

WASHINGTON.

From our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7th, 1898.

Mr. McKinley's attempt to bluff the anti-civil service republicans in the House into keeping quiet, by promising that he would modify the civil service rules as soon as the agitation ceased, was a flat failure.

The silver men in the Senate are showing signs of an intention to take the aggressive. In line with that intention was a resolution offered by Senator Teller, declaring that all U. S. bonds are payable in silver dollars, at the option of the government.

The administration having succeeded in whipping all the republican Senators into the support of annexation, Senator Davis has given notice that the Hawaiian treaty would be taken up next week.

Representative Benton, of Mo., thus gives his opinion of that alleged Monetary Commission and its report: "Speaking after the fashion of our plain western people, I think the commission and its report combine a stupendous exhibition of gall. Who made the commission? The Indianapolis monetary convention. And by what authority? What act passed by any law making body gave life to this convention or its progeny, the Commission? For whom do they speak? Of whom is this Commission composed? Is there a practical cotton-planter on it? No; yet we raised in '97 \$275,000,000 worth of cotton at the lowest prices for many years.

What representative wheat-raiser is on the Commission to represent the makers of 530,000,000 bushels of wheat? Is there to be found a representative cattle and hog raiser on this Commission? Is there a practical miner of coal, iron, lead or zinc on it? No. Who on this commission represents the carpenter, mason and other mechanics? Nobody, well, if this vast army of people representing more than a thousand million dollars of production annually and sixty millions of people have no member to speak for them by authority, who do these eminently able and respectable gentlemen represent? Simply money, stocks and bonds, owned and controlled by a few thousand persons, who have by aid of legislation cornered four-fifths of our national wealth, and insist on future legislation being enacted to suit their condition." Mr. Benton says further that the legislation recommended by the Commission is for the purpose of making money scarcer; turning over the paper money to the keeping of those they represent, and enabling them to control markets and buy products at their own prices, adding in conclusion: "In my view, the whole report of this commission, when boiled down, means: 'We want the law so charged that every bond, every dollar of silver and paper must be redeemed in gold, and that National banks shall alone be empowered to omit paper, and more, to have the restrictions now on the Statute books removed so that the banks will be responsible to no one by law.'"

Some of the shrewdest political observers in Washington, members of all parties, agree that Gov. Bushnell and the anti-Hanna republicans of the Ohio legislature have made it certain that neither Mr. McKinley nor any other Ohio man will head the republican nomination in 1900 as having been greatly improved by the Ohio republicans. There are reasons for believing that Mr. McKinley also holds this opinion.

The ordinary counterfeit is so easily distinguishable from the genuine note that only those not accustomed to handling money are deceived by it, but a number of counterfeit \$100 silver certificates have been discovered

which fool bank experts, and there is in consequence alarm and consternation in the Treasury Department. The Secretary has ordered that the entire issue of these silver certificates be called in—\$26,000,000—and the full extent of the counterfeiting will not be known until the notes are all in. Meanwhile, they would better refuse \$100 silver certificates, unless tendered by responsible parties.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that can not be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Props., Toledo, O.

We the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by their firm.

WEST & TRUAX, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.

WALDING, KINNAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price 75c. per bottle. Sold by all Druggists. Testimonials free.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Failures For 1897 Show Large Decrease.

Dun's Review Sees Gratifying Signs in the New Year's Opening.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade in its issue of Saturday says: In failures 1897 was not only the best year since 1892, but on the whole the best ever definitely known. With 13,522 failures, in number 11.5 per cent. less than 1896, and \$182,581,777 defaulted liabilities, 34.0 per cent. less than in 1896, the year's banking failures counted for \$28,249,700, and the commercial failures were but 13,351, with liabilities of \$154,322,071, the average per failure being only \$11,559, the lowest ever known except in 1892. But even in that year the failures during the last half averaged liabilities of \$10,477 per failure, while in the last half of 1897 the average was only \$9,593.

The new year began with disappointment for speculators in stocks and grain, which is not a bad sign. Prices of stocks have gained a little, after yielding at first, and close seventy-three cents per share higher for railroads and \$1.05 per share higher for trusts.

Wheat declined 1/2c owing to the termination of the corner at Chicago, and western receipts were about double last year's, with Atlantic exports 2,840,318 bushels, flour included, against 2,150,990 last year. A speculative estimate makes the quantity still in farmers' hands forty per cent. of the crop, which is quite possible, but the consumption and exports in half the year ought to take more than forty per cent. of the year's supply.

The cotton manufacture is a little encouraged by larger demand for goods since the reduction in prices, and the abstention of buyers for months has probably been due in large measure to expectation of that reduction, but with the certainty that the print cloth works are to continue prices have further declined to 2.12 cents. The woolen and worsted mills are both buying wool quite largely at prices probably close to the best.

The iron manufacture has been further encouraged by unusual business for the season, including a large building contract made, and others for bridges pending at Chicago, a sale of 50,000 tons pig to one pipe foundry at the east and contracts for two vessels of 5,500 tons hoop at New York and 500 for Mexico.

Failures for the week have been 322 in the United States against 471 last year and in Canada thirty-two against sixty-two last year.

NEXT MINUTE MAY MEAN DEATH.—If the heart flutters, palpitates or tires easily, you may be next door to sudden death and not know it. Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart gives instant relief. "The pains about my heart were so severe I could hardly breathe. I thought I must die. One dose of Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart gave me perfect relief inside of 20 minutes, a few bottles cured. I firmly believe it saved my life."—Mr. John Jamieson, Tara, Ont.—65.

Sold by C. A. Kleim. An editor of a western newspaper is mourning the loss of two subscribers. The one wanted to know how to rear his twins safely, while the other wanted to know how to rid his orchard of grasshoppers. The answer went forward by return mail, but by accident he transposed them into wrong envelopes, so that the man with twins received this answer: Cover them with straw and set fire and the little pests, after jumping in the flames for a few minutes, will speedily settle; while the man plagued with grass-hoppers was told to "give castor oil and rub their gums with a bone."

After serious illness, like typhoid fever, pneumonia, or the grip, Hood's Sarsaparilla has wonderful strength-giving power.

APPRAISER'S DUTIES.

The Mercantile Tax Law Interpreted by the Auditor General.

HOW TO MAKE ASSESSMENTS.

Auditor General Mylin has issued a circular letter to the County Commissioners of the State in relation to the duties of the mercantile appraiser. He suggests that the appraisers be informed on several points. He insists that appraisers shall personally visit all stores or other places of business liable to mercantile tax, and says that no license is to be assessed where the annual amount of sales is less than \$1000. If dealers in liquors sell other goods than liquors then they must pay a license for the sale of such goods.

In all counties the appraiser must furnish the county treasurer a certified list of dealers with their classifications. The Auditor General's department will pay no bills for mileage unless it is satisfied that the appraiser has in person visited in one continuous trip every place of business assessed. In accordance with a recent decision of the Supreme Court, dealers in live stock are exempt and they must not be assessed.

Butchers who sell the meat of animals they have slaughtered are also exempt, but those butchers who purchase cattle already killed and sell the dressed meat are liable to the payment of license. All foreign or resident dealers or firms who have a shop for the sale of meat apart from the slaughter house must be taxed.

County treasurers are instructed to give the collection of licenses for theatrical, operatic or circus performances, and menageries and museums, their personal attention and to strictly enforce the act. There must be no fictitious names on the appraiser's list nor names of persons not residing at the places designated by him. Under an opinion of the Attorney General appraisers are instructed hereafter to assess all owners of restaurants, eating houses, etc., not selling liquors, and provision has been made by the department for returning this class of licenses. The appraiser has no control over the publication of the list and it can not be placed in a Sunday paper.

The attention of county treasurers is directed to the practice in force in many counties of the Commonwealth by Justices of the Peace or Aldermen in issuing summonses and executions in suits for uncollected licenses to Constables other than those residing in district where the defendant lives or nearest thereto. The Auditor General holds that this is in direct violation of law and that the summonses must be issued direct to the Constable residing in the district. In the past there has been grave abuse in this direction.

The summons and executions in suits for uncollected licenses have been placed in the hands of one Constable and he has traveled all over the county serving them and charging mileage, oftentimes charging his fees and charges to a far larger amount than that collected by him. The Auditor General says that hereafter no costs charged in violation of law will be paid by the department.

Under this circular the Auditor General will carefully scan all bills that are sent in by mercantile appraisers. He holds that it is within his province to reduce them within the meaning of the law.

This country lacks a good many things, but lawyers can hardly be classed in the category. Whatever the case may have been a few decades ago the claim will not hold good now. In fact, if the present rate of increase keeps up a while longer we are in danger of becoming a nation of lawyers. Indeed, the "crop of lawyers" has latterly vied with the wheat, corn and cotton crops in its abundance. In 1870 there were only 1,611 students in the law schools of the country. By 1885 the number had grown to 3,054; in 1891 there were 6,106, while last year these schools had increased to 85 and the students to more than 10,000. These figures take no account of the students who complete their studies under private preceptors, and who never go to law colleges at all. There are in the United States about 90,000 lawyers, or one to every 800 inhabitants. In Chicago the ratio is one lawyer to every 350 persons. There are in all France, with her 40,000,000 inhabitants, only 6,000 lawyers, while Chicago alone has 5,000, half of whom do not earn as much as a first-class mechanic. With the increase in numbers the emoluments have been diminishing.

It is to be hoped our government will be able to lease from Denmark a strip of land along the northwest coast of Greenland on which to establish naval and coaling stations. Such stations will be a benefit not only to us, but to Denmark itself and to all other nations that send ships to the arctic waters in that part of the world. With such stations exploring operations whose end and aim is the reaching of the north pole will be greatly facilitated.

Liver Ills

Like biliousness, dyspepsia, headache, constipation, sour stomach, indigestion are promptly cured by Hood's Pills. They do their work easily and thoroughly.

Hood's Pills

Best after dinner pills. 25 cents. All druggists. Prepared by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. The only Pill to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Pardee Hall's Fire Loss.

Damage to the Burned Structure Appraised at \$44,720.65.

Lewis Havens, of Philadelphia, and James Woolsey, of Scranton, the appraisers selected by Lafayette College and the insurance companies in which policies were held on Pardee Hall, Thursday fixed the amount of damage done the building by the recent fire at \$44,720.65.

This amount will be paid the college, or, if the trustees desire, either of the appraisers will rebuild the hall for that figure and place the structure in equally as good condition as it was prior to the fire.

The total insurance on the furniture and appliances in the building, \$30,000, has been allowed, but this will fall short of the loss by about \$15,000. The \$9000 insurance on the Ward library has also been allowed, but will fall \$10,000 short of the loss.

PILE TERRORS SWEEP AWAY.—Dr. Agnew's Ointment stands at the head as a reliever, healer, and sure cure for Piles in all forms.

One application will give comfort in a few minutes, and three to six days application according to directions will cure chronic cases. It relieves all itching and burning skin diseases in a day. 35 cents.—67. Sold by C. A. Kleim.

Patronize Home Merchants.

It is probably a fact, as often stated, that every description of business is gradually drifting from the villages to the cities. This, perhaps, is only natural but still it is to be deplored. Village merchants take great pains to select such goods as are demanded by their trade, and these same lines of goods can frequently be purchased cheaper of the local merchants than at the city stores, and the same will hold good in all other branches of business. We hold that, as a general rule, it is poor policy for any lady to go abroad to do her shopping or for any gentleman to buy his clothing in the city when they can be equally as well served at home. It discourages the business man and sooner or later will kill the business interests of the town. It is always a good rule to spend your money where you earn it.

Leave your money among townspeople and you will again see the color of it. Give it to the transient dealers and no magnet will bring it back.

When bilious or costive, eat a Castor, candy cathartic, cure guaranteed. 10c, 25c. 4-1-1

The World's Almanac and Encyclopedia FOR 1898

Will Answer Any Question You may Ask It. Standard American Annual. PRICE 25 CENTS. Ready Jan. 1, 1898, On All News Stands.

Larger, Better, More Complete Than Ever.

The most widely sold Annual Reference Book and Political Manual published.

THE WORLD, Pulitzer Building, New York.

We Manufacture PURE ICE FROM DISTILLED & FILTERED WATER. In our storage rooms we hold good for many months Apples, Peaches, Grapes, etc. If you have any thing to store, give us a call. Cold Storage & Artificial Ice Co.

RAILROAD TIME TABLE DELAWARE, LACKAWANNA & WESTERN RAILROAD.

Table with columns for Stations, A.M., P.M., and P.M. listing various stations like Northumberland, Cameron, Danville, etc.

STATIONS. WEST.

Table with columns for Stations, A.M., P.M., and P.M. listing stations like Scranton, Taylor, Danville, etc.

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SOUTH—B. & S. R. R.—NORTH

Table with columns for Stations, A.M., P.M., and P.M. listing stations like Scranton, Taylor, Danville, etc.

NERVOUS DEBILITY, VITAL WEAKNESS

and Prostration from Overwork or other causes. Humphreys' Homeopathic Specific No. 28, in use over 40 years, the only successful remedy.

For further information apply to Ticket Agents.

Philadelphia & Reading Railway Engines Burn Hard Coal—No Smoke. In effect May 29, 1897.

TRAINS LEAVE BLOOMSBURG. For New York, Philadelphia, Reading, Pottsville, etc.

TRAINS LEAVE PHILADELPHIA. For New York, Reading, Pottsville, etc.

ATLANTIC CITY DIVISION. Leave Philadelphia, Chestnut Street wharf and South Street wharf for Atlantic City.

Wanted—An Idea. Who can think of some thing of value to the public? Write JOHN WEDDERBURN & CO., Patent Attorneys, Washington, D. C.

Pennsylvania Railroad.

Time Table in effect Nov. 28, 1897.

Table with columns for Stations, A.M., P.M., and P.M. listing stations like Scranton, Danville, etc.

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