

U. S. CONSOLE BELL, at Sydney, reports to the state department that Japan's ocean trade on the Pacific is greater than that of the United States.

JOSEPH B. McCOLLIG, editor of the St. Louis Globe Democrat, was found dead on the sidewalk under his bedroom. He had recently been in ill health.

A reward of \$10,000 is offered for the arrest and conviction of the person or persons who caused the railroad accident at Blocton, Ala., by which 23 persons lost their lives.

THE filibustering steamer, Commodore, bound from a Florida port for Cuba, was sunk with the loss of one life and leaving 8 others afloat at sea. It is reported that the vessel was scuttled by a traitor on board.

HAD the administration shown the firm stand against bond issues that it has against aiding the Cuban patriots, and the same energetic disposition to hunt for law or precedent for curbing the trusts that it has for preventing congress from recognizing Cuban independence, it would be held in much higher esteem than it is now by a good many persons.

EVERY officer in the United States navy in New York and vicinity, not now on duty, has been ordered to report for duty at the Norfolk navy yard at once.

All leaves of absence are canceled by order of the secretary of the navy, and all details abolished, as far as practicable. This was taken very seriously by the officers, who feared it would mean trouble, and perhaps war.

It is reported that the czar has warned the Sultan that he will expose himself to the gravest consequences, even foreign intervention and the disintegration of his Empire, unless he shall seriously consider the remonstrances of the Powers and accept their advice regarding reforms in the Turkish Government. A year ago the rumor of such a threat from the czar would have created a profound sensation; to-day it causes scarcely a ripple of excitement. Until the Powers shall begin to translate their brave words with the Sultan into action nobody will believe that intervention by them in Turkish affairs is intended.

A CONTEMPORARY SAYS "the general assembly, at the approaching session will likely enact an effective anti-trust law." It is hoped the statement is correct but the prospects are not flattering. The tendency of the Pennsylvania legislation is in favor of trusts rather than against them. That was demonstrated at the last session by the speedy repeal of the law prohibiting the consolidation of competing oil pipe lines and the promptness with which Governor Hastings approved the bill. That the action greatly strengthened the Standard oil trust and put it in position to completely monopolize the storage and transportation of petroleum.

A CONTEMPORARY remarks that "it has been discovered at last that the system of mine inspection in this state is no system at all." This truth was discovered long ago; but the legislature, the executive, the mine inspectors, the mine owners and all concerned have had too strong an interest in discovering the truth. The fact is that the entire legislation creating a squad of mining inspectors, while it has not diminished the number of accidents, has lessened the responsibility of mine owners for loss of life and limb through carelessness and neglect. For the responsibility of the owners and lessees of the mines has been substituted the responsibility of the state and its officials, which has proved to be just no responsibility at all.

A NEW YORK paper says that important developments will take place in the bituminous coal trade in a few days. It is learned from reliable sources that the association of soft coal interests controlling the tide water trade has been disintegrated for some time, and it is now planned to reach an understanding which will be stronger and more binding than ever before. There has been continued cutting in prices, and the official quotations lately have been nominal only. Meetings of representatives of coal companies have been held recently in this city, Philadelphia and elsewhere to formulate plans in aid of tidewater bituminous coal trade, perfecting the formation of a new pool. The date has not yet been definitely fixed, but a final meeting will take place at an early day in Philadelphia.

CONGRESSMAN BROSIUS, of Pennsylvania, the chairman of the house committee on civil service reform, introduced a bill in congress on Tuesday to provide for the retirement of government employees in the classified service. The bill creates a retirement fund by withholding 2 per cent. monthly salaries received by clerks in the civil service. Provision is made for retirement under three qualifications, each retiring clerk to receive for life an income amounting to 75 per cent. of the highest salary paid him while employed in the civil service, this income to be drawn from the retiring fund. Every person who is employed in the service twenty years and who shall have become mentally or physically disqualified will be retired on his application or compulsorily retired. Every person who has attained the age of 60 and shall have been employed thirty years may be retired on his application. Every person who has attained the age of 70 and been employed in the civil service thirty-five years shall be compulsorily retired.

SENATOR JEROME, chairman of the Democratic national committee, has written the following letter to a discouraged correspondent, which speaks for itself: "I don't agree with the gloomy view you take of our efforts. When we polled a million more votes than Cleveland did four years ago, when he was said to have carried the country by a landslide, we certainly have accomplished a great deal, especially when we remember what the feeling of the party was when the Chicago convention met. Another thing it is perfectly appropriate and according to the eternal fitness of things that the return of the Republicans to the control of the government of the United States should at once involve questions as to the form, shape and amount of increased taxation. Having obtained at the polls what they construe as a popular approval of the robbery of the people of their silver currency, they now lose no time in preparing for the next step—the increase of taxation upon imports and the placing of additional duties on trade.

That we are to have a higher tariff, if the incoming administration can effect it, appears to be beyond doubt. The only thing to conjecture is whether it shall be fashioned on the model of the Dingley bill, passed by the present house of representatives at its last session and modified in some way this winter so as to make it acceptable to certain western Republican senators, or whether an extra session will be called as soon as President McKinley gets his cabinet around him, and, during next spring and summer, an elaborate, comprehensive and sweeping McKinley bill, as near as possible upon the lines of McKinley's last previous effort, be put through, and the American people be called upon to face once more the experiment, so often tried since 1842, of a purley protective system.

THE advocates of exorbitant taxation of the clothing, the blankets and the carpets of the people, says the Pittsburg Post, had their innings before Chairman Dingley's committee yesterday. The most outrageous demands are put forth on behalf of the wool interest. The tax is proposed as even greater than those fixed by the odious McKinley law and will increase the price of every stiel, of woolen fabrics used in the households of the land. This is truly a fit season of the year to put forth a scheme of this character in the interest of well to do or wealthy cloth owners, and at the expense of every wage-earning man, woman and boy in the country. One of the shepherds before the committee, from Washington county, in reply to the question whether clothing had not been cheaper under free wool, replied that most of the clothing now sold was shoddy. He dodged telling one truth by telling a falsehood. The woolen goods now on sale are far better in quality than the people could get under the McKinley tariff, and leading merchants of Pittsburg are our authority that they are from 25 to 35 per cent cheaper. It is not free wool that induces the use of shoddy, but dear wool. Common sense will teach anybody that. Under the present tariff the people of the United States have had better and cheaper woolen goods than ever before in the history of the country.

SENATOR SHERMAN says the necessities of the treasury must be met in one of three ways—more revenue must be raised, or bonds must be issued, or the president must refuse to pay appropriations that are not mandatory. The veteran senator has wholly overlooked another method of relieving the treasury's necessities. It does not occur to him that ends may be made to meet by retrenchment. When a wise man finds that his income drops below his expenditure, he does not plunge into debt to maintain his style of living, or encroach on his capital, but he cuts down expenses. He does without some things that he enjoyed when his income was ample. The obligation of economy is even stronger on a government than on an individual, because the government authorities are handling other people's money, and every issue of bonds or increase of revenue means a levy on the substance of the nation. But Senator Sherman is not alone in this conspicuous neglect of the wisest way of helping out the treasury. Not a single Republican leader has suggested the wisdom of retrenchment. The only plan suggested is to make heavier tax levies and in such a way as to add private robbery to public jobbery.

THE superior court of Pennsylvania decides that tree owners have some rights. The employees of a telegraph company, which had a line crossing the land of Dr. John Marshall, in Bucks county, entered upon that land to add new cross bars and wires to the poles. To facilitate such additions they cut down a large number of fine shade trees growing on Dr. Marshall's place. The men were arrested, and for this wanton destruction were fined \$50 each, and in default of payment, to imprisonment for fifty days. They appealed, alleging that the destruction of these trees was necessary to the operation of the telegraph line. The superior court of Pennsylvania has affirmed the Bucks county sentences and the men will have to pay the fine or go to jail. This punishment, however, is wholly inadequate to this offense, which was gross. Some sixty odd ornamental trees were destroyed and others mutilated.

IT is to be hoped that Advance Agent McKinley, who is now sweating blood over his inaugural, will not overlook the 15 per cent. reduction in wages which is to go into effect at the Illinois steel company's works February 1. It was understood Mr. McKinley's election meant steady work at higher wages not only in the steel industry but all along the line. The advance agent should explain this.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—Richard D. Cornelius, one of the oldest and best known bank cashiers of this city, committed suicide today. His body was found in the duck pond on Druidhill park this afternoon, a few hours after a shortage of \$50,000 had been discovered in his accounts at the National Farmers' and Planters' Bank.

Chicago, January 4.—A blizzard has been raging for two days in the states west of the Missouri river, and to-day has been very severe in Iowa and Northern Missouri. In Nebraska the storm raged 60 miles and has ceased falling, but the wind still blows a gale, drifting the snow badly, and the temperature is very low. The Omaha Railroad is tied up and the lines west from Omaha are greatly impeded. In some places in Kansas the drifts are at least ten feet high. At Larnet the snow is four feet deep in the level streets. Traffic on the Panhandle route of Woodward, Okla., is entirely blocked. Telegraph and telephone service has been greatly interfered with, much damage has been done to stock trains into Kansas City from all directions are from one to six hours late.

THE blizzard still rages in South Dakota. Only one train has moved in that state since Sunday morning, between Yankton and Aberdeen. The worst of the snow that has ever been known for drifting snow, but is not so blinding or cold as the great storm of 1888. A great deal of stock has perished. The state legislature, which was to convene at Pierre to-morrow, and the one to Governor Lee, which was to follow, will of necessity be postponed, as about 80 of the 125 members are snow-bound, and some of them will not reach the capital for several days. Iowa is in the toils of a fierce blizzard to-day. The temperature has fallen to 40 below zero, and is drifting, and threatens to interfere with railway travel. Owing to a great number of the telegraph and telephone wires are down. The heavy rains have done great damage along the Mississippi, on the western side of the river. In Louisiana, the Keokuk and Northwestern, and Omaha and Kansas City roads there were bad washouts, which interfered with travel. The rainfall at Quincy was five inches in forty-two hours, and the Mississippi has risen eight feet since Friday night. The walls of St. John's Catholic Church, now being built at a cost of \$30,000, were washed out on two sides, and the edifice will have to be rebuilt.

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Best of all in Leavening Power—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

ROYAL Baking Powder ABSOLUTELY PURE

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FARMERS! TAKE NOTICE

Monday, January 4, we begin the sale of 1897 wools—a collection that merits every woman's attention—one that far surpasses in beauty and goodness any former year's offering—each of the different lines has been made a forcible example of the store's determination to win with large assortments, choice goods and low prices.

ANDERSON'S Madras Gingham and Novelties—the superb goods made by D. J. Anderson mills, Glasgow, Scotland—believe this store can show you more and choicer Anderson's gingham than you'll see anywhere—prices 35 & 40c.

Beautiful New Organdies—fine, sheer and dainty—such examples of fine art painting as will surpass even the most lavish expectations—Raye Stripe Organdies, 35c.

BOGGS & BUHL, Allegheny, Pa.

JOHNSTON, BUCK & CO., BANKERS, EBENSBURG, PENNA.

CARROLLTOWN BANK, CARROLLTOWN, PA. T. A. SHARRATT, Cashier.

OWENS & MAKIN, LUTCHERS.

Pennsylvania Railroad Company. Personally-Conducted Tours.

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DR. A. IAINO, GAITHER, PA.

REED & READE, Attorneys at Law.

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