The Pittsburgh Gazette.

OFFICE:
GAZETTE BUILDING, 84 AND 86 FIFTH AV.

OFFICIAL PAPER
Of Pittsburgh, Allegheny and Allegheny County.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 8, 1869

PETROLEUM at Antwerp, 61½.

U. S. BONDS at Frankfort, 92¼@92½.

GOLD closed in New York yesterday at 122½@123¼.

REV. H. W. BEECHER, who is on trial for his complicity in the Richardson McFarland scandal, attempts to secure a pre-judgment of the case by a card in a newspaper. That eccentric divine will stand or fall, as he has himself well put it, by the facts to be developed in the trial of the other husband of Mrs. Richardson. In the meantime, his funeral discourse should be printed as an appendix to the forthcoming volume of Mrs. Stowe on the Byron scandal.

GOLD up and bonds down! That was the Wall street translation of the Message and Treasury Report, on Monday afternoon. The movement reacted slightly yesterday, but the permanent impression is evidently unfavorable to an early restoration of cash values. As long as the Secretary will pay 122 for gold, no one should expect to see a lower price ruling. The market will be steady at that figure, —quite as steady as the Secretary's policy. He cannot but be aware that in thus fixing an arbitrary valuation upon coin, he establishes an inflexible value for his bonds. It is only a question of arithmetic to know what five per cents, or six per cents are worth, or what he is likely to get for his new loan at four and a half. We have no fault to find with him for checking the decline in coin value, but no one has yet been able to assign a good reason for his blocking so suddenly the appreciation of the paper currency. Was it that he might be enabled to buy in the latter at a discount, as recommended from a higher quarter?

THE MESSAGE.

We find the full text of the Message to be more extended than we were led to anticipate. Of these documents, heretofore, a very few have been more brief, and most of them very much more prolix. On a second reading, we are confirmed in our idea that none of his predecessors have been so successful, as General GRANT has been, in compressing the greatest amount of information upon National affairs in to the smallest possible degree of space.

The most critical scrutiny can detect but a single omission in the wide range of topics, domestic and foreign, to which the President adverts. He makes no mention, directly or incidentally, of the pending negotiations with the authorities of San Domingo for, as public report has said, the ultimate acquisition by the Republic of a portion or the whole of that island. We are thus left to infer, either that no such negotiations have really been undertaken, or that the situation involves considerations rendering, in the Executive judgment, any specific statements thereupon inexpedient for the public interests. An early enquiry is likely to be directed by Congress expressly to this point.

The views of the Executive upon all questions of domestic interest are given with the frankness and soldierly precision always so characteristic of Gen. GRANT. He urges the early restoration of Virginia, Mississippi and Texas to all their Federal privileges, in accordance with the provisions of law to which the populations of those States have recently signalized their hearty submission. He recommends the most practicable and sensible adjustment of the Georgia case, by the requisite Congressional action to remit that State, not entirely back to her providional organization, but so far back as to invalidate all the illegal acts of the State authority which followed the unconstitutional reorganization of her Legislature. This body should be reconvened, precisely as elected, and purged of such members as were disqualified by the XIVth Article. This will restore the colored members to the seats from which they were wrongfully driven, and in effect will permit the State once more to a constitutional and republican authority. The perfection of its Federal status would thereupon logically and properly follow forthwith. We may anticipate that these recommendations will meet the cordial and hearty approval of Congress, the Republican party and the country.

The abolition of the franking privilege is urged, such to the popular satisfaction.

The proposed commercial reciprocity with Canada is not favored by the Administration, and it must be conceded that public sentiment in this country preponderates on that side.

The Presidential objections to the tenure-of-office law may strike Congress forcibly. Yet we are not prepared to unite in supporting the repeal of that enactment, as desired by the Executive. The logical relations between the essential principles involved, in both removals and appointments to office, establish the Senatorial prerogative of participation in each function, but through different modes of procedure, too clearly to be denied by an enlightened and candid publicist. Nor do we see any likelihood that the Senate will consent to divest itself of the function as now resting upon that body.

The financial question occupies, naturally, more of the Executive attention than any other topic. The recommendations are fully in accord with those of the Secretary of the Treasury, except in two particulars. The funding of the debt at a lower rate of interest is advised; the retention of the income-tax, with modifications, is urged, and a policy looking toward the resumption of specie payments, to be gradual and not precipitate in its character, is suggested to Congress.

The President dwells, as we have observed in another place, with marked force upon the inexpediency of any present alterations in the substance of the existing tariff upon imports, while the Secretary indulges in no reference to the subject whatever.

General GRANT presents another suggestion, which Mr BOUTWELL also ignores, and which we regret to find in a Presidential Message. We allude to his recommendation that the Treasury be authorized to redeem its own paper (greenbacks, &c.,) at the market value whenever presented. This is in effect a proposal that the Government shall shave its own obligations, availing itself of their discredit in the market to retire these debts on demand at the best discount it can get. It is not necessary to criticize a proposal like this, which is simply as offensive to the financial sense of the world, as it would, if adopted, multiply just odium upon our Government. The suggestion is the solitary blot upon a document which, in all other particulars, would address itself to the favorable judgment of the civilized world.

We have, neither from President nor Secretary, any mention of a proposition for an increase of the paper circulation. It is agreed that the three per cent. certificates ought to be replaced by an equivalent amount of active currency, but no addition to the present total of circulation is recommended. Indeed, the Secretary would reduce the greenbacks $2,000,000 per month, as a needful step to resumption.

The Executive references to the Cuban question are in a spirit which the country will be grateful for. Neither our domestic interests nor our foreign policy are to be suffered to become embarrassed by an inexcusable intervention in the domestic affairs of a friendly power. The action just taken, nominally in Peruvian interests, is manifestly not such as the Administration approves.

The President reiterates, briefly but with significant force, the American position on the Alabama question with England. These claims are to be nursed, until a better day shall come to vindicate their justice.

—On the whole, we may count upon the reception of President GRANT's first annual message, by his countrymen with their hearty approbation. It is not couched in diplomatic phrase, but speaks to Congress and the people, in plain and simple language which none can fail to understand. Its suggestions are for the most part so well considered, so practical and so thoroughly sustained by the popular sentiment, that it does not seem difficult to foresee that most if not all of them will find an early incorporation into the legislation and the history of the Republic.

THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
WASHINGTON, November 15, 1869.

SIR:—In presenting a statement of the public business of this department for the last fiscal year, I shall follow the usual custom of making an exhibit of the affairs of the several bureaus, and adding such recommendations as the good of the service seems to require should be carried into effect.

PUBLIC LANDS.

During the fiscal year, public lands were disposed of as follows:

	Acres.
Cash sales	34,846.80
Taken for homestead	1,122,317.00
Granted to railroads and wagon roads	720.00
Appropriated to States as swamps	1,160,760.42
Located with military warrants	4,215.00
Located with other scrip	327,054.50
Located with Indian scrip	24,258.76
	7,846,191.97

A quantity greater by 1,010,409.40 acres than was disposed of the previous year.

The cash receipts from all sources amounted to $4,472,898.28; a sum gaeater by $2,840,140.88 than was received on the previous year.

The total expenses of the General Land Office and the seventy-three district offices amounted to $453,816.43.

A valuable survey has been made of the geological, mineral and agricultural resources of Colorado and New Mexico.

PATENT OFFICE.

During the year ending 30th September, 1869, 19,360 applications for patents, including reissues and designs, 5,988 caveats and 158 applications for the extension of patents were filed. 13,762 patents including reissues and designs, were issued, 125 extended, and 589 allowed, but not issued by reason of the non-payment of the final dues.

The office now publishes a weekly list of claims, which is furnished to subscribers at five dollars per annum. It is believed that by the ensuing year the receipts will cover the entire cost of the work. This list, published simultaneously with the issue of the patents, serves all the purposes of the annual report, which is not issued until two years later.

My immediate predecessor, in each of his annual reports, urged the repeal of all laws which authorized an appeal from the decision of the Commissioner of Patents on applications for letters patent and interference cases. The reasons he presented are, in my opinion, clear and unanswerable.

PENSIONS.

At the date of the last annual report the name of but one revolutionary soldier, Daniel F. Bakeman, remained on the pension rolls. He has since died.

Of the pensioned widows of soldiers in the revolutionary war there survive: one of those married prior to 1788, fifty-four of those married between 1783 and 1798, thirty-eight of those married between 1794 and 1800, and seven hundred and ninety-five of those married since 1800—eight hundred and eighty-seven in all, and only one less than the preceding year.

There are on the rolls the names of 1,298 widows and children of soldiers who served in the wars subsequent to the Revolution and prior to that of 1861, a decrease of five since the last annual report. The number of invalid pensioners who served in said wars is 2,850.

During the last year there were examined and allowed 7,120 new applications for invalid pensions of soldiers, at an aggregate annual rate of $468,144 40; and 2,908 applications for increased pensions of invalid soldiers, at an aggregate rate of $164,798 20. During the same period 15,693 original pensions to widows, orphans, and dependent relatives of soldiers were allowed, at an aggregate annual rate $1,577,281 53; and 11,998 applications by the same class for increased pay were also admitted, at a total annual rate of $784,549 70. On the 30th of June, 1869, there were on the rolls 81,579 invalid military pensioners, whose yearly pensions amounted to $7,393,204 28; and 103,546 widows, orphans and dependent relatives of soldiers, whose yearly pensions amounted to $18,567,079 19—making the total aggregate of army pensioners 185,125, at a total annual rate of $20,980,483 47. The whole amount paid during the last fiscal year to invalid military pensioners was $9,382,714 48; to widows, orphans and dependent relatives, $18,609,153 56—a grand total of $27,992,868 04, which includes the expenses of the disbursing agencies.

During the same year there were admitted 172 new application for invalid navy pensions, at an annual rate of $17,289; 57 applications increased pensions of the same class, at an annual aggregate of $2,606.50; 209 original applications of widows, orphans and dependent relatives of those who died in the navy, at an aggregate rates of $7,510 per annum; and 101 pensions of the same class were increased, at a total yearly rate of $4,788. On the 30th of June, 1869, the rolls of the navy pensioners bore the names of 1,280 invalids, at an annual aggregate of $116,171 10; and 1,558 widows, orphans and dependent relatives, at an aggregate annual rate of $256,820. The amount paid during the last fiscal year to navy invalids was $125,640 51; and to widows, orphans and dependent relatives of officers and seamen of the navy, $305,875,58—a total amount of $440,016.03.

During the year there were added to the number of pensioners, of all classes, 23,195; there were dropped, from various causes, 4,876, leaving on the rolls June 30, 1869, 187,063. The total amount paid for pensions of all classes, including the expenses of disbursement, was $28,422,884.03, a sum greater by $4,411,902.09 than that paid the previously year.

There were 1,650 bounty land warrants issued, for 200,040 acres.

It is estimated that, exclusive of the amount chargeable to the navy pension fund, $30,000,000 will be required for the pension service during the next fiscal year.

Investigations made during the past summer have proven the commission of very numerous frauds in procuring false testimony, by means of which certificates of pensions have been wrongfully obtained. Diligent effort is being made to bring the offenders to justice, but the mode of appointing and paying pension agents and medical examiners should be changed, with a view to increasing their efficiency as aids to the office in protecting the government against fraudulent claims.

Under the present laws examining surgeons are appointed from the medical men resident in the various districts of the country. They examine the applicants for pension in their own neighborhood, such applicants paying the fee therefor, which is repaid to the applicant if the pension is finally granted. Under this rule the feelings of good neighborhood, the disposition to favor a friend, and the desire to extend his own practice by increasing his popularity, all tempt the examiner to be lax, and there is conclusive evidence that such laxity has greatly and improperly increased the pension-roll, and the consequent burdens of taxation. I therefore recommend that a sufficient number of medical officers be permanently attached to the Pension Office, to make the required examinations of invalid pensioners as well as of applicants for invalid pensions, or an increase of rate, and that the fees now paid for such examinations be turned into a fund for paying proper salaries to such medical examiners.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

The problems presented by our relations to the Indian tribes which still inhabit portions of the western States and territories are every year making more imperative demands for a fixed general policy that shall give some reasonable probability of an early and satisfactory solution.

The completion of one of the great lines of railway to the Pacific coast has totally changed the conditions under which the civilized population of the country comes in contact with the wild tribes. Instead of a slowly advancing tide of migration, making its gradual inroads upon the circumference of the great interior wilderness, the very centre of the desert has been pierced. Every station upon the railway has become a nucleus for a civilized settlement, and a base from which lines of exploration for both mineral and agricultural wealth are pushed in every direction. Daily trains are carrying thousands of our citizens and untold values of merchandize across the continent, and must be protected from the danger of having hostile tribes on either side of the route. The range of the buffalo is being rapidly restricted, and the chase is becoming an uncertain reliance to the Indian for the sustenance of his family. If he is in want he will rob, as white men do in the like circumstances, and robbery is but the beginning of war, in which savage barbarities and retaliations soon cause a cry of extermination to be raised along the whole frontier.

It has long been the policy of the Government to require of the tribes most nearly in contact with white settlements that they should fix their abode upon definite reservations and abandon the wandering life to which they have become accustomed. To encourage them in civilization, large expenditures have been made in furnishing them with the means of agriculture and with clothing adapted to their new mode of life.

A new policy is not so much needed as an enlarged and more enlightened application of the general principles of the old one. We are now in contact with all the aboriginal tribes within our borders, and can no longer assume that we may, even for a time, leave a large part of them out of the operation of our system.

I understand this policy to look to two objects: First, the location of the Indians upon fixed reservations, so that the pioneers and settlers may be freed from the terrors of marauding incursions, and second, an earnest effort at their civilization, so that they may themselves be elevated in the scale of humanity, and our obligation to them as fellow men be discharged.

In carrying out this policy a great practical difficulty has arisen from the fact that in most instances a separate reservation was given to each tribe. These reservations have been surrounded and gradually invaded by the white settlers, and the Indians crowded out of their homes and forced to negotiate for a new settlement, because their presence, their habits, and their manners were distasteful to their new and more powerful neighbors.

It is believed that the only remedy for this evil is an executive decree, that the Indians to assemble upon larger reservations, where their numbers will be aggregated, and where the more civilized of them will influence the others to follow their example, in the arts of peace. Congress has already passed an act to enable the civilized Indians of the Indian Territory, properly so called, to form a general organization, with some of the elements of a territorial government; but the requisite appropriations of money have not been made to carry the plan into effect. I would earnestly recommend that no time be lost in this matter. The associated tribes, of which the Cherokees have taken the lead, are those best fitted for a fuller experiment in self government. They are already farther in advance of the forms of executive, legislative and judicial action in use among us, and I believe them well prepared to dispense with the tutelage of our agents, if they may have a delegate of their own upon the floor of the House of Representatives to speak for them. Both they and we are suffering for the lack of such direct representation. The white constituencies which are near and to them are the ones of all the nation whose interests are most in opposition, and whose personal tendencies are most hostile to theirs. The representatives of such constituencies would be more than human if they were not influenced by this fact. Representation chosen by the tribes themselves, and responsible to themselves, is the only mode of making the country acquainted with their condition and with our obligations to them. In such a territory the tribal organization would easily merge into the country, and the territorial legislature would not be very different from the grand councils at present in vogue among them.

The late peace commission negotiated treaties with all the principal tribes west of the Rock Island stations, and were guided in their action by the general views stated above, which indeed may be said to have been accepted by all disinterested persons who have had any opportunity of examining into the subject. The treaties were duly ratified, and so became the solemn contract between the United States and those tribes. It is to be deeply regretted that specific appropriations were not made to carry out strictly the terms of the treaties, for, although the general appropriation of two millions has been used as far as possible in the fulfillment of the obligations incurred, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs has been met at every step by distrust of the good faith of the government, and all promises regarding the future have been doubingly received and answered by the inquiry, what agreement could be more binding than that made under the authority of Congress by so distinguished personages as the embassadors of the United States? Everything attending the Peace commission was of a nature to excite the imaginations of the Indians, and to impress them with the belief that now, more than ever before, we were thoroughly in earnest in our negotiations. The disappointment is proportionately great, and the comparative quiet which has been maintained throughout the year could only have been secured by greatly increased care and untiring effort on the part of the officers of the Indian Bureau and of the army officers, who have cooperated with the greatest zeal in carrying out a peaceful policy.

A savage is the last person with whom any doubt of our exact good faith should be allowed to remain. In dealing with him it seems quite essential that he should find both our promises and our threats absolutely certain, and so learn to invest the government with something of the divine attributes of justice and omnipotence.

In the organization of the Indian Bureau itself, at the beginning of your administration, it was deemed advisable to depart from the usual mode of selecting agents and appointing the superintendents and agents. The tribes in Nebraska and Kansas, and some of those most recently placed upon reservations in the Indian territory were placed under the control of the Society of Friends, the others were given in charge of military officers, who were waiting orders under the laws for a reduction of the army.

These sweeping changes were made because it was believed that the public opinion of the country demanded a radical re-organization of this branch of the service. The selection of the officers of the army was made partly for economical reasons, as they were on pay though not on duty, and the salaries of many civil officers could thus be saved, and partly because it was believed they furnished a corps of public servants whose integrity could be relied upon, and in whom the public were prepared to have confidence.

The Friends were appointed, not because they were believed to have any monopoly of honesty or of good will towards the Indians, but because their selection would of itself be understood by the country to indicate the policy adopted, namely the sincere cultivation of peaceful relations with the tribes, and the choice of agents who did not, for personal profit, seek the service, but were sought for it because they were at least deemed fit for its duties. The two yearly meetings of Friends were asked to select men in whom they had confidence, and who might become at once the business agents of the government and zealous missionaries of civilization. The persons so selected were appointed by you, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and although it was somewhat late in the season when they were sent to their posts, enough has been seen of their labors to make it certain that the mode of selection was not a mistake. It is due to these societies to say that they rely on their own body to inspect the work of the agents as far as it aimed at the civilization and instruction of the Indians. The moral support and encouragement thus given to the agents must be valuable.

In accordance with the same general plan of bringing moral influences to bear upon the conduct of Indian affairs, the present Congress authorized you to appoint a commission of philanthropic citizens, to serve without pay, in such supervisory and visitorial duty as might be assigned to them. No difficulty was found in securing the services of men of the highest character and known benevolence. By an executive order, they were authorized to inspect all the accounts and records of the Bureau, to be present at the purchases of Indian goods and advise as to the conduct of the same, and to visit and inspect the tribes in their reservations and examine the business of all the agencies. The officers of the department were also directed to give respectful heed to the suggestions and reports of the commission. No direct responsibility, either pecuniary or administrative, was put upon this commission, because it was believed that their usefulness was not increased thereby. They now constitutean entirely disinterested body of intelligent advisers, with full power to throw the light of the most searching scrutiny upon the conduct of our relations with the Indians, and to give the public, through their reports, the most reliable knowledge of the condition and progress of the several tribes. It is believed, also, that their efforts cannot fail to stimulate the public conscience, and to give greater unity and vigor to the voluntary efforts made throughout the country in the cause of Indian civilization—a result desirable in itself, and certain to make easier and more satisfactory the duties of the officers of the Bureau.

The administrative efforts of the department in this regard have therefore been directed, first, to the substitution of new officers in the agencies, selected by a new rule, and one which it was believed would inspire public confidence; and second, to organize a reliable mode of visitation and supervision, which would give the purifying influence of the most public scrutiny, and the great advantage of intelligent and philanthropic advice as to the affairs of tribes of fellow men who have no more direct representation, or more satisfactory way of making their condition or wants known to the country.

The experience of the last summer, imperfect as it has necessarily been, warrants confidence in the system adopted. The report of the Commissioner, with the reports of the inspecting committees and other documents appended, show that the general condition of the tribes is much more peaceful than we had reason to expect. No general or formidable hostilities have broken out, and it is believed that the influence of nearly all the older and more experienced chiefs has been in favor of peace and of friendly appeals to us to carry out our treaties with them. Small bands of several tribes have been guilty of pillage and murder, and have been severely and justly punished by the troops, but even these outbreaks have not disturbed the quiet of the greater portion of the Indian country.

OFFICE OF EDUCATION.

At the last session of Congress the organization of the department of education was so reduced as essentially to change its character.

The Commissioner has devoted his time and attention—

1st. To giving such advice, information and assistance as may be specifically called for by State officers of education, or local trustees or instructors of common schools, throughout the country.

2d. To preparing and transmitting circulars and memoirs which contain such matter as he regards best adapted to improve and perfect the common school education of the country, and

3d. To personally visit schools, conventions, &c., for the purpose of interchanging views with professional teachers, and acquiring or imparting knowledge respecting the progress of education and school life.

The report for the present year will be found to contain elaborate compilations and analyses of the public educational systems of Europe, the courses of instruction, the organization and discipline of the various schools, and, besides the briefer circulars on important educational topics, which have been issued during the year, a history of the schools of the District of Columbia, and of the general work of the bureau itself.

The Secretary recommends that the educational interests of the Freedmen should also be placed in charge of this Commissioner.

He invites the earliest attention of Congress to the subject of the census.

The expenses of the judiciary system are stated. The erection of fire-proof buildings for court houses is recommended.

RAILWAYS AND WAGON ROADS.

The Union Pacific Railroad Company, during the last fiscal year, completed 165 88-100 miles of railroad and telegraph, terminating at Promontory Summit, the distance therefrom to Omaha is 1,085 88 100 miles.

The Company report that, since the connection, trains have been run with a regularity not surpassed on the oldest roads in the country, and that an adequate force has been constantly engaged in making such improvements as would render their road in all respects equal to the standard prescribed. They furnish the following statement: Amount of stock subscribed, $24,777,300; actually paid in, $24,762,900; received from passengers from 1st of July, 1868, to 30th of June, 1869, $453,672 43, from freight, $2,423,463 39, and from telegraph, &c., $465,185 32. The average number of miles of road operated during the year was 854 67 73; the gross earnings were $3,342,271 16; and the operating expenses $5,894,268 69; leaving as net earnings $1,448,002 53. The entire cost of the road to 30th of June, 1869, not including unadjusted balances with engineers and contractors, was $92,748,762 14, and the indebtedness of the company at this date, $67,986,462 14.

The Commissioners to examine the Pacific road, report on the whole favorably. The estimate for supplying deficiencies between Promontory and Ogden is $208,000, and between the latter place and Omaha, $1,380,100, making an aggregate of $1,588,100. The company have on hand a surplus of material and supplies amounting to about $1,500,000 in value. The sum required to supply deficiencies of the Central Pacific is $576,000, and the value of surplus material more than $1,000,000.

The original act required the completion of a continuous line of railway from the Missouri river to the navigable waters of the Sacramento "by the 1st day of July, 1876." The energy with which the work was prosecuted has been crowned with signal and unexpected success, as this great national thoroughfare was in use more than seven years before that date. It is not surprising in view of the unprecedented rapidity with which it was constructed, that deficiencies, most of which are incident to all new roads, should have existed. Each successive effort of the special commissioners who were from time to time appointed, shows that these deficiencies have been gradually and in a very great degree supplied. The aggregate material and equipment on hand exceeded by $637,250 the amount necessary to make the whole line conform in every respect to the demands of the law and the just expectations of the country. Under the circumstances, I had the honor to recommend the acceptance of the last sections. No patents have been issued to the first company, and the subsidy of $1,670,400, on account of the fifty-two and one-fifth miles of road which were last constructed, has been withheld. The other company have received patents covering only 144,386 63 100th acres. It will thus be perceived that the Government has ample means to secure from the companies the faithful performance of their respective engagements.

Three hundred and three-tenths miles of the Central Pacific Railroad of California have been constructed since the date of the last annual report of this department. The distance from Promontory Summit to Sacramento is six hundred and ninety and three-tenths miles. The President of the Company has not submitted a report, as required by law.

While the location of the Central Pacific Railroad is, in several places, open to criticism, there are no errors in immediate correction of which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, should be required by the Government. At a few points the embankments need widening. There are fifteen tunnels on the road, and those which require it, arched with wood. The bridges and trestles are in the same condition as those on the other road. In a distance of forty miles there are thirty two miles of snow sheds. The track is well adapted to high rates of speed. Some additional ballasting is required. The sidings are about five per cent. of the length of the road. The machine shops are considered sufficient, except at the junctions of the two roads. Additional engine houses are needed. The equipment is in the excess of the wants of the road.

Stock of the Kansas Pacific Railway Company, to the amount of $6,072,500, been subscribed and paid in. The receipts for transportation of passengers and freight, from 1st of September, 1868, to 31st of August, 1869, were $2,141,198 47, and the net earnings, $946,835 11. The cost of construction, surveys, right of way, and of real estate purchased, to the latter date, was $23,705,757 43, and the then indebtedness of the Company, $18,263,504 58. Including the Leavenworth branch, four hundred and thirty-eight miles of road have been constructed, and it is expected that the line from Denver will be finished and in successful operation during next summer.

Stock of the Central Branch Union Pacific Railroad Company to the amount of $1,000,000 has been subscribed, and $980,000 paid. The receipts for transportation of passengers and freight from 1st of August, 1868, to 1st of August, 1869, were $109,064 31. The actual cost of the road, fixtures, rolling stock, &c., is $3,723,000; and the indebtedness of the Company, for borrowed money, railroad iron, and freight, $68,834 29.

The Sioux City and Pacific Railroad has been completed and accepted. Its length is one hundred and one and twenty-seven hundredths miles. The amount of capital stock of the Company subscribed is $4 271,000, of which $1,677,900 has been paid. The receipts from the transportation of passengers and freight from 1st of October, 1868, to 30th of September, 1869, were $233,724 25, and the operating expenses $151,920 25. The cost of the construction and equipment of the road is $4,280,508 48, and the indebtedness, $4,934,220.

The amount of stock of the Western Pacific Railroad Company subscribed, all of which has been actually paid in, is $881,100. During the year ending 30th June, 1869, the receipts from passengers and freight were $6,178 37, and the running expenses $260 37. The indebtedness at that date, unsettled accounts with contractors not included, was $851,000. Since the last annual report of the department eighty-three miles of their road have been built and accepted.

Pursuant to the authority conferred by the act of 3d March, 1869, the Kansas Pacific Railroad Company entered into a contract with the Denver and Pacific Railway and Telegraph Company for the construction, operation and maintenance by the latter of that part of the road of the former company which extends from Denver to Cheyenne. A copy of the contract and a map of the route between those points have been filed in this department, and the granted lands withdrawn from the market.

The progress of the work of extending and finishing the Capitol is referred to. No allusion is made to the Western programme for the removal of the seat of government.

The benevolent institutions of the District are noticed at length. Their conditions are on the whole presented as satisfactory.

Appropriations are asked for Territorial penitentiaries.

CIVIL SERVICE.

My predecessor remarked in his report for 1866—"None, with the most limited experience in the affairs of this department, can, I believe, avoid the conclusion that its efficiency would be largely promoted by a radical change in the organization of its clerical force," and in that for 1868, "It is my opinion, the result of much reflection, and of experience in my present position, that the efficiency of the clerical force would be essentially promoted by thoroughly reorganizing it." With the added, "It is hoped that a subject of so much importance to the successful working of the executive departments will receive the consideration it so well merits." I fully concur in the views stated, and unite in the hope he expressed. The first measure of reform is to raise the standard of qualification, make merit as tested by the only proper test the sole ground of promotion, and secure to the faithful incumbent the same permanence of employment that is given to officers of the army and navy. Under the present system the general conviction among the clerks and employes is that the retention of their places depends much more upon the political influence they can command, than upon energy or zeal in the performance of duty. After a careful examination of the subject, I am fully persuaded that the measure I have suggested would have enabled this department to do the work of the past fiscal year, with a corps of clerks one third less in number than were found necessary. Special knowledge and skill are indispensable for the proper performance of much of the clerical labor of most of the bureaus, and can only be acquired in time and with great labor. An intimate familiarity with the statutes bearing upon the subject under investigation, with the rules and regulations of the department, and with the practice in relation thereto, is necessary for the accurate and rapid transaction of business, yet it is safe to say that, under our present customs, very few clerks are retained in place long enough to learn their duties and perform them with dispatch, and that there is no inducement offered them to make any real effort to that end. An experienced clerk is a repository of the law, the history and the traditions of the department, and may often, by a word or suggestion, expose a fraud, which might otherwise escape unnoticed, indicate an important fact of which there is no record, or in a thousand ways save his superior from imposition or from a long and laborious investigation. Yet such is the singular anomaly of our system, that the very fact that a man has been retained in place during a change of administrations has been commonly held to be a sufficient political reason for demanding his removal. My own conviction is very strong, that the advantages supposed to be gained in this way are as unreal and delusive as the mischiefs are substantial and certain.

The evil does not stop with the increased cost and diminished value of the clerical labor itself. It has given rise to a practice of office seeking, which goes far to prevent the proper performance of their duties by the highest officers of the government. During the first three months after the inauguration of a new President, nearly the whole time of his confidential advisers is occupied by applications for office, and it is impossible, either before or after the ordinary business hours, to get sufficient time for the careful study of the larger duties pertaining to the departments, or of questions of public interest. The devices used by applicants to obtain an audience make it impossible to discriminate between those who have important public business to transact and those who have not. The only mode of relief is to change, entirely, the habits of easy access, which ought to mark all officers of the republic, and this, of itself, shows the necessity of a reform.

Theoretically it would seem that the remedy is in the hands of the executive and departmental officers; but practically, the custom has become so firmly established, that members of Congress are forced to yield to the importunity of their constituents, and are unable to get relief except by urging appointments and removals upon the executive departments. Thus public business is most seriously embarrassed and retarded, and changes are sometimes made because, in that way alone, does it seem possible, to get room for the ordinary action of the administrative machinery. In this matter, the custom established for forty years has so much the effect of law, that no remedy seems adequate, except to give permanence to the subordinate branches of the civil service by legislation, making capacity and integrity the sole tests of the fitness of the applicant, and throwing competition open to all.

If there were no hope for speedy legislative action, I am well aware that this statement would be a useless display of an unpleasant subject; but the fact that public attention is already directed to it, and that measures are pending in Congress, designed to cure the acknowledged evil, seems to make an unreserved declaration of the truth a public duty.

J. D. COX, Secretary.

THE letters which the Princess Mathilde wrote the late lamented Sainte-Beuve are said to contain positive proofs of her intense disappointment at the marriage of her imperial cousin, to Eugenie de Montijo. She is reported even to have hired some German journalist to publish scandalous stories about Eugenie, in a pamphlet which was issued at Frankfort-on-the-Main, in the year 1853. In her letters to Sainte-Beuve, the Princess, it said in Paris, generally calls Eugenie "cette coquine."

A MEMBER of the Oneida Community, who entered at the age of ten years, writes, "I have been successively boy, trap maker, farmer, horticulturist, dairyman, housecleaner, and book keeper. Most of the other boys have progressed through an equal number of diverse employments, and some through many more, and of higher rank. The fashion of change and rotation in business is so popular in the Community that I have every prospect of some time becoming housebuilder, wagon maker, dentist, weaver of silks, and so on, the acquirements depending mainly on my enterprise and faithfulness."

RUPTURE AND HERNIA.

The condition of persons afflicted with rupture is one that ought to receive immediate attention and care, for the reason that no one can tell when or how soon it may pass into an incurable or irremediable state.

Many persons are ruptured that for a long time are not aware of it, as for instance, at nights and oftentimes years pass away without their seeking the proper relief. So, on the other hand, many persons suppose themselves ruptured when that are not, and apply trusses of ill construction, which, in nine cases out of ten, do more harm than good.

No one need have any doubt about rupture, if they will do what they should to ascertain themselves upon the subject. DR. KEYES, at his Great Medical store and at his office, No. 167 Liberty street, has investigated the subject in all its bearings, and is fully up to the highest standard of science in that department of mechanical surgery, and our readers cannot apply to an abler surgeon in that department in the United States. The Doctor has now been engaged in medicine in its various departments, for a period of nearly thirty-five years, and is supplied with every sort of Truss that may be needed for the relief or cure of ruptured persons. The Doctor has given the subject of Hernia, as well as chronic diseases of the various kinds, the most sedulous attention and study, and has succeeded in some of the most intricate and difficult cases known to the medical art. He says that scarcely a day passes without an application of a truss, and it is really a wonder that so many persons go unprotected when complete relief could be had at a reasonable rate.

He has trusses that will suit any case and at prices far below the ordinary range, and the patient has the additional advantage of having the Truss properly applied. A great many of the Trusses sold are an injury rather than a benefit, and we have frequently removed them where they were not needed at all and where their use was exceedingly hurtful. It ought to be borne in mind that there are times when they are not required, for the reason that some persons are so closely set to baffle any person but one well skilled in the anatomy of Hernia. These cases are curable, as well as other diseases by proper applications and treatment, and those so afflicted should bear this in mind when seeking relief.

DR. KEYES's special attention every day at his Great Medical Store and office, No. 167 Liberty street, from 9 A. M. until P. M., and from 3 until 6 and 7 to 9 at night.

NOTES FOR DECEMBER, ADDRESSED TO THE FEEBLE AND DEBILITATED.

This is a trying season for invalids, indeed for all who are not blessed with robust constitutions and iron frames.

Cold has come upon us suddenly, sealing up the open pores, and confining in us it were, any seeds of disease that may have been lurking in the system, but which remained undeveloped so long as the waste matter of the body and acid and unwholesome humors were freely discharged by evaporation from the surface and through the bowels.

A tonic, aperient and alterative medicine is now needed to invigorate the vital powers depressed by a low temperature, to stimulate and purify the secretions, and to fit the body to endure without inconvenience, pain or danger, the sudden climatic change which always in the Winter comes on us. The self preservation will will fully meet this almost universal need, and which thoroughly and safely performs the important work, is the celebrated vegetable preparation of the age, HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS.

This popular specific improves the appetite, invigorates the digestive organs, regulates the bowels, calms the nerves, relieves constipation, promotes superficial circulation and evaporation, and being composed solely of wholesome vegetable extracts, will be found stimulant as their diffusive vehicle, may be taken by the weakest without fear. The flavor is agreeable, for although the HITTERS are potent medicines, they contain no annoying element.

NOTICES.

NOTICE TO THE CITIZENS OF PITTSBURGH!

The supply pipe from the river to the vault at the Water Works is choked by drift wood, and only one engine can be worked, therefore I would caution all consumers of water to be careful not to use any more than is needed.

JOSEPH FRENCH,
SUPERINTENDENT.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH & LUDLOW PETROLEUM COMPANY, Pittsburgh, Pa., November 16 1869.

A MEETING OF THE Stockholders of the PITTSBURGH and CHERRY RUN OIL COMPANY will be held at the office of R. K. CUNNINGHAM, No. 42 Fifth street, Pittsburgh, Pa., on FRIDAY, December 10th, 1869, at 3 o'clock P. M., to determine the disposition of the Company's property.

W. A. REED, President.
R. KENNEDY, Secretary. nov16:d&w

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH PETROLEUM COMPANY, Pittsburgh, Pa., November 16, 1869.

A MEETING OF THE Stockholders of the SHAMROCK PETROLEUM COMPANY will be held at the office of R. K. CUNNINGHAM & Co., No. 42 Fifth street, Pittsburgh, Pa., on FRIDAY, December 10th, 1869, at 3 o'clock P. M., to determine the disposition of the Company's property.

W. A. REED, President.
W. M. MEES, Secretary. nov16:d&w

OFFICE OF WHITESTOWN COAL CO., Pittsburgh, December 1st, 1869.

AN ELECTION FOR FIVE Directors of this Company will be held at the office, No. 129 Fourth Avenue, on MONDAY, December 13th, 1869, between the hours of 10 and 12 A. M.

JOHN H. CROFT, Secretary.
dec1:td

OFFICE OF MONONGAHELA INSURANCE CO., 68 Water Street, Pittsburgh, November 23, 1869.

AN ELECTION FOR FIFTEEN DIRECTORS of this Company will be held at the office, No. 68 Water street, on TUESDAY, the 14th inst., between the hours of 11 and 1 P. M.

JOHN H. CLANEY, Secretary.
nov24:td

DIVIDENDS.

DIVIDEND.

AMERICAN BANK, PITTSBURGH, December 1st, 1869.

The Directors of this Bank have this day declared a dividend of SIX PER CENT. on the capital stock, payable to the stockholders or their legal representatives forthwith.

WM. FLOYD, Cashier.

OFFICE OF MONONGAHELA INSURANCE CO., 68 Water Street, Pittsburgh, November 23, 1869.

DIVIDEND.—The Board of Directors of this Company have this day declared a dividend of THREE DOLLARS PER SHARE on the Capital Stock, out of the earnings of the last six months.

Payable free of Government Tax on and after the 30th inst.

JOHN H. CLANEY, Secretary.
nov24:td

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

WHAT MORE ACCEPTABLE Christmas present to a loving wife, mother or sister than a Policy of Life Insurance in

THE PENN MUTUAL Life Insurance Company OF PHILADELPHIA.

The Only Truly Mutual Company in the City or State.

ACCUMULATED CAPITAL.....$2,500,000
After paying losses to the am't of $1,200,000

There is a special advantage in taking out a policy now, as those who get their policies before January 1st will have the benefit of the 50 per cent. dividend of January next.

JOSEPH S. TRAVELLI, Agent,
OFFICE—37 FIFTH AVENUE,
2d Floor, Room No. 3.

ELEGANT HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

WATTLES & SHEAFER

Have just opened a large stock of elegant goods for the Holidays.

GENTS' GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES.
LADIES' GOLD WATCHES AND CHAINS,
CHAIN AND BAND BRACELETS,
MOSS, AGATE RINGS & SLEEVE BUTTONS.
FINE SETS OF JEWELRY,
DIAMOND RINGS AND PINS,
SOLID SILVER WARE,
SILVER PLATED WARE,
GOLD AND SILVER HEAD CANES,
PARIAN STATUARY, VASES, &c.

All bought at the reduced rate of gold and will be sold cheap.

WATTLES & SHEAFER,
103 FIFTH AVENUE, above Smithfield street.

Repairing