

Mulhall estimates that the civilized Nations pay annually \$13,700,000,000 for food.

The Slaughter family, of Texas, are said to be the most extensive land owners in America, their combined holdings amounting to 500,000 acres.

Fatness in women is regarded as a mark of beauty in the Orient. Since their advent in the World's Fair grounds as sedan-chair carriers, the Turks have had a good deal to do with fat women, and the Argonaut avers that they have revised their esthetics.

Joint-stock farming, by which larger agricultural operations can be carried on under one management than is possible for the single-handed farmer, will probably be one of the future developments of our agricultural system. This is a practical way of reducing the cost of production.

An aerial electric railway, invented by Albert Leslie Widdis, of Detroit, is expected to perform wonders. The owner claims that it will send cars whizzing through space at the rate of 500 miles an hour! Think of it, exclaims the New York Ledger, a letter mailed in Chicago will reach New York in two hours!

Observes the Detroit Free Press: "There is a certain amount of scientific interest in knowing that it is not the high temperature that makes the people uncomfortable, but the humidity which with the air is charged. But unfortunately the scientific fact does not lessen the suffering. One is just as hot after finding it out as when he was in total ignorance on the point."

France is soon to adopt an interesting innovation in the postal-card system, announces the Argonaut. The cards will be issued in the form of check-books, with stubs. The sender of the postal card can make memoranda of its contents on the stub, and can have this stamped at the postoffice before the card is detached, so that a verified record of the correspondence can be kept.

At the moment when horses have taken a back seat in this country camels have come to the fore in Australia. It is said that five lines of traffic have been already opened up and are in regular operation there. Two thousand camels are in use daily. It is not necessary to carry any food for these animals, as they are able to subsist on the coarse grass and shrubs where horses or bullocks would starve.

Statistics concerning the failures of farmers in the first six months of 1893 throw bright lights on the present depression of agriculture in England. From last January 1 to last July 1 the number of failures among farmers has been forty per cent. larger than in the corresponding months of last year. In England and Wales more than 16,000 persons engaged in agriculture are living in sheds, barns, tents, vans and in the open fields. Thousands of unemployed agricultural laborers are hovering on the outskirts of London. In the same volume of statistics 52,484 persons are reported to be living now on coasting merchant vessels and inland barges.

Evidence of the most direct variety places the blame for the destruction of the British battle ship Victoria on the Admiral who went down with his ship, states the Washington Star. All the witnesses who testified before the court-martial at Valetta agree on that and every other material point and two of the officers heard Sir George Tryon confess the responsibility. In all great catastrophes there is generally an effort made to place the burden on a corpse, and when Admiral Tryon was first declared guilty many people imagined that the accusation was due almost entirely to the fact that he was dead and could not, therefore, defend himself, but it is now certain that he blundered and did so with persistence that brooked no interference.

It is satisfactory to the Scientific American to learn that the gentlemen who have urged the New York botanical garden project are nearly now in a condition financially able to begin actual preliminary work near the Bronx River. At least the sum of \$215,000 has been received. There are several large subscriptions yet expected from wealthy citizens, and when these are received it is probable the general public will be asked to contribute. There will be no pains or expense spared to make the garden worthy of the State and of the Nation. Kew Garden is the model which the far-seeing men who have undertaken the charge of this enterprise have in view, and there is every reason to believe that their efforts will be crowned with success.

The silver producing States number a population but little more than one per cent. the total of the United States.

A new order of things has lately come about in Siam, and the young men are getting a great and unusual share in the government of the country. From the King downward there is scarcely a single minister who is above the age of forty, and many are much younger.

The pure Arab horse is now being largely used in England to invigorate the race horse, the hunter and the carriage horse. He is also used for the production of the best class of polo ponies by being matched with small Exmoor and Welsh mares. In those districts where he is obtainable he is in great demand by the breeders.

Not the least interesting portion of the newspapers of New York, to the San Francisco Argonaut, is that which describes the efforts of the benevolent to better the condition of the women and children of the poor. In New York, before there were any such excursions, the mortality among the children of the working-class was enormous. It has been greatly reduced since they came into vogue.

The New York News thinks it is worthy of more than passing notice when the speed record of the bicycle reaches the astonishing pace of over 428 miles in twenty-four hours. This performance, achieved in London, surpasses the distance covered in the first six days go-as-you-please pedestrian race in New York City. The simple two-wheel contrivance has thus enabled man to travel as far in a day as his legs alone would take him in a week.

When Buffalo Bill's Indians get through their work, in Chicago in the afternoon, they like nothing better than to repair to a merry-go-round near the camp and revolve to the music of a bad hand-organ. The passer-by stops to see the show, for the bucks and squaws are in their full panoply of feathers and paint. Most people would get enough fun by riding horseback three or four hours every day without wanting to ride on wooden horses afterward; but, then, you see, real horses have no hand-organ attachments.

In other days the great area called Okefokooke Swamp in Southern Georgia was looked upon as utterly reclaimable and worthless. It was lately sold by the State for sixteen cents per acre and an enterprising company of lumbermen has penetrated the supposed swamp and found it to be a small inland sea with rich islands. It is strange, muses the New York News, that this mystery was not developed long ago. Many a time the old wildcat banking system was satirized by bogus issues of the "Bank of Okefokooke."

Doctor Edward Everett Hale has not much patience with the idea that a clergyman must work six days over a sermon. He says: "A sermon consists of about 2500 words. I take a cup of coffee before breakfast and write about six pages—that is, 650 words. In the morning I dictate to my amanuensis 1500 words. I am intensely interested in the subject, and this takes only a quarter of an hour. In the afternoon I look it over and add 500 or 600 words, and the sermon is done. In all, I haven't put my hand for over two hours to paper."

Says the Chicago Herald: "Secretary of State Walter Q. Gresham, will go down to history as the first member of the Cabinet who became acting President in consequence of the inability of both the President and Vice-President. On the same day in July President Cleveland and Vice-President Stevenson were both out of the country. Mr. Cleveland was on board the yacht Oneida, sailing out to find deep sea fishing off the coast of Massachusetts. Mr. Stevenson was on the steamer Corona, taking a Pacific Ocean voyage from San Diego to Santa Barbara, Cal. Both were more than three marine leagues, or say, ten and a half miles, from shore, which is the limit of the jurisdiction of the United States. It cannot be said they were the same as on United States soil, being on United States vessels and under the United States flag; for, if being on such a craft was the same as being on the land, they might have sailed around the world, claiming to be all the time in the United States. Perhaps Mr. Gresham did not assume the duties of acting President, but that he was the legal acting President while Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Stevenson both were ten and a half miles from shore does not admit of a doubt."

## A LAND IN MINIATURE. BRITISH GUIANA'S EXHIBITS AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

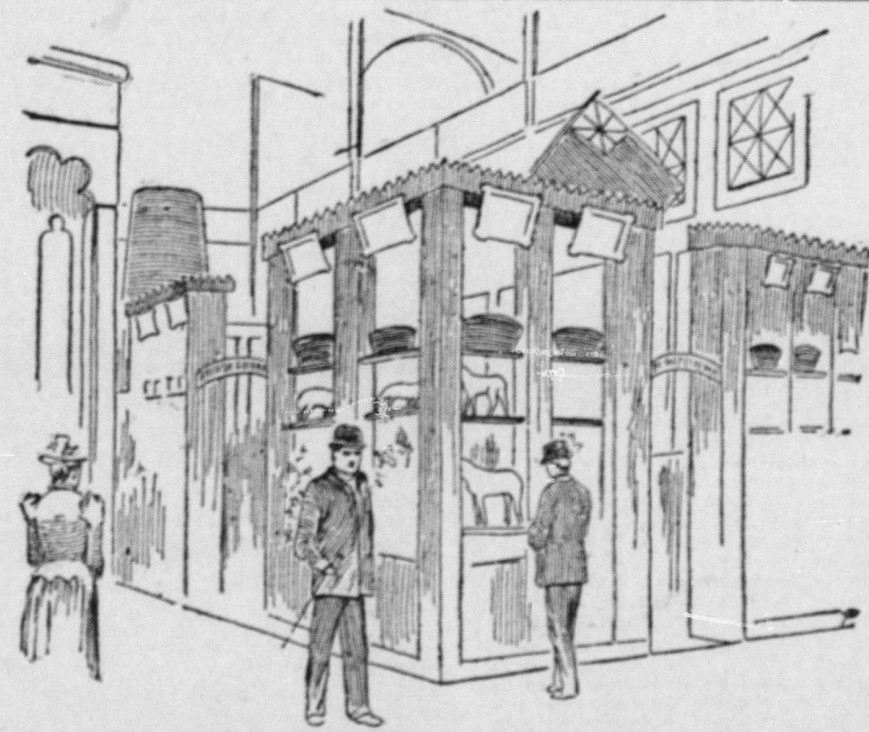
The Products of Her Plantations, Gold Fields, Tangled Jungles and Rich Forests—Best of All Trees—Triumphs of the Taxidermist's Art—Beautiful Feather Work.

It had the privilege of seeing only one World's Fair department, said a gentleman, I would choose the agricultural. In no other building can one come so near the people of other lands. In the Agriculture Building you are close to the soil, to that which gives sustenance. As a matter of course, the life, the customs of the people are shown in a more direct way. The Agriculture Building is the place to study the world as the world is.

The speaker must have been in the British Guiana exhibit, for he speaks of the products and probabilities of that land which Columbus saw in 1498 when he entered the Gulf of Paria, are placed in such shape that an hour gives one an intimate knowledge of the interesting country. It is the products of the gold fields, the Indian plant of the gold rivers, Essequibo, Mazaruni and Guyanini. With an active brain, an intelligent comprehension of what a visitor wants to know and a thorough knowledge of his subject, the little riverman, true to his calling, pilots his guests all over British Guiana, through sugar plantations and gold fields, tangled jungles and grand forests, giving an object lesson at every step.

Triumphs of the taxidermist's art are the stuffed fauna of British Guiana, which are mounted under the roof of the Agriculture Building. The most conspicuous group is a tapir with jaguar's claws and teeth in its thick skin. Three varieties of anteaters are shown. One, a tree-climber, is no larger than a fox squirrel, another is about the size of a dog and the ant bear, or great anteater, twice as large, with bushy tail, coarse long hair and a long snout. Then there are ocelots, wicked-looking wildcats, graceful, slim-limbed wood deer, coarsely, huge tortoise and snakes as natural as life, placed in attitudes of arrested motion which tell of the jungles and trackless forests that extend back from the towns and clearings near the coast.

They are interesting, but apparently do not attract as much attention as the nine gilded pyramids which represent the output of gold since 1864. People gaze upon the pyramids with renewed interest when they learn that Sir Walter Raleigh believed the reports of the Spaniards, sailed up the Orinoco River in 1595, and the next year sent Captain Keymis to hunt for the "richest country in the world." It was not until 1880, however, that placer washing really amounted to anything in British Guiana. It began in the Puruni River, a branch of the Mazaruni. Four years later the Government took official cognizance of the gold washing and imposed a royalty on the gold obtained.



BRITISH GUIANA SECTION, AGRICULTURE BUILDING.

which amounted in that year to 250 ounces. This is represented by the smaller pyramids. The next year gave 939 ounces. In 1886 the output jumped up to 6518 ounces, and every year thereafter the gold product almost doubled, until in 1892 it amounted to 129,415 ounces. Nuggets and dust are exhibited from the Puruni washings, Groote Creek, the districts of Demerara, Essequibo and other gold-bearing. So rapidly is the gold industry developing that a railroad connecting the Essequibo and Demerara Rivers is to be built for transporting the product to the coast.

British Guiana has but one railroad, a short coast line connecting Georgetown, the metropolis of the country, with Mahaica, twenty miles distant. Lines of steamers, however, ply the rivers, and ferry steamers are numerous. Logs and large timber are transported in a manner peculiar to the country. Instead of being rafted down the rivers the logs are slung in the water on either side of a punt, much after the manner of loading a pack mule. A model of one of these log-laden punts is one of the prominent exhibits. The punt is shaped somewhat like an Ohio River coal barge, only narrower. It is a house boat in which hamper are slung, for the Indian families often live on these punts. The craft is steered by a long sweep and carries a surprising amount of timber. The logs lie on outriggers of wood, which extend on either side twice the width of the punt.

British Guiana is rich in woods. The fact is proved beyond peradventure by the variety of forest products which are shown. Huge timbers form a gigantic fence around the section, and hundreds of polished squares are arranged in a separate exhibit. Pilot Daniels tapped the round trunk of the ets palm almost to the heart of the tree, the virtue of the "best of all trees." The ets palm gave food, shelter, clothing and drink to the native Indians, and the arts of civilization made it a great commercial product. Its nuts are edible, and the tender shoots or palm-tops which grow from the crown are esteemed as delicacies and preserved in sirup and as pickles. Its fiber, originally woven into ropes and cloth, makes mats and hammocks. Its oil is used for medicine and cooking and its sap or milk, which flows readily when the tree is gashed, is caught in calabashes, and, after fermentation, drunk as a wine.

The woods exhibited embrace some of the hardest and heaviest in the world. They vary in color from nearly black through the browns to almost pure white. Perhaps the most singular is the mottled "letter wood," which resembles closely the snakewood of East India. Its dark markings across the grain look like irregularly formed letters. It is the heart of a tree, rarely exceeding six inches in diameter, although the tree is sometimes two feet across. Taking a very high polish, it is largely used for walking canes and for inland work. The greenheart, from which the quinine of British Guiana is taken, is a dense, heavy timber of a greenish yellow color, almost entirely free from knots and even grain. It ranks with oak and teak for ship building, and is used all through the country for building the houses of the people. Mora is a reddish-brown wood, not so heavy as greenheart, but like greenheart is procurable in logs of sixty to eighty feet long and up to two feet in diameter. Wallaba is dark crimson in color, and makes the finest small wood for carving. As a ship's wood, it is easily split, and is also used for piling and vat staves. The

ing rain-water is a necessity in British Guiana, the wallaba is indispensable. Its fame as a water-carrier extends to the West Indies, for in 1891 nearly 5,500,000 wallaba shingles were shipped to the islands.

To the Indians the cassava dominates all trees and shrubs. From its poisonous root the bread of the family is prepared. The root is grated, and the pulp, having been squeezed dry in what is called the "matappe," is placed on the "barbacoa," or shelf, over the fireplace, until the poisonous juice is evaporated. It is then baked in a flat iron dish to form a kind of pancake or flap-jack. The cassava bread is kept from envious hands in a showcase in the exhibit, with several cases of rum—the value of the poison having first been expelled by evaporation, the juice is turned into a dark brown molasses like extract called "cassareep," which with fresh peppers, forms the basis of a most delicious soup. The cassava is cultivated by the Indians with little trouble. It is raised in fields and grows about ten feet high. After the roots are out about the stalk is cut into pieces from twelve to eighteen inches long, and in three or four days the cuttings sprout and in seven or nine months are ready to be rooted out again. The cassava field is generally some distance from the "renah," or house, but that of the native, in a clearing of the forest.

Naturally sugar, which is the principal export of the colony, forms an important factor in the exhibits. In 1891 over 105,000 tons were shipped out of the country, more than half coming to this country. With its by-product rum, which is a very superior quality and rich flavor. All grades of sugar are shown, with photographs of mills and plantations. The preserved fruit exhibit is closely connected with the sugars. Large glass jars containing tempting samples of jams, preserves and marmalades are arranged in tiers, showing preserved guava, Seville oranges, pineapples, tamarinds, limes, cassareep and Demerara pickles or painettes.

Milliners and young women addicted to wearing plumage on their hats crowd around the cases containing the birds of the country. The king hummingbird, purple-breasted colinids, pampodour colinids, fire birds and other tropical songless birds, well known in the sugar markets of the world, and it is claimed that they are of a very superior quality and rich flavor. All grades of sugar are shown, with photographs of mills and plantations. The preserved fruit exhibit is closely connected with the sugars. Large glass jars containing tempting samples of jams, preserves and marmalades are arranged in tiers, showing preserved guava, Seville oranges, pineapples, tamarinds, limes, cassareep and Demerara pickles or painettes.

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Woman's work is seen in the necklaces and purses made from the seeds of a grass called "Job's tears," which look like miniature robin's eggs, and from the flat, glossy black seed of the Brazil nut. In the same case with them are beautiful baskets and fans made from corn husks and the fibers of the Spanish needle plant. Beautiful feather work is shown and many women sigh with disappointment when they are told that the carved calabashes are not for sale.

## THE NEWS EPITOMIZED.

### Eastern and Middle States.

Snowbirds a foot deep are reported in Northeastern Massachusetts.

POSTMASTER JANTON, of New York City, appointed General Fitz John Porter cashier in the postoffice. He lives in New Jersey. The place is worth \$2500.

H. L. HOTCHKISS & Co., bankers and brokers, of New York City, assigned, with liabilities of \$800,000.

ROBERT H. COLEMAN, the iron millionaire of Lebanon, Penn., has executed a deed of assignment. His liabilities are between four and five millions.

MRS. CATHERINE GOMAN was caught in a folding bed and slowly burned to death. She was cleaning the article with naphtha in one hand and a lighted candle in the other. A woman and a child were also badly burned.

JOHN H. MEINER shot and killed his wife at Brooklyn, N. Y., then shot himself and hanged himself with a clothes line.

PATRICK EGAN, Minister to Chile under President Harrison, arrived at New York. He remained in the city for a few days and then went to his home in Nebraska.

EDITH FLAY, Lizzie Pond and Ella Johnson, ten, eleven and seventeen years old, were drowned in Newark Bay, at Bayonne, N. J., while bathing.

The body of Vincenzo Cagliostro, a passenger on the Karamania, and first known to have died from Asiatic cholera at the Port of New York this year, was cremated at Swinburne Island, where he had been isolated. Two new cases were reported in the lower bay.

SOUTH AND WEST. DIRECTOR HOLDEN, of the Lick Observatory, California, telegraphed that photographs were taken showing objects like a comet on the sun's face.

THE TOWN OF SNOW HILL, Md., has been burned. Only two stores and a few dwellings were saved. The loss is about \$300,000.

CLOUDBUSTS and floods did much damage to roads in the West; travel on some roads was interrupted for several days.

SEVERE earthquake shocks were felt in San Francisco and other California cities.

THE resignation of Theodore Thomas as musical director of the World's Fair, which was tendered the Board of Directors a few days ago, has been accepted.

THE American National Bank of Nashville, Tenn., suspended payment.

LAWRENCE T. NEAL was nominated for Governor by the Democrats of Ohio.

SOLDIERS at Coal Creek, Tenn., lynched a man suspected of murdering one of their comrades.

WASHINGTON. To meet the continually increasing demand for National bank notes from banks which are taking advantage of the low rate of Government bonds and buying them and increasing their circulation, Secretary Carlisle ordered the force of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to work from 8 a. m. until 6 p. m.

THE official list of members of the House gives the Democrats 220 members; Republicans 126, and the Third Party nine. There is one vacancy in the Tenth Ohio District, caused by the death of Representative Enoch.

THE contest in the Fifth Michigan Congressional District was settled in favor of Richardson, the Democratic candidate.

REAR ADMIRAL THORNTON A. JENKINS, U. S. N., retired, died at his residence in Washington, aged eighty-one. He was born in Orange County, Virginia, and was appointed a midshipman from his native State November 1, 1821.

THE Democratic Senators and the silver men in the House held separate caucuses to determine upon a line of action without reaching any definite conclusion.

THE President has granted a pardon to Peter J. Classen, the New York banker, who was sentenced to six years' imprisonment in March, 1891. He was the wrecked of the Sixth National Bank of New York City, of which he was the President.

THE Government took action to stamp out yellow fever at Pensacola, Fla.

FOREIGN. TWENTY-TWO members of an excursion party were drowned in Swansea Bay, Wales.

EMPEROR WILLIAM was enthusiastically received at Heligoland.

MR. GLADSTONE announced in the British House of Commons that the Government intended to hold an autumn session of Parliament. The announcement was received with loud cheering by the supporters of the Government.

M. PAVIE, the French Minister Resident to Siam, has returned to his post at Bangkok.

EARL SPENCER, First Lord of the Admiralty, gave a dinner in London to Admiral Erben and Captain Mohan, of the United cruiser Chicago.

THE Parliamt Convention in Dublin has declared that the Home Rule bill as amended is impossible of acceptance by the Irish people.

A NUMBER of people were drowned by a cloudburst near Graz, the capital of Styria.

GENERAL E. CALLEJA, Inspector-General of Artillery and Engineering for Spain, has been appointed Governor-General of Cuba, to fill the vacancy caused by the recent death in office of General Alejandro Arias.

## LATER NEWS.

At Paterson, N. J., Mrs. Elmer Schippaner, aged twenty-five years, ended the life of her two months old baby by throwing it into the Passaic River and then committed suicide by drowning.

The long drought has done great damage to crops in New York State.

FOUR passenger coaches, nearly filled with refugees from the yellow fever scare at Pensacola, Fla., passed through Cullman, Ala., bound north. Cullman's rigid quarantine prevented any stop there.

A TORNAO near Larned, Kan., destroyed many farm buildings.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND left Washington over the Pennsylvania Railroad, accompanied by Secretary LONGWORTH. Colonel Lamont left him at New York, and the President went direct to Gray Gables, Buzzard's Bay, Mass.

THE French steamer Oteville was sunk in collision with the transport Drome, and five persons were drowned.

THE Campanias made the voyage from Sandy Hook, N. J., to Browhead, Ireland, in five days, sixteen hours and thirty minutes. This breaks the record.

## OFFICIAL CROP REPORT.

Condition of All Cereals, Potatoes, Tobacco and Fruit.

The August report of the Statisticians of the Department of Agriculture shows that the condition of corn has declined a little over six points during the past month, the average for the entire breadth being 87 as against 92.2 for the month of July. This decline is due in the main to the drought, which has proved both extensive and persistent. While in some parts of the country the continued dry weather has injured the crop beyond recovery, it is nevertheless true, as to the larger portion of the area devoted thereto, that improvement is to be expected, but with a sufficient rainfall during the month of August, will be assured. The averages in the principal States are: Ohio, 85; Indiana, 79; Illinois, 81; Iowa, 102; Missouri, 95; Kansas, 82; Nebraska, 84; Iowa, 87; Nebraska, 78; South Dakota, 63; North Dakota, 66. This decline of 10 points is the result of the too high temperature and deficient rainfall in the spring wheat States.

The condition of spring wheat in August is 78.5 as against 89 in the month of July. The condition of oats has fallen 10 points since the July report, being 78.3 as compared with 88.8 last month, while in August, 1892, it stood at 86.2. If the lowest condition reported in August for spring wheat in August, a cold, wet spring, succeeded by continuous dry, hot weather, during the latter part of June and the whole of July.

The August returns for barley show a slight decline in condition from that of last month, being 84.6 against 85.3 in July, and precisely the same as it was in the month of June.

The acreage of buckwheat is reported at 96.3 as compared with 1892, and condition at 88.8.

The condition of potatoes has declined nearly nine points in the last month, and now stands at 86. Condition in August has only been lower twice in the last decade. The general drought has been the cause of this falling off, and rapid action is being taken to prevent further disastrous losses.

The condition of the timothy crop is 89.6, as compared with 93.2 in 1892. The hay crop on the whole is large, and has generally been secured in good condition, although in some important regions unfavorable conditions caused a reduction of the crop.

The general average of tobacco fell from 93 on July 1 to 82.2 on August 1.

A still further decline in the condition of apples is made evident by the returns of August. The indications that the condition of the crop would be very light is confirmed at this date. In many of the States a complete failure is reported.

The drought has done some damage to peaches in the Atlantic peach belt. Complaints are frequent of premature ripening. The conditions still point to a large crop in this section, however, and local showers have benefited some localities. A further decline is noted in Michigan, where fruit has dropped severely. California has a good crop of excellent quality. An abundant crop of grapes is promised at this date.

The percentages of July have been generally well maintained. Dry weather has tended to check the spread of rot and mildew.

## PROMINENT PEOPLE.

THE Sultan of Johore oats from a dinner service worth at \$750,000.

GEORGE WASHINGTON MURRAY, of South Carolina, is the only colored member of Congress.

EX-SENATOR J. J. INBALLEE, of Kansas, predicts a great financial upheaval and a general redistribution of wealth.

ENGLISH scientists are rejoicing over the visit of Professor E. E. Barnard, of Lick Observatory. They speak of him reverently as "the discoverer of the fifth satellite of Jupiter."

MR. GLADSTONE is one of those incautious people who do not destroy letters. The venerable statesman is said to have a collection of 60,000 letters deposited in a strong room at Hawarden Castle.

ADMIRAL HUMANN, the French naval commander at Bangkok, Siam, is fifty-five years old. He was promoted to his present grade in 1889. He is now third on his list for promotion to Vice-Admiral's rank.

MISS MARTHA WASHINGTON STONARD, of Marlborough, Ill., claims to be the relict of the first President. She is ninety-two years old, and has twenty-eight descendants, the eldest of whom is a son, seventy-four years old.

THE Emperor of Germany always embraces His Royal Highness in the continental fashion whenever they meet. The emperor is said to be the discomfited of the Prince, whose bluff English nature revolts at being kissed by a man.

THE oldest living chaplain of the war is now being sought by those curious in such matters. Rev. John Wainwright, of Wisconsin, is claimed to be the man. He was chaplain of the Forty-third Wisconsin Volunteers, and is now eighty-nine years old.

SARAH T. BOLTON died in Indianapolis, Ind., a few nights ago. Mrs. Bolton was known as the poetess of Indiana, and has written verses that are well known. The unemployed are being fed, and 3000 people attended one mass meeting for the aid of workmen. The appeal for lower rents by an organization of business men has been successful, and it is said in cases where success has been won from twenty-five to fifty per cent. Hundreds of men are getting out of the city via freight trains.

DENVER, Col., is in the depths of despondency. Half the store girls and operatives are idle, and means are being employed by philanthropic ladies to aid them. The unemployed are being fed, and 3000 people attended one mass meeting for the aid of workmen. The appeal for lower rents by an organization of business men has been successful, and it is said in cases where success has been won from twenty-five to fifty per cent. Hundreds of men are getting out of the city via freight trains.