THE MESSAGE.

President McKinley's Annual Communication to Congress.

CURRENCY REFORM IS URGED.

Advises Against the Recognition of Cuba as a Belligerent.

The Financial Question Discussed at Great Length-Thinks the Secretary of the Treasury Should Be Empowered to Issue Bonds at a Lower Interest, and That Treasury Notes Redeemed in Gold Should Be Reissued Only on Payment of Gold-Says Spain Should Have If More Time in Which to Pacify Cuba -Arguments For Hawaiian Annexation-Japan's Fears Allayed-The Bimetallic Mission Abroad-The Message Also Deals With the Union Pacific Sale, the Nicaragua Canal. Relief For Alaska Gold Hunters, the Indian Question, Arbitration and Civil Service Reform - Economy Urged.

Washington, D. C. (Special) .- The message of President McKinley was received by the Fifty-fifth Congress shortly after the first regular session opened at noon, Monday.

It is one of the longest messages sent to Congress, and deals at length with the currency problem, our relations to Spain and Cuba; the annexation of Hawaii, and many other topics of government and pol-

Briefly, it points out the crying necessity of currency reform, indorses Secretary Gage's plan, maintains that United States notes redeemed in gold should not be paid out again except for gold, and that the Treasury-reserve danger should be stopped. No intervention in Cuba is the stand

taken by the President until Spain has had a chance to try Sagasta's policy. Hawaii should be annexed as soon as possible, and Congress should study out

details of administration of the islands. Our relations with Japan are friendly, and bimetallic negotiations with European

States are progressing. The Government may become a railroad owner by bidding in the Kansas Pacific.

The message is, in part, as follows: To the Senate and House of Representa-

tives: It gives me pleasure to extend greeting It gives me pleasure to extend green, to the Fifty-fifth Congress, assembled in efforts to subdue it carried destruction to the Fifty-fifth Congress, assembled in efforts to subdue it carried destruction to the Fifty-fifth Congress, assembled in efforts to subdue it carried destruction regular session at the seat of Government, every quarter of the island, developing whose Senators and Representations and defying the efforts to subdue it carried destruction regular session at the seat of Government, every quarter of the island, developing the efforts to subdue it carried destruction regular session at the seat of Government, every quarter of the island, developing the efforts to subdue it carried destruction regular session at the seat of Government, every quarter of the island, developing the efforts to subdue it carried destruction regular session at the seat of Government, every quarter of the island, developing the efforts to subdue it carried destruction regular session at the seat of Government, every quarter of the island, developing the efforts to subdue it carried destruction regular session at the seat of Government, every quarter of the island, developing the efforts to subdue it carried destruction regular session regular regular session regular session regular regular regular legislative service. Their meeting occurs under felicitous conditions, justifying sincere congratulations and calling for our large than by the Cubans. The existing grateful acknowledgement to a beneficent Providence, which has so signally blessed and prospered us as a nation. Peace and good will with all the nations of the earth continue unbroken. A earth continue unbroken. A of genuine satisfaction is the growing feeling of fraternal regard and unification of all sections of our country, the incompleteness of which has too long delayed realization of the highest blessings of the Union. The spirit of pa-triotism is universal and is ever increasing in fervor. The public questions which now most engross us are lifted far above either partisanship, prejudice or former sectional differences. They effect every part of our common country alike and permit of no division on ancient lines. Questions of foreign policy, of revenue, the soundness of the currency, the inviolability of national obligations, the improvement of the public service, appeal to the individual con-science of every earnest citizen, to what-ever party he belongs or in whatever sec-

tion of the country he may reside. The extra session of this Congress, which closed during July last, enacted important legislation, and while its full effect has not yet been realized, what it has already accomplished assures us of its timeliness and wisdom. To test its permanent value further time will be required, and the people, satisfied with its operation and results thus far, are in no mind to withhold from it a fairtiel.

Currency Revision.

Tariff legislation having been settled by the extra session of Congress, the question next pressing for consideration is that of the currency. The work of putting our finances upon a sound basis, difficult as it may seem, will appear easier when we recall the financial operations of the Government since 1866.

With the great resources of the Government and with the honorable example of the past before us, we ought not to hesitate to enter upon a currency revision which will make our demand obligations less onerous to the Government and relieve our financial laws from ambiguity and doubt. There are many plans proposed as a remedy for the evil. Before we can find the true remedy we must appreciate the real

The evil of the present system is found in the great cost to the Government of maintaining the parity of our different forms of money; that is, keeping all of them at par with gold. We surely cannot be longer heedless of the burden this improves a poor the people even under faily poses upon the people, even under fairly prosperous conditions, while the past four years have demonstrated that it is not only an expensive charge upon the Government, but a dangerous menace to the national

It is manifest that we must devise some plan to protect the Government against plan to protect the Government against bond issues for repeated redemptions. We must either curtail the opportunity for speculation, made easy by the multiplied redemptions of our demand obligations, or increase the gold reserve for their redemption. We have \$900,000,000 of currency which the Government by solemn enactment has undertaken to keep at par with gold. Nobody is obliged to redeem in gold but the Government. The banks are not required to redeem in gold. The Government is obliged to keep equal with gold all its outstanding currency and coin obligations, while its reequal with gold all its outstanding currency and coin obligations, while its receipts are not required to be paid in gold. They are paid in every kind of money but gold, and the only means by which the Government can with certainty get gold is by borrowing. It can get it in no other way when it most needs it. The Government, without any fixed gold revenue, is pledged to maintain gold redemption, which it has steadily and faithfully done, and which, under the authority now given, it will continue to do.

The Bond Issues,

The law which requires the Government, after having redeemed its United States notes to pay them out again as current funds, demands a constant replenishment of the gold reserve. This is especially so in times of business panic and when the zevenues are insufficient to meet the ex-

penses of the Government. At such times the Government has no other way to supply its deficit and maintain redemption but through the increase of its bonded debt, as during the administration of my predecessor when \$262,315,400 of 4½ per cent. bonds were issued and sold and the proceeds used to pay the expenses of the Government. With our revenues equal to our expenses there would be no deficit requiring the issuance of bonds. But if the gold reserve falls below \$100,000,000, how will it be replenished except by selling more bonds? Is there any other way practicable under existing law? existing law?

The serious question then is, shall we continue the policy that has been pursued in the past—that is, when the gold reserve reaches the point of danger, issue more bonds and supply the needed gold—or shall we provide other means to prevent these recurring drains upon the gold reserve? If no further legislation is had and the policy of selling bonds is to be continued, then Congress should give the Secretary of the Treasury authority to sell bonds at long or short periods, bearing a less rate of interest than is now authorized by law.

The Endless Chain. I earnestly recommend, as soon as the receipts of the Government are quite suffi-cient to pay all the expenses of the Gov-ernment, that when any of the United States notes are presented for redemption in gold, and are redeemed in gold, such notes shall be kept and set apart, and only paid out in exchange for gold. This is an obvious duty. If the holder of the United States note prefers the gold, and gets it from the Government, he should not receive back from the Government a United States note without paying gold in exchange for it. In my view it is of the utmost importance that the Government should be relieved from the burden of providing all the gold renment without any of the usual and necessary banking powers to help itself.

The banks do not feel the strain of gold redemption. The whole strain rests upon the Government, and the size of the gold reserve in the Treasury has come to be with or without reason, the signal of danger or of security. This ought to be

stopped.

The Secretary of the Treasury has outlined a plan in great detail for the purpose. of removing the threatened recurrence of a depleted gold reserve.

Regarding Cuba. The most important problem with which this Government is now called upon to deal pertaining to its foreign relations concerns its duty toward Spain and the Cuban insurrection. The story of Cuba for many years has been one of unrest. For no enduring period since the enfranchisement of the continental possessions of Spain in the Western Continent has the condition of

Cuba or the policy of Spain toward Cuba not caused concern to the United States. The prospect from time to time that the weakness of Spain's hold upon the island and the political vicissitudes and embarrassments of the home Government might ead to the transfer of Cuba to a Continen tal power called forth, between 1823 and 1860, various emphatic declarations of the policy of the United States to permit no disturbance of Cuba's connection with Spain, unless in the direction of independence or acquisition by as through pur-chase; nor has there been any change of this declared policy since upon the part of

the Government. The present insurrection broke out in February, 1895. It is not my purpose at this time to recall its remarkable increase or to characterize its tenacious resistance against the enormous forces massed against it by Spain. The revolt and the efforts to subdue it carried destruction to of Spain for its suppression. civilized code of war has onditions cannot but fill this Government and the American people with the greatest apprehension. There is no desire on the part of our people to profit by the misfortunes of Spain. We have only the desire to see the Cubans prosperous and contented. enjoying that measure of self-control which

is the inalienable right of man. Good Offices Refused. The offer made by my predecessor in April, 1896, tendering the friendly offices of this Government, failed. Any mediation on our part was not accepted. In brief the answer read: There is no effectual way to pacify Cuba unless it begins with the actu-al submission of the rebels to the mother country. The cruel policy of concentration was initiated February 16, 1896. The productive districts controlled by the Spanish armies were depopulated. The agricultural inhabitants were herded in and about the garrison towns, their lands laid waste and their dwellings destroyed. This policy the late Cabinet of Spain justified as a necessary measure of war, and as a means of cutting off supplies from the insurgents. It has utterly failed as a war measure. It

was not civilized warfare. It was exterminhave felt constrained on repeated occasions enter the firm and earnest protest of

this Government. The instructions given to our new Minister to Spain before his departure for his post directed him to impress upon that Government the sincere wish of the United States to lend its aid toward the ending of the war in Cuba by reaching a peaceful and lasting result, just and honorable alike to Spain and the Cuban people. It was urged that as a neighboring nation, with large interests in Cuba, we could be required to wait only a reasonable time for the mother country to establish its authority and restore peace and order within the borders of the island; that we could not contemplate an indefinite period for the accomplishment of this result,

Spain's Reply. The reply to our note was received on the 23d day of October. It is in the direction of a better understanding. It appreciates the friendly purposes of this Government. It admits that our country is deeply affect-ed by the war in Cuba, and that its desire for peace is just. It declares that the present Spanish Government is bound by every consideration to a change of policy that should satisfy the United States and pacify Cuba within a reasonable time. To this end Spain has decided to put into effect the political reforms heretofore advocated by the present Premier, without halting for any consideration in the path which in its judgment leads to peace.

which in its judgment leads to peace.

In the absence of a declaration of the measures that this Government proposes to take in carrying out its proffer of good offices, it suggests that Spain be left free to conduct military operations and grant political reforms, while the United States, for its part, shall enforce its neutral obligations and off the second of t gations and cut off the assistance which, it is asserted the insurgents receive from this

Discussion of the question of the international duties and responsibilities of the United States, as Spain understands them, United States, as Spain understands them, is presented, with the apparent disposition to charge us with failure in this regard. This charge is without any basis in fact. It could not have been made if Spain had been cognizant of the constant efforts this Government has made, at the cost of millions and by the employment of the administrative machinery of the nation at command, to perform its full duty.

Cuban Belligerency.

Of the untried measures, there remain only recognition of the insurgents as belligerents, recognition of the independence of Cuba, neutral intervention to end the war by imposing a rational compromise between the contestants and intervention in favor of one or the other party. I speak not of forcible annexation, for that cannot be thought of. That, by our code of morality, would be criminal aggression. Recognition of the belligerency of the Cuban insurgents has often been canvassed as a possible if not inevitable step. I am not Cuban Belligerency.

unmindful that the two houses of Congress in the spring of 1896 expressed the opinion, by concurrent resolution, that a condition of public war existed, requiring or justifying the recognition of a state of belliger

ency in Cuba.

In the presence of these significant expressions of the sentiment of the legislative branch, it behooves the Executive to soberly consider the conditions under which so important a measure must needs rest for justification. It is to be seriously considered whether the Cuban insurrection asses beyond dispute the attributes of Statehood, which alone can demand the recognition of belligerency in its favor.

Results of Recognition. Turning to the practical aspects of a ecognition of belligerency and viewing its inconveniences and positive dangers, still further pertinent considerations appear. The act of recognition usually takes the form of a solemn proclamation of neutrality, which recites the defacto condition of elligerency as its motive. It announces a domestic law of neutrality in the declaring State. It assumes the international obligations of a neutral in the presence

of a public state of war, It warns all citizens and others within the jurisdiction of the proclaimant that they violate these rigorous obligations at their own peril and cannot expect to be shielded from the consequences. The right legitimate consequence of a proclamation

of belligerency.

The enforcement of this enlarged and onerous code of neutrality would only be in-fluential within our own jurisdiction by land and sea, and applicable by our own instrumentalities. It could impart to the United States no jurisdiction between Spain and the insurgents. It would give required for exchanges and export. This Spain and the insurgents. It would give responsibility is alone borne by the Gov-

Recognition Unwise.

For these reasons, I regard the recogniion of the belligerency of the Cuban insurgents as now unwise and therefore inad-missible. Should that step hereafter be deemed wise as a measure of right and duty, the Executive will take it.

Intervention upon humanitarian grounds has been frequently suggested and has not failed to receive my most anxious and earnest consideration. But should such a step be now taken, when it is apparent that a hopeful change has supervened in the pol-icy of Spain toward Cuba?

Under the new military commander a broad clemency is proffered. Measures have already been set on foot to relieve the horrors of starvation. The power of the Spanish armies, it is asserted, is to be used, not to spread ruin and desolation, but to protect the resumption of peaceful agricultural pursuits and productive industries.

Spain to Have More Time. It is honestly due to Spain and to our friendly relations with Spain that she should be given a reasonable chance to realize her expectatins. She has recalled the ommander who is brutal orders inflamed the American mind and shocked the civilized world. She has modified the horrible order of concentration, and has undertaken to care for the helpless and permit those who desire to resume the cultivation of their fields to do so, and assures them of the protection of the Spanish Government in their law-ful occupations. She has just released the Competitor prisoners, heretofore sentenced to death, and who have been the subject repeated diplomatic correspondence during both this and the preceding Administrations. Not a single American cit-izen is now in arrest or confinement in Cuba of whom this Government has any knowledge.

The near future will demonstrate whether the indispensable condition of a righteous peace, just alike to the Cubans and to Spain as well, equitable to all our interests so intimately involved in the welfare of Cuba, is likely to be attained. If not, the exigency of further and other action by the States will remain to be taken. When that time comes that action will be determined in the line of indisputable right and duty. It will be faced, without misgiving or hesitancy, in the light of the obligation this Government owes to itself, to the people who have confided to it the protec of their interests and honor, and to humanity.

Hawaiian Annexation. By a special message dated the 16th day of June last I laid before the Senate a treaty signed that day by the plenipotenti aries of the United States and of the Republic of Hawaii, having for its purpose the incorporation of the Hawaiian Islands as an integral part of the United States and under its sovereignty. The Senate having removed the injunction of secrecy, although the treaty is still pending before that body, the subject may be properly referred to in this message, because the necessary action of the Congress is required to determine by

legislation many details of the eventual union, should the fact of annexation be acolished, as I believe it should. While constantly disavowing from a very early period any aggressive policy of absorption in regard to the Hawaiian group, ong series of declarations through three quarters of a century has proclaimed the vital interest of the United States in the independent life of the islands and their in-tercommercial dependence upon this country. At the same time it has been repeatedly asserted that in no event could the en tity of Hawaiian Statehood cease by the passage of the islands under the do tion or influence of another power than the United States. Under these circumstances the logic of events required that annexation, heretofore offered but declined, should in the ripeness of time come about as the natural result of the strengthening ties that bind us to those islands, and be realized by the free will of the Hawaiian State. That treaty was unanimously rati-fied, without amendment, by the Senate fled, without amendment, by the Senate and President of the Republic of Hawaii en the 10th of September last, and only awaits

slands into the domain of the United

the favorable action of the American Senate

to effect the complete absorption of the

The questions which have arisen between Japan and Hawaii by reason of the treatment of Japanese laborers emigrating to the islands under the Hawaiian-Japanese convention are in a satisfactory stage of settlement by negotiation.

Micaragua Canal. A subject of large importance to our country and increasing appreciation on the part of the people is the completion of the great his hway of trade between the Atlantic and Pacific, known as the Nicar-agua Canal. Its utility and value to American commerce is universally admitted. The commission appointed under date of July 24 last "to continue the surveys and examinations authorized by the act approved March 2, 1895," in regard to "the proper route, feasibility and cost of construction of the Nicaragua Canal, with a view of making complete plans for the entire work of construction of such canal," is now employed in the undertak-

Under the provisions of the act of Con-ress, approved March 3, 1897, for the progress, approved March 3, 1897, for the promotion of an international agreement respecting bimetallism, I appointed on the 14th day of April, 1897, the Hon. Edward O. 14th day of April, 1897, the Hon. Edward O. Wolcott, of Colorado, the Hon. Adiai E. Stevenson, of Illinois, and the Hon. Charles J. Paine, of Massachusetts, as special envoys to represent the United States. They have been diligent in their efforts to secure the concurrence and cc-operation of European countries in the international settlement of the question, but up to this time have not been able to secure an agreement contemplated by their mission.

Our special envoys have not made their final report, as further negotiations between the representatives of this Government and the Governments of other coun-

tries are pending and in contemplation. They believe that the doubts which have been raised in certain quarters respecting the possibility of maintaining the stability of the parity between the metals and kindred questions may yet be solved by further negotiations.

For Reciprocity.

In order to execute as early as possible the provisions of the third and fourth sections of the Revenue act, approved July 24, 1897, I appointed the Hon. John A. Kasson, of Iowa, a Special Commissioner Pienipo-tentiary to undertake the requisite negotiations with foreign countries desiring to avail themselves of these provisions. The negotiations are now proceeding with several Governments, both European and

About the Seals. The efforts which had been made during the two previous years by my predecessor to secure better protection to the fur seals in the North Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea were renewed at an early date by this administration, and have been pursued with earnestness. Upon my invitation the Gov-ernments of Japan and Russia sent delsgates to Washington, and an international conference was held. The Government of Great Britain did not

ee proper to be represented at this conference, but subsequently sent to Washington as delegates the expert Commissioners of Great Britain and Canada, who had during the past two years visited the Pribylov Isl. ands, and who met in conference similar Commissioners on the part of the United States. The result of this conference was an agreement on important facts connected with the condition of the seal herd, heretofore in dispute, which should place beyond controversy the duty of the Governments concerned to adopt measures without de-lay for the preservation and restoration of the herd.

For Arbitration.

International arbitration cannot be mitted from the list of subjects claiming our consideration. Events have only erved to strengthen the general views on this question expressed in my inaugural address. The best sentiment of the civilized world is moving toward the settle-ment of differences between nations without resorting to the horrors of war.

Needs of the Navy.

The great increase of the navy, which has taken place in recent years, was justifled by the requirements for national defense, and has received public approbation. The time has now arrived, however, when this increase, to which the country is committed, should, for a time, take the form of increased facilities commensu-rate with the increase of our naval ves-It is an unfoutunate fact there is only one dock on the Pacific coast capable of docking our largest ships, and only one on the Atlantic coast, and that the latter has for the last six or seven months been under repair and, therefore, incapable of use. steps should be taken to provide three or

coast, at least one for the Pacific coast and a floating dock in the Gulf. As there are now on the stocks five battle-ships of the largest class which cannot be completed for a year or two, I concur with the recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy for an appropriation authorizing the construction of one battleship for the Pacific coast; and also that several torpedo boats be authorized in connection with our general system of coast defence.

four docks of this capacity on the Atlantic

Alaskan Government. The Territory of Alaska requires the prompt and early attention of Congress. The conditions now existing demand material changes in the laws regarding the Territory. The great influx of population in the spring will not permit us to longerneglect the extension of civil authority within the Territory or postpone the establishment

of a more thorough government.
The startling, though possibly exaggerated, reports from the Yukon River cour try of the probable shortage of food for the large number of people who are wintering there without the means of leaving the ountry are confirmed in such measure as to justify bringing the matter to the attention of Congress. Should these reports of the suffering of our fellow citizens be further verified, every effort at any cost should be made to carry them relief

The Dawes Commission.

By section 16 of the act of March 3, 1893. he President was authorized to appoint three commissioners to enter into negotia-tions with the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Muscogee (or Creek) and Seminole nations, commonly known as the five civilzed tribes in this Indian Territory.

The provision in the Indian appropriation act, approved June 10, 1896, makes it the duty of the commission to investigate and determine the rights of applicants for citizenship in the five civilized tribes, and to make complete census rolls of the citizens of said tribes. The commission is at present engaged in this work.

Yellow Fever Scourge.

The recent prevalence of vellow fever in number of cities and towns throughout the South has resulted in much disturb ance of commerce and demonstrated the necessity of such amendments to our quarantine laws as will make the regulations of the national quarantine authorities paramount. Union Pacific Sale.

The Union Pacific Railway, main line, was sold under the decree of the United States Court for the District of Nebraska on November 1 and 2 of this year. The amount due the Government consisted of the prin-cipal of the subsidy bonds, \$27,236,512, and he accrued interest thereon, \$31,211,711.75,

making the total indebtedness \$58,448,-233.75. The bid at the sale covered the first mortgage lien and the entire mortgage claim of the Government, principal and The sale of the subsidized portion of the Kansas Pacific line, upon which the Gov-ernment holds a second mortgage lien, has been postponed at the instance of the Gov-ernment to December 16, 1897. By the de-

cree of the court the upset price on the sale of the Kansas Pacific will yield to the Government the sum of \$2,500,000 over all prior liens, costs and charges.

In so important a matter as the Govern ment becoming the possible owner of rail-road property, I feel constrained to lay before Congress these facts for its considera-tion before the consummation of the sale It is clear to my mind that the Governs

should not permit the property to be sold at a price which will yield less than one-half of the principal of its debt, or less than one-fifth of its entire debt, principal and interest. But whether the Government, rather than accept less than its claim, should become a bidder, and thereby the owner of the property, I submit to the Congress for action

During the past few months the Civil Service has been placed upon a still firmer basis of business methods and personal basis of business methods and personal merit. While the right of our veteran solders to reinstatement in deserving cases has been asserted, dismissals for merely political reasons have been carefully guarded against, the examination for admittance to the service enlarged, and at the same time rendered less technical and more practical; and a distinct advance has been made by giving a hearing before disbeen made by giving a hearing before dis-missal upon all cases where incompetency is charged or demand made for the removal of officials in any of the departments.

Economy Urged. Economy Urged.

The estimates of the expenses of the Government by the several departments will, I am sure, have your careful scrutiny. While the Congress may not find it an easy task to reduce the expenses of the Government, it should not encourage their increase. These expenses will, in my judgment, admit of a decrease in many branches of the Government without injury to the public service. It is a commanding duty to keep the appropriations within the receipts of the Government, and thus avoid a defisit.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

Executive Mansion, December 6, 1897. THE KEYSTONE STAT

Latest News Gleaned fre Various Parts.

PROSPERITY SMILE

Busy Hum of Industry Heard in Schuylkili Valley-Clergyman Who w Robbed Scores Pittsburg Police-Mi Pardee Prevented Linemen from Spoing Trees-Letter to Fishermen.

A party of linemen met an unexpected of stacle in Miss Edith Pardee when they at tempted to mutilate some fine shade trees front of the Pardee residence on West Broa Street, Hazieton. These trees are especially dear to the Pardee family because they were clanted forty years ago by Ario Pardee, the under of Pardee Hall at Lafayette College.

Some of the branches were in the way of the wires and the men began to cut them. When Miss Pardee perceived this she called out to them from a second-story window to stop. They refused to do so, but the next moment the lineman who had made the refusal found himself looking into the barrel of a small pearl-handled pistol held by Miss

"Stop cutting those trees at once," said Miss Pardee, "or you'll get hurt!"

"Oh, certainly," replied the lineman, and he siid down from his perch in a hurry. At last accounts no further spoliation of the trees had been attempted.

President E. S. Harris, of the Shad Fisherien's Protective Association of Salem and Gioucester Counties, has issued the following letter to his associates:

"The time is near at hand when we should concentrate our forces and place our men in position where they will do the most effective service for the cause which they represent. It will soon be time for the Legislature to convene again and we do not know what kind of bills may be introduced by the Up-River fishermen that will injure the fishrmen in the lower end of the State. The only sensible thing for us to do is to be united and watch carefully everything that would interfere with our business and do all we can for the protection of our interests."

Burglars made a clean sweep at Scalp evel, the victims being the Government, Jacob Fox, a butcher, and James Cassidy, a eweler. The postoffice was stripped of all the stamps and money in it, while jewelry and money to the amount of \$300 was stolen from the other places. There is no clue.

The Mountain Coal Company has just begun the development of a large tract of coal land a few miles from Johnstown, and has laid the foundation for two mines that promise to become quite a factor in the coal trade of the western part of the State. A railroad track is being constructed to the new fields.

Freight No. 64, going east on the Pittsburg & Erie Railroad, attempted to make a flying switch, throwing cars on the main and side tracks. Traffic was delayed about three hours, and a brakeman, who jumped from the top of a box car, was badly in-

While the family of John Cligerman, of Rush Township, Northumberland County, home his barn wa stroyed by fire. The stock was saved, but all other of the contents lost. It is not known how the fire originated. It was in-

The Schuylkill Valley is at present enjoying a season of prosperity such as it has not seen for a long time, there being but a few die industries. On the Philadelphia & Reading Railway, crews are working night and day, and it is even then impossible to move the vast amount of freight and coal as

The company is hiring men daily, but the demand for power to move the trains is so great that crews are often compelled to wait for hours before they can secure an engine, The increased coal traffic and the severity of the weather has necessitated the shortening of trains and the employment of more crews.

Rev. C. H. Fitzwilliam, whose house was robbed while he was preaching at the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, Pittsburg, retailated by hurling a withering denunciation at the police department from his pulpit.

The minister singled out Superintendent Leslie and Inspector Bradley for special denunciation. H; said that more policemen were needed and declared that politics made the police department ineffective.

A well-known lawyer states that he has been told on different occasions that one o the jurors in the Wilson and Farrell murder case, has said, since the men have been convicted of murder in the first degree and sentenced to hang at Altoona, that he always wanted to see a hanging and did not believe the men were guilty.

District Attorney Hammond has instituted an investigation and if it is proved that the juror made the remarks attributed to him, the convicted murderers will undoubtedly get a new trial.

A JAPANESE HINT.

Minister Hoshi Says There May Be Se ious Trouble Over Hawaii.

Mr. Hoshi, the Japanese minister to the United States has arrived in San Francisco on the steamer City of Pekin. He was accompanied by his secretary only. The two left immediately for Washington, after an inspection of the warship now building for the Japanese government.

"Japan is emphatically opposed to the annexation of Hawali by the United States, Minister Hosbi said. "There may be serious trouble if the United States takes the islands without provision being made for caring for "Japan does not want the Hawaiian Is-

ands annexed, notwithstanding telegrams purporting to come from my country. We have claims against Hawaii which must be respected by the United States. We have a treaty with Hawaii respecting the importation of laborers and of the products necessary for their maintenance. Hawaii violated that treaty by deporting some laborers, and again violated it when the Hawalian governmen imposed a special tax on importations which we sent to the islands.

"We will insist that our claims against the slands be respected. I have my instructions as to what course to pursue in the event that the islands are annexed, but of ourse I will refrain from disclosing them.

"The reports of strained relations between Secretary Sherman and myself or any of the officials in Washington," Mr. Hoshi contin-ued are untrue. The most amicable feeling exists among us. The report that I was re-called was also untrue, for I went to Japan on leave of absence and also to get instructions regarding my action during the

SENATE AND HOUSE BILLS

Mr. Hale's Mearures for Dry Docks and Additional War Craft.

A flood of bills and joint resolutions have been introduced in the Senate, Mr. Morrill, the venerable Senator from Vermont, having the distinction of introducing the first, providing for the "gilding of the statue of Liberty on the dome of the Capitol." Among the bills introduced, the greater number of which were pension bills, was one by Sensor Quay, of Pennsylvania, for the relief of the children of a soldier of the revolution.

Senator McBride introduced a bill authorizing the Dyea-Klondyke Transportation Company to locate and construct a line of transportation from Dyea to Lake Bennett, the line to consist of rallways, aerial tramways, or wagon roads as the company may deem proper. The bill grants 100 feet on each side of the proposed road as right of way; also a bill granting a similar right of way to the Skaguay and Lake Bennett Tramway Company, from Skaguay over the White Pass to the boundary line of northwest territory, on the Skaguay trail.

Senator Nelson introduced a bill amending the national banking laws, Senator Mason to establish a postal savings bank ystem. This is known as the Chicago cord's bill.

Senator Hoar a bill providing that the erson bringing a suit in a United States ourt shall not afterwards be allowed to lestion the jurisdiction of the court.

Senator Hale a bill for the construction of ry docks at Portsmouth, N. H.; Boston, ass.; Algiers, La., and Mare Island, Cal., and for the enlargement of the Brooklyn, sague Island, and Norfolk docks, the appropriation for Portsmouth being \$1,000,000; estop, \$1,350,000; Algiers, \$500,000; Mare Is and, \$500,000; Brooklyn, \$286,556; League Island, \$286,556, and for Norfolk, \$160,000. Senator McMillan introduced a bill for the astruction of a gunboat on the great lakes. to take the place of the United States stea-

ner Michigan, at a cost of \$230,000. Senator Hale also introduced a bill to inease the naval establishment by the addion of a first-class sea going coast line batesalp, at a cost not to exceed \$3.750,000; ix sea going torpedo boats of 175 tons disacement, at a cost of \$1,125,000; three toredd boats of greater speed, \$900,000; it is rovided that the battleship shall be primrily for coast defense, and that it shall arry the heaviest armor and most powerful rdnance, and that it shall have a displaceent of 11,500 tons.

Senator Wilson offered a bill to divide the ate of Washington into judicial districts. Senator Butler introduced an amendment the postal savings bank bill providing for the introduction of savings banks, at the begianing in first, second, and third-class postoffices only, and also suggesting various

other changes. in the House Representative Sperry introduced a bill appropriating \$100,000 for the maintenance of the improvements on the Connecticut River below Hartford, in acdance with the recommendations of the Comps of Engineers, United States Army; for \$10,000 for the further improvement onnecticut River.

spresentative Curtis, of Kansas, reintroed his bill "for the protection of the peoof the Indian Territory," with some ification from the original bill, which sed the House at the last session. It is ned to settle disturbed conditions in Perritory, and to provide for the laying out of towns for the allotment of lands in the tribes, the leasing of coal and other min-The principal change made from the original billi s the omission of the provision for the extension of the jurisdiction of the United

resentative Acheson, of Pennsylvania, d a bill for employment of letter-carat every postoffice which produced a revenue for the preceding fiscal year of not less than \$1,000. Representative Brownlow of Tennessee, a bill to establish unifo rmity as to proof of marriage in pen-

CRASH ON ICY RAILS.

Three Men Killed in a Trolley Line Collision in Detroit.

spatch from Detroit, Mich., savs: Two suburban cars, carrying some twenty ers, and both running at a speed of DARRES five miles an hour, collided on the twenty Detroit and Oakland Electric Railroad at one o'clock in the afternoon. The result was that three men were instantly killed and a score of persons injured, ten of them serious

The e cact dause of the accident is as yet in doubt. President Hendrie, of the Detroit and Oak land Railroad, said that the responsibility for the disaster has not been fixed. ng to the schedule a car leaves each end, Det roit and Pontiac, every hour, and there are three sidings along the road. The cars we're behind time. The one bound southward for Detroit had passed an outbound car at the switch two miles from Pontiac. the drew apparently being ignorant of the fact that another southbound car was approaching them less than two miles distant, although it is claimed that they should have known it from orders sent from Birmingham. The weather was foggy and the rails slippery from the sleet which had been falling

sion came neara gravel pit, about midway between Pontiac and Birmingham, at the foct of two steep grades, down which the fated e ars rushed at full speed. The impact was terrific. The cars were driven half through each other and crushed to pieces. Superintendent Savage was in the motorman's vestionic operating the outbound car. Both his legs were cut off and his dead body was frightfully mangled.

Motorman Mchiugh, who stood behind

Motorman Mchlugh, who stood behind Savage, narrowly escaped a similar fate. John Kelly was evidently the only passenger who saw the morthbound car approaching. He rushed for the vestibule door, and he and Motorman Whitehead were struggling together to get out of the door when the crash carne. Hoth were killed. Kelly's head and shoulders were jammed out of the vestibule window and his neck was broken. Whitehead's head was cut open, and his chest crushed.

chest crushed

Last February the receivers of the Balti-more and Ohio Rail road Company decided to adopt the double conductor system for all excursion trains in order to reduce to a minimum the chance minimum the chances of an accident. One conductor under this plan is given entire charge of the running of the train, while the other attends to the tickets and the comthe other attends to the tickets and the comfort of the passen gers. The experiment proved successful during the travel to and from the inauguration of President McKinley, but during the past two or three months it has been thoroughly demonstrated that its adoption was very wise. From September 4th to November 28th inclusive the B. & O. handled 80,000 people on Sunday excursions between Philiadephia, Baltimore, Washington and Atlantic City, and existents. sions between Philiadephia, Baltimore, Washington and Atlantic City, and owing to the care taken in the mandling of the trains not a single passenger was killed or injur-ed. Fourteen thousand of this number were handled on Samember 4th.