. D., Special Telegram, Dec. 24.—State Treasurer Smith has received \$15,000 appropriated by the last session of congress for the state agricultural college and experimental station at Brookings. This goes into the maintenance fund of that institution.

SITTING BULL'S DEATH.

Resolutions Demanding a Congressional Investigation of the Affair.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—In the house to-day Representative Blanchard of Louisiana offered the following preamble and resolutions:

"Whereas, The recent killing of the Indian chief, Sitting Bull, appears to have been accomplished under circumstances recognized neither by the laws of war nor those of peace;

"Resolved, That a committee, consisting of five members of this house who are members of the house of representatives of the Fifty-second congress, to be appointed by the speaker of the present house, is directed to inquire into and investigate the killing of the said Indian chief, Sitting Bull, and the immediate causes leading thereto, and whether a state of war existed which justified his summary taking off, and, if not, what justification, if any, there was for his violent death; At the hands of the Indian police in the employ of the government."

"That the committee be charged with the duty of investigating the threatened Indian outbreak in the West and the causes thereof, whether neglect by the government of its treaty obligations with the Indians or the tardy or inadequate fulfillment of such obligations; and the report of the committee had anything to do with the turbulent state of affairs existing among the Indians."

"That the committee shall have power to appoint subcommittees and to travel from point to point as may be necessary, and in doing so is authorized to use government conveyances and means of transportation. That the committee may sit during the present session and after the final adjournment of the present congress, and shall make report by the 1st of December next to the Fifty-second congress."

Representative McAdoo offered a resolution calling on the secretaries of war and of the interior for all official correspondence relating to the killing of Sitting Bull, and more especially for the reports of those officers and agents directly concerned in ordering or effecting the arrest of Sitting Bull.

BLAINE WILL RECOMMEND.

A Coming Communication to Congress on the Behring Sea Difficulty.

WASHINGTON, Special Telegram, Dec. 24.—Secretary Blaine has prepared a communication to congress on the Behring sea sealing question. He will send it to the capitol as soon as it can be laid before Lord Salisbury, as it would be a breach of diplomacy to make it public here in advance of the time when Salisbury sees it.

This message, it is semi-officially announced, will suggest that some active and immediate steps be taken toward arbitrating the questions involved with the British authorities. Since the report of Prof. Elliott, recently published, and that the seal were rapidly disappearing, Mr. Blaine's position that the poaching by British vessels was *contra bonos mores* is to an extent proven correct. It is expected that Mr. Blaine will recommend the appointment of a commission to investigate the seal fishing question to substantiate or refute the statements in Prof. Elliott's report, and at the same time to arbitrate the entire question with the representative of her majesty's government. It is expected that Mr. Blaine's message will be sent to congress early in January.

THE TROUBLESOME CHINESE.

A New Point Which May Cause the Whole Country Vexation.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—For some time past it has been the practice of the treasury department to return to China at government expense all Chinese laborers convicted of entering our territory in violation of the Chinese exclusion act. This applied to Chinamen smuggled over the Mexican and Canadian borders, as well as those coming direct from China.

A recent decision by Judge Maxey, of the United States district court of the Western district of Texas, however, will, if sustained, compel a material modification of this practice. It is that the government has no right under the law to return to China Chinese laborers who enter the United States from contiguous countries, unless the evidence is produced that they came from China, or in other words, that the language of the law authorizing their return "to the country whence they came" should in such cases be construed to mean the contiguous country and not China. Secretary Windom and Assistant Secretary Spaulding are considering the matter.

THE HASTINGS & DAKOTA GRANT.

"Dar" Hall Puts the Case to Mr. Noble Very Pointedly.

WASHINGTON, Special Telegram, Dec. 24.—Representative Hall was to-day promised by the secretary of the interior department an early settlement of the Hastings & Dakota land grant. He went to Secretary Noble about the matter, and again stated how many settlers were unable to determine whether they owned the land they were on and had been for many years deprived of title to lands which they should have.

During the conversation Mr. Hall incidentally stated that the secretary had promised him an appointment on one of the many Indian commissions, an appointment that had failed to materialize. "Now," said the Third district man, "you can do something for me and do it now. There is no pending legislation to prevent this adjustment, and it is merely a matter of doing on your part." The secretary was rather pleased with the blunt request, and promised to set the machinery in motion to accomplish what was asked.

With Parnell to the Last.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—"Irish-Americans in mass meeting, 6,000 strong, stand greeting. Victorious or vanquished in North Kilkeny, we are with you to the last." That was the message of a rousing big meeting in Battery D to-night ordered called to Parnell. The enthusiasm displayed was phenomenal even for a Celtic gathering. Every mention of Parnell's name brought wild outbursts of applause.

Might Have Been Worse.

STAPLES, Minn., Special Telegram, Dec. 24.—George Leuts, while intoxicated, shot at, but missed, Jack Ennis while they were conversing together in W. F. Buckley's lunch room last evening. The ball struck the wall, glanced and struck the counter about a foot from where the waiter was standing. Leuts was to-day fined \$40 and costs.

A Bridge Opened.

LA CROSSE, Wis., Special Telegram, Dec. 24.—The La Crosse wagon bridge was opened for travel to-day, and 200 teams and a large number of foot men passed.

Paralyzing Traffic.

GLASGOW, Dec. 24.—The railway strikers have so far succeeded in paralyzing traffic throughout the district. At a meeting of railroad strikers held in this city to-day the announcement was made that 4,500 men had quit work. There is an absolute cessation of freight traffic, and only a few passenger trains are running. The railway managers are making a firm stand against the strikers. The latest report is that the strike is extending. One insurance is reported of a locomotive being derailed, it is supposed, by strikers. The stoppage of operations at the Singer Sewing Machine Works throws 4,000 persons out of employment.

WORK OF CONGRESS.

Proceedings of Both Branches of the National Legislature.

Tuesday December 16.

SENATE.

Senator Hoar read a letter from John I. Davenport, making a vigorous denial of the charges preferred against his conduct as chief supervisor of elections and professing a willingness to appear before a senate committee to answer the charges.

HOUSE.

Mr. Dannel, called up the apportionment bill and briefly explained its provisions. The bill appeared, he said in response to the requirements of the constitution, and was based upon the 11th census, which showed a gratifying increase in the population of the United States.

Wednesday December 17.

SENATE.

The morning hour having expired, the senate resumed the consideration of the election bill, Mr. Dolph continuing his speech upon the subject.

The secretary of war to-day transmitted to the senate a preliminary of the board on gun factories and steel forging or high power guns, appointed by the president under an act of the last session of congress. In a letter accompanying the report Secretary Proctor states that it may be advisable to establish at no distant day a gun factory at some point on the Pacific coast of sufficient capacity to supply the guns required for the armament of that coast.

HOUSE.

After a long debate the house passed the apportionment bill without amendment—years, 187, says, 82.

Acting Secretary Chandler, of the interior department, in the absence of Secretary Noble, has sent to Speaker Reed a copy of the letter which Indian Commissioner Morgan addressed to the secretary urging the passage of the Sisseton and Wahpeton Indian bill. The Indian commissioner in his letter describes the destitute condition of the Indians at the Sisseton agency, and explains that owing to the fact that this bill was pending last session no appropriation was made for the maintenance of the Sisseton Indians. Both the Commissioner and Secretary Noble urge that something be done immediately looking to the passage of this bill.

Thursday December 18.

SENATE.

Mr. Sherman, from the committee on finance, reported a bill providing against a contraction of the currency, which was printed and recommitted.

The elections bill was then taken up, and Mr. Coke addressed the senate in opposition to it.

The bill was then laid aside, and after passing a few local appropriation bills, the senate went into executive session.

HOUSE.

The senate bill was passed amending the interstate commerce act by providing for the taking of depositions for notaries public. A considerable wrangling the house went into committee of the whole, Mr. Burrows, of Michigan, in the chair.

Mr. Farquhar then moved that the house proceed to the consideration of the senate bill to place the American merchant marine on an equality with that of other nations. Mr. Springer made the point of order that the motion was not in order, but that the committee must proceed to the consideration of appropriation bills. The chairman ruled that the motion was in order for the reason that the rules gave the committee authority to decide what measure it would take up.

Friday December 19.