"The ladder of fame" is out of date. The young fellow of today can get there quicker by taking the elevator.

Statistics published by the geological survey show that the output of coal in 1899 was an increase of 17 per cent. over that of the preceding year, or about 259,000,000 short tons. Along with this increased production was a rise in price which is unusual.

With the aid of liquid air and a vacuum pump Professor Dewar of the Royal Institution, London, a few days ago succeeded in solidifying hydrogen gas, which was until recently counted among the elements that were thought to be hopelessly gaseous.

The English people think that the proposed new ninepenny coin will enable them to get the better of the French, who, it is assumed, will accept it as the equivalent of a franc. At present British travelers in France frequently have to pay a shilling in exchange for an article valued at a franc.

Borchgrevink, who had charge of the Antarctic expedition outfitted by Sir George Newnes, has attained the farthest point made by any explorer in the southern hemisphere. He reached 78 degrees and 50 minutes south latitude, which is 40 minutes south of the lowest latitude reached by Sir James Clark Ross in 1842.

The necessities of modern times have no respect for sentiment or tradition. As an illustration of this fact the great chalk headland at Dover known as Shakespeare's cliff, one of the landmarks of the English channel, is to be leveled to broaden the field of the rapid-fire guns mounted on the batteries erected for the defense of Dover harbor.

Automobile drivers are said already to be given to scorching. Possibly, however, the fault is not altogether with them. The vehicle moves so quietly and noiselessly as to render the driver insensible to the speed at which he is going. A speed index that can be kept constantly in sight must be attached, or many serious, if not fatal, accidents will be the result of the so-called scorching.

The venerable Judge Jackson of the United States circuit court at Wheeling, W. Va., expressed a pessimistic view of the state of the public morals in charging the jury the other day. "My experience on the bench," he said, "has not been a limited one, and I regret to say that crime in this country is on the increase. I am unable to determine whether it is a result of increasing population or of the lowering of the standard of public morality."

Penologists universally recognize that the use of violence as a punishment is neither a deterrent nor a corrective of crime, and nearly all forms of punishment for offenders against law are now intended to be reformatory. In the face of all this it is astonishing that such an influential paper as the London Times should berate Parliament for not returning to the barbarous methods of the past in the treatment of any class of criminals. No doubt that many offenders against society richly deserve the application of the cat, but its use is against the spirit of the age and would have the old-time effect if administered of making criminals worse instead of better. The civilized world cannot afford to reform backward.

The disappearance of the birds would be an irreparable loss to agriculture. Professor Forbes, state entomologist of Illinois, estimates that at the end of 12 years, without the birds, the farm lands of that state would be carpeted with insects at the rate of one for every square inch of ground. Professor Beal of the United States department of agriculture calculates that in the state of Iowa alone the birds of a single species, the tree sparrow, destroy 875 tons of noxious weeds every year. Hawks and owls help to keep the wheat and corn free of rodents. In many Southern communities the buzzards do more efficient work as scavengers than the men who get paid for it. The woodpecker rids trees of insects that would otherwise destroy them, and many a peach orchard would be unproductive but for the protection of its growing fruit by insectivorous birds. So that, even if it has accomplished nothing beyond reminding us that the birds have a definite and important function to perform in the economy of agriculture, the agitation against their destruction has served a useful purpose.

Two Musical Performers.

The late Dr. Spark, the Leeds Corporation organist, was often engaged for recitals and "openings" of organs in the east riding, and his blower followed him about with a devotion which would have been pathetic if it had not been so amusing. The blower would generally be first at the church, so that he might be sure of displacing the ordinary man, and when Spark arrived he would remark with the greatest sangfroid: "It's all right, Doctor, I'm here; and there's sure to be a good performance between us."—Longman's.

Paderewski as a Vine Grower.

Paderewski is an enthusiastic vine grower and produces not only grapes, but even wine of his own. When he was in England a short time ago he was asked down to see some very celebrated vines in the gardens of a gentleman at Roehampton, not very far from Richmond. He was immensely struck by the magnificent growth, and on returning to the house, without being asked, sat down to the piano and played for over an hour as a kind of courteous form of thanks for the pleasure that had been afforded him.

GEN. ROBERTS FINDS BOERS ACTIVE.

SHARP FIGHTING.

Johannesburg is Resuming Business—One Hundred Boers Captured at Gold Reef City—Pretoria Not Yet Taken.

Dispatches were received Sunday from Gen. Roberts, dated at Orange Grove, as follows:

"Johannesburg is quiet. The people are surrendering arms and ponies. Only three Boer guns were left in the fort, the Queenslanders captured, May 30, a Creusot, with 11 wagons of stores and ammunition. Commandant Botha, of Zoutspansberg, his field cornet and 100 prisoners, were taken in the fighting round Johannesburg, some belonging to the foreign contingents and the Irish brigade.

"Owing to the interruption of the telegraph lines, I only received a report from Col. Sprigg that his battalion of imperial yeomanry was attacked between Kroonstad and Lindley, May 29. Casualties to follow. The shops in Johannesburg are being opened and there seems to be a general feeling of relief at the peaceful occupation of the town.

A dispatch from Winberg, dated Thursday, says:

"After considerable fighting, the Boers, with two guns and several Maxim-Nordenfeld guns, are making a plucky stand eight miles east of Senekal. Gen. Rundle has succeeded in driving off the federals, thus permitting the re-occupation of Lindley."

The Boers, according to a dispatch from Lourenzo Marques, have re-entered the northeastern territory of the Free State and are engaged with the British near Ventersburg and Harrismith.

Lady Georgiana Curzon has cabled £17,000 to provide comforts and luxuries at Mafeking.

ANNEXED THE FREE STATE.

The Ceremony Performed in Bloemfontein, the Former Capital, on Tuesday.

Amid salutes and cheers and the singing of "God Save the Queen," the military governor, Maj. Gen. George Pretyman, formally proclaimed the annexation of the Free State under the designation of the Orange River colony. The ceremony was somewhat imposing and the scene in the Market square inspiring. An immense concourse had gathered and the town was gay with bunting. The balconies and windows surrounding the square were crowded with women, among them Lady Robert and the Misses Roberts, the Countess of Airlie and Ladies Henry Bentick and Settrington. The troops were drawn up under command of Gen. Knox. The governor, accompanied by Gen. Kelly-Kenny and their staffs, escorted by the Welsh yoemanry, was greeted with a general salute, after which Gen. Prettyman read Lord Roberts' proclamation annexing the Orange Free State as conquered by her majesty's forces, to the queen's domains and proclaiming that the state shall henceforth be known as the Orange River colony. Lusty cheers greeted the concluding words of the proclamation and these were renewed with ever-increasing volume as Lord Acheson unfurled the royal standard and the bands struck up "God Save the Queen"; all present joining in singing the national hymn.

MORE DEFEATS OF REBELS.

American Scouts Killed Seventeen and Captured Twenty-Three.

Lieut. Jons E. Stedje, of Company L, Forty-seventh volunteers, commanding a scouting party, in the southern part of Albay province, had several engagements with the insurgents, in which 17 of the enemy were killed and 23, including a captain, were captured. Six explosive bombs and a number of valuable insurgent documents fell into the hands of the Americans. The scouts burned the town of Yubi, headquarters of the rebels. Sergt. Brickley was killed during a slight engagement near Higao, province of Albay. Scouts of the Thirty-sixth and Thirty-fourth regiments have captured 32 rifles and 500 rounds of ammunition in Pangasinan province.

May Lose Convention.

As the time of the convention draws near Senator Jones, chairman of the Democratic National committee, is receiving a number of vigorous complaints from the members of the National committee and other Democrats throughout the country, over the action of the hotel people in Kansas City in the matter of rates.

Many of the committeemen who write to Chairman Jones on this subject are urgently requesting that a meeting of the committee be called with a view to reconsidering its action in deciding to hold the convention in that city and to change the location of the convention from Kansas City to some other more desirable and attractive place. No action has yet been taken in the matter by Chairman Jones, though he has it under serious consideration.

Three Stages Held Up.

A dispatch from Raymond, Cal., gives an account of a bold holdup of three Yosemite stages near there Saturday. The highwaymen robbed the passengers of about $400. The bandits were unaware of the fact that troops of the Sixth cavalry were enroute to Yosemite following one hour behind the stages.

A sergeant and one trooper, who had been sent ahead to select camping site, showed fight, whereupon the bandits took possession of their rifles and held them prisoners until after they had robbed the stages. They then mounted their horses and fled. As soon as the cavalry came along they were notified and they started in pursuit of the robbers, who, if captured, may be severely dealt with.

Largest of All Wheat Crops.

The farmers of Kansas will begin next week to harvest the largest wheat crop in the history of the State. Secretary Coburn, of the State board of agriculture, says:

"The crops this year will be the largest ever known. In 1892 Kansas had 3,800,00 acres of wheat and raised 70,000,000 bushels, an average of 18 bushels to the acre. This year the winter wheat acreage is 4,685,819, as estimated by the growers, and the average yield will be larger than that of 1892.

"If the yield per acre is the same as in 1892, the aggregate yield will be 85,000,000 bushels. The crop in general was never in better condition."

Fatally Tortured by Robbers.

James Finnegan, an aged and eccentric hermit living in an isolated spot in Northern Perry county, Tuesday night, was fatally tortured by masked robbers. That night a band of marauders tortured him unmercifully, heating a fire shovel red hot, burning his cheeks and other portions of his body and then assaulting him with a bludgeon, cutting his head frightfully, in an attempt to secure a large amount of money he was supposed to have in the house.

Postoffice Safe Blown Up.

A daring postoffice robbery was perpetrated at New Cumberland, W. Va., early Wednesday morning. The safe was completely wrecked by dynamite and the robbers secured $812 in cash and stamps, of which $150 belonged to Postmaster J. B. Campbell. The neighboring people paid little attention to the explosion, thinking that the boys were having their annual Decoration day celebration. The robbery was well planned and no clue was left.

LATEST NEWS NOTES.

Near Reading, Pa., Obadiah Clark, a farmer, was killed by a bolt of lightning.

Three new cases of the plague and one death were reported at Port Said, Egypt.

Companies A and K of the Seventh infantry, sailed from Seattle for Cape Nome.

An agitation has been started in Switzerland for annexation to the United States.

Fire in the Pitts-Kimball department store in Boston caused a loss of about $250,000.

At Richmond, Va., Rev. Benjamin J. Kelly was consecrated Catholic Bishop of Savannah.

James Cunyard fell from a bridge at Wilkesbarre while witnessing a ball game, and was killed.

Forest fires in the Rainy river district of Canada have destroyed millions of dollars worth of lumber.

The Chicago India famine relief committee has cabled $5,000 to Lady Curzon for the famine district.

Immigration officers at Tacoma rejected 50 out of 358 Japanese, who arrived on the steamer Glenogle.

Three sailors were killed by lightning while working in the cabin of a new boat at St. Clair, Mich.

Charles A. Naulty, aged 21, of Newark, N. J., deliberately shot his stepmother in the back of the head.

Cholera is raging in the famine camps in Bombay, India. In one district there were 1,330 deaths in seven days.

The Senate has decided to take up the Cuban extradition bill as soon as the general deficiency bill is passed.

The mills of the Republic Iron and Steel Company, at Springfield, Ill., closed Thursday for an indefinite period.

Heavy rains in Texas have caused rivers to overflow and the cotton and grain crops have been seriously hurt.

A fresh outbreak of bubonic plague has occurred at Alexandria, Egypt. The disease has appeared at Smyrna, Turkey.

Burglars blew to pieces the vault of the Bank of New Lisbon, Wis., and escaped with several thousand dollars in cash.

Warner Miller and John Mackay have bought for $1,500,000 the Congress gold mine, 60 miles north of Phoenix, Ariz.

The next triennial meeting of the Pan-American Medical Congress will be held in Havana, beginning Dec. 26, 1900.

The Christian Church, which will educate women for pastoral work, will establish a school for pastoral helpers at Cincinnati.

Latest reports show the condition of William Rockefeller to be materially improved from the appendicitis operation of Monday.

On July 9 the people of Connellsville, Pa., will vote on a proposition to bond the town for $75,000 to construct a sewerage system.

Columbian University, at Washington, has conferred the degree of doctor of laws on Naval Commander Richard Wainwright.

The Suffolk county Democratic convention in New York State refused to elect Perry Belmont a delegate to the State convention.

By an explosion of dynamite in the house of William Broehm, at Forest Junction, Wis., the six members of the family were killed.

The new Northwestern elevated road, which is to provide rapid transit for the northside of Chicago, has been formally opened to the public.

At the beginning of the second month of the term of State Treasurer Barnett the cash of the State of Pennsylvania amounted to $4,728,865.69.

Julian B. Arnold, son of Sir Edwin Arnold, has decided to fight against extradition from California to England on a charge of embezzlement.

Masked robbers bound and gagged the Shelly family at Grantham, near Harrisburg, Pa., Thursday night and took all their money and valuables.

In opening the Chilean Congress the president announced a financial surplus of $16,000,000 and said new railroads and other public works will be pushed.

The survivors of the First Pennsylvania cavalry will hold a reunion at the monument of the regiment on the Gettysburg battlefield on June 6, at 4 p. m.

The Eastman kodak works, near Rochester, N. Y., were badly injured Friday by an explosion of chemicals. Foreman Tracy was killed and several were hurt.

At the annual meeting of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, in New York, the profits of 1899 were reported as $830,000. The directors were reelected.

Two girls at the Washington (Pa.) seminary were sent home by the principal because they ran away to attend a dance with two students of W. & J. college.

Queen Wilhelmina has ratified The Hague peace convention. Spain has done likewise, and the adhesion of Germany and Great Britain is expected immediately.

The ninety-second anniversary of the birth of Jefferson Davis was celebrated in Louisville, as the closing exercises to the reunion of the United Confederate Veterans.

The imperial authorities have submitted to the Canadian government the name of Colonel O'Grady Haley as major general commanding the Dominion militia.

The capital of the Times Company, publishers of the Philadelphia Times, has been increased from $10,000 to $700,000, under the leadership of Charles F. Kindred.

Maurice Brown, colored, of Hubbard, O., who shot Alice Newman, was acquitted under an indictment for shooting with intent to kill. Brown claimed the shooting was accidental.

Under an order of the United States district court the plant of the Herring-Hall-Marvin safe works, at Cincinnati, was sold to the reorganization committee of the company for $100,000.

The coroner's jury at West Chester, Pa., has returned a verdict that Mrs. Stella Morrison, found murdered in her home some time ago, came to her death at the hands of persons unknown.

Justice Gaynor, of Brooklyn, denied the application of William F. Miller, of Franklin syndicate fame, for a rehearing, and Miller was taken to Sing Sing prison Saturday to begin his sentence of 10 years.

The Daughters of the American Revolution have sent rival representatives to the unveiling of the Lafayette monument in France, and both demand the privilege of reading an ode or putting a slab on the monument.

At Cleveland Thursday morning Carl Raub, a German newspaper worker, shot and killed his niece, Bertha Yucker, aged 25, and then killed himself, despondency over business affairs being assigned as the cause of the deed.

The annual meeting of the William Cramp & Son's Ship and Engine Building Company, in Philadelphia, showed the gross earnings for the year to be $7,791,560, against $5,300,000 the previous year, with $20,000,000 in contracts on hand.

Boers Invited to Colorado.

Gov. Thomas has given his indorsement to a gigantic proposition, having for its object the bringing of the defeated Boers to the valley of the Platte, in Colorado. The Union Pacific Land Company proposes to give 1,000,000 acres of land, to be taken up under the Carey land act, on the Julesburg and Wyoming divisions. There is to be no charge for the gift, and the company will undertake to transport the Boers to Colorado, being repaid on the installment plan after the communities are established and prosperous.

BOERS WOULD FIND WELCOME HERE.

DESIRABLE SETTLERS.

Resolution Presented in the House for a General Invitation on Behalf of the Nation. An Admirable Proposal.

Representative Fitzgerald, of Massachusetts, offered in the House Saturday a resolution inviting the Boers to come to this country. It recites that it is the chief glory of the Republic that it has always offered a refuge for the oppressed, and that there are millions of acres of the public domain of the United States open to settlement under the homestead act, and then extends a cordial welcome to the inhabitants of the two South African Republics to come to the United States, become citizens thereof and establish homes. The resolution directs the President to communicate the invitation to the presidents of the South African Republic and the Orange Free State.

Commissioner Bingham Hermann, of the United States general land office, gave out the following statement apropos of the suggestion to invite the Boers to locate on vacant public lands in the United States:

"The suggestion is an admirable one. The Boers are a patient and plodding people, and perhaps have accomplished more in bringing sterile soil under cultivation and in use than any other people of whom history makes a record. One half the effort put forth by the Boers in the forbidding country of the Transvaal will produce a hundredfold more results on the public domain of the United States, where both climate and soil are far more conducive to good results in an effort at reclamation.

"In my judgment any community of the great West would esteem it a valuable acquisition if any considerable body of Boers should settle among them with a bonafide intention of making future homes."

BENCH WARRANT FOR TAYLOR.

Recent Republican Governor Accused of Goebel Murder—Sheriff in a Quandry.

The issuance of a bench warrant for the arrest of W. S. Taylor, former governor of Kentucky, was the first official notice that an indictment had been returned naming Taylor as an accessory to the murder of Goebel.

The indictment was filed and entered on record April 19. It accuses Taylor of being accessory before the fact. It charges that Taylor, on January 30, 1900, unlawfully and feloniously and intent to procure the murder of William Goebel, did conspire with Caleb Powers, F. W. Golden, John L. Powers, John Davis, Henry Youtsey, Charles Finley, W. H. Culton, and others, and did counsel, advise, encourage, aid and procure Henry Youtsey, James Howard, Berry Howard, Harlan Whittaker, Richard Combs and other persons to kill William Goebel."

The bench warrant commands the sheriff or other arresting officer to arrest William S. Taylor and deliver him to the jailer of Franklin county. On the back of the indictment about 50 persons are named as witnesses for the Commonwealth. The bench warrant was placed in the hands of Deputy Sheriff John Suter. When asked what he would do with the warrant he said:

"What can I do with it? I would serve it if I could do it, and if Governor Mount, of Indiana, would help me, but from all accounts I guess he would not do it."

SURPRISED WHILE LUNCHING.

How Capt. Roberts Was Caught by Filipinos. Is Well Treated.

Capt. Roberts, of the Thirty-fifth regiment, and his two missing companions, captured at San Miguel de Mayumo, province of Bulacan, island of Luzon, May 29, are still in the hands of the rebels, who have communicated to the Americans their intention to treat the prisoners well and in accordance with the laws of war. During Thursday night Capt. Roberts' wife, who was at San Miguel de Mayumo, received a note announcing the capture of her husband. The good treatment of the prisoners continued, and Capt. Roberts believes the rebels will exchange him and his companions.

The first report of the capture of Capt. Roberts and his companions was erroneous. The captain, with six scouts, was surprised while lunching. Three of the party were killed and four were captured, of whom one was wounded. The wounded man was liberated.

Capt. Abbott, of the Forty-second regiment, recently met 250 Ladrones near Sinalion. One American was killed and the Filipinos had eight men killed and four wounded.

WAR'S BITTER COST.

Reitz Declares Britain Will Have to Tax the Gold Mines.

Telegrams from London quote State Secretary Reitz as follows: "The British government promised the British nation that the cost of war would be defrayed by the Boers. But as the latter will not be in a position to pay Great Britain must obtain the money from the gold mines, which will thereby be mulcted of half the net profits, whereas the Transvaal never levied a special tax on gold.

"The instigators of the war, Rhodes, Wernher, Beit and others, will suffer most. In addition the British will have to maintain a garrison of 50,000 men, the cost of which the mines will also have to pay. As soon as the British troops are withdrawn wars and rebellions will break out, not for years, but for centuries. For England this means a constant source of trouble, annoyance and bloodshed."

Took Aguinaldo's Friend.

The following dispatch was received Thursday from Gen. MacArthur at Manila:

"Small surrenders continue in the department of northern Luzon. Corino, fugitive governor of Benguet, a rich and active friend of Aguinaldo, was captured Wednesday near Kabayan; important. While scouting near San Miguel de Mayumo, Luzon, May 29, Capt. Charles D. Roberts and Privates John A. McIntyre and Lyel A. Akens were captured; Sergt. John Gallen; Privates Joseph McCourt and John A. Green, killed; George Kinger wounded, thigh. All of Company I, Thirty-fifth regiment."

A number of rifles have been surrendered at Cuyapo and more are expected. Gens. Grant and Funston have sent detachments in pursuit of the insurgents who rushed the town of San Miguel de Mayumo.

Rebels Near Panama.

Telegrams from Kingston, Jamaica, say: The steamer Orinoco, which arrived Sunday from Colombia, reports that on May 31, the rebels were within six miles of Panama. The government troops had prepared for action; the British consul and others had left with their families for Tobago for safety and all the Colombian soldiers had left Colon to strengthen the Panama garrison. The United States warship, Machias, was at Colon under orders to land marines if the city were threatened by the rebels. The Orinoco brings also a report that a Colombian gunboat, the Cordova, was sunk by the rebels between Carthagena and Colon.

Carthagena and Savanilla are quiet, but the country is flooded with paper money, the premium on gold being 1600 per cent.

Commissioner General Peck states he will investigate the charges that members of the American commission have been guilty of improper conduct in allotting space to exhibitors and summarily dismiss any such as are guilty.

INSURGENTS ACTIVE.

Marines of Seven Nations Were Landed at Tien Tsin—Besieged Missionaries Reported Safe.

Telegrams from Tien Tsin, China, dated Thursday, say: Heavy fighting has taken place between the imperial troops and the Boxers at Lai-Shin-Hi-Sien, but the result is not known. Railway traffic with pekin has been resumed. The foreign settlement is sufficiently protected by the American and Japanese troops, which have been landed, consequently the excitement has abated. The Chinese refuse to allow the Russian troops to pass the Taku forts.

The Chinese government issued an edict prohibiting the Boxers organization under penalty of death. The edict, which was signed by the emperor, was couched in equivocal terms and promulgated really more as an excuse than in condemnation of the movement.

American, British, Japanese, German, Italian, Russian and French marines, to the number of 100 each, have been ordered to guard their respective legations at Pekin, but the viceroy will not allow them to proceed hence to Pekin on the railway without the authority of the Chinese foreign office. One hundred and eight Americans, with a machine gun and a field gun, landed Tuesday night amidst great enthusiasm on the part of the residents.

Three thousand Chinese troops from Lu Tai are expected, en route to Fang Tai. There is a disposition to believe that the Boxers will disperse before the foreign troops are ready to act. Tien Tsin is in no danger.

The foreign men-of-war have arrived, five Russian warships and two Russian gunboats; one French warship; two British warships, and one Italian warship. They are all landing men.

The rescue party of Freshmen and Germans returned from Chang-Heinn-Tien. They confirm the report that the besieged Belgians are now safe at Pekin. They found several thousand Boxers about the ruins of Lu-Kow-Chiao and Chang Hsin Tien stations. The bridges have been damaged and the rolling stock destroyed. At both places the damage done is considerably greater than at Fang-Tai.

VICTIMS ALL FARMERS.

Prominent Citizens of Washington County, Ohio, Mangled While Witnessing the Shooting of an Oil Well.

Four men were killed, four fatally injured and three crippled for life Wednesday night at Whiple, a short distance east of Marietta, O., by a premature explosion of 50 quarts of nitroglycerin, which was being used in shooting an oil well on the Kelly farm. The well was being shot by the Humes Torpedo Company, which had lowered 50 quarts of nitroglycerin into the drilling. When the "go-devil" was sent down it did not go off, as expected, and what is known as a "jack squib," composed of heavy iron and dynamite, with a protected fuse, was dropped into the well. It was expected that when they came together there would be the usual blast that would shoot the well, but it seems that the "jack squib" exploded first and then the crowd rushed to see the shooting of the gusher.

When the arrived at the derrick, the first charge that was put down went off with terrific force, wrecking everything and blowing the men in every direction. The remains of two of these had to be picked up in pieces, and those who were fatally injured are mangled in a horrible manner.

The employes of the driller and the Marietta Glycerin Company remained at a safe distance from force of habit for some time, although they had no expectation of another explosion. None of them were hurt. They begged the others in vain not to rush up to the derrick.

All of the victims are well known residents, and the calamity has spread distress throughout the neighborhood.

Every means of relief, so far as nurses and physicians and supplies are concerned, have been furnished from Marietta and neighboring points, but nothing can prevent the death list from being less than eight killed, while the extent of the injuries of John and Henry Stallar and Walter Daniels are not yet known.

NATIONAL DEBT DECREASING.

Redemption of Bonds Reduced It Over Two Millions in May.

The monthly statement of the public debt shows that at the close of business, May 31, 1900, less cash in the treasury, amounted to $1,122,608,811, a decrease for the month of $2,193,274, which is accounted for by the redemption of bonds.

The debt is recapitulated as follows: Interest-bearing debt, $1,026,482,990; debt on which interest has ceased since maturity, $1,181,880; debt bearing no interest, $390,772,470. Total, $1,418,392,340. This amount, however, does not include $729,584,179 in certificates and treasury notes outstanding, which are offset by an equal amount of cash on hand.

The cash in the treasury is classified as follows: Reserve fund, gold coin and bullion, $150,000,000; trust funds, gold, silver and United States notes, $729,584,179; general fund, $113,355,229; in national bank depositories, to credit of United States treasurer, $105,226,525; to credit of disbursing officer, $6,095,892; total, $1,104,261,826, against which there are demand liabilities outstanding amounting to $868,478,296, which leaves a net cash balance in the treasury of $295,783,529.

The monthly comparative statement of the receipts and expenditures of the United States shows that during May, 1900, the receipts aggregated $45,166,053, and the expenditures $40,351,525, leaving a surplus for the month of $4,814,528. The receipts from the several sources of revenue are given as follows: Customs, $17,396,573, decrease as compared with May, 1899, $1,000,000; internal revenue, $23,801,326, increase, $140,000; miscellaneous, $3,908,153, increase, $1,200,000.

During the last eleven months of the fiscal year the receipts exceeded the expenditures by $63,335,000. One year ago there was a deficit for the eleven months of the fiscal year of $104,620,000.

CABLE FLASHES.

The English government is determined that President Kruger shall be banished from the Transvaal.

The forces of Methodism in England intend to raise a "twentieth century fund" of $5,200,000 this year.

"Boxers" in China surround a party of foreigners, who were trying to escape to Tein Tsin and killed four and wounded as many more.

The people's congress in Cape Colony declared that England should restore the independence of the Transvaal and Orange Free State.

On the night of May 24, United States Minister Merry's box in the postoffice at San Jose, Costa Rico, was broken open and his letters stolen.

Cavalry fired upon the rioting strikers at Chalons-sur-Saone, France, killing one and wounding 20. Fifteen gendearmes and two soldiers were injured.

By a vote of 116 to 31 the British House of Lords passed the second reading of the bill allowing in the colonies the marriage of a man to his deceased wife's sister.

President Loubet, of France, who, when he attended the grand steeplechase at Auteuil last year was greeted by a stormy outburst, renewed the visit Sunday and there was no sign of political disturbance.

DR. TALMAGE'S SUNDAY SERMON.

A GOSPEL MESSAGE.

Subject: The Roll of Honor—A Tribute to Everyday Heroes—In the Final Readjustment They Will Receive the Crown of Valor.

[Copyright 1900.]

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Dr. Talmage, who is now preaching to large audiences in the great cities of England and Scotland, sends this discourse, in which he shows that many who in this world pass as of little importance will in the day of final readjustment be crowned with high honor; text, II Timothy ii, 3, "Thou therefore endure hardness."

Historians are not slow to acknowledge the merits of great military chieftains. We have the full length portraits of the Cromwells, the Washingtons, the Napoleons and the Wellingtons of the world. History is not written in back ink, but with red ink of human blood. The gods of human ambition do not drink from bowls made out of silver or gold or precious stones, but out of the bleached skulls of the fallen. But I am now to unroll before you a scroll of heroes that the world has never acknowledged—those who faced no guns, blew no bugle blast, conquered no cities, chained no captives to their chariot wheels, and yet in the great day of eternity will stand higher than some of those whose names startled the nations—and seraph and rapt-spirit and archangel will tell their deeds to a listening universe. I mean the heroes of common, everyday life.

In this roll in the first place I find all the heroes of the sick room. When Satan had failed to overcome Job, he said to God, "Put thy hand and touch his bones and his flesh, and he will curse Thee to Thy face." Satan had found out that which we have all found out—that sickness is the greatest test of one's character. A man who can stand that can stand anything. To be shut in a room as fast as though it were a bastile, to be so nervous you cannot endure the tap of a child's footfall, to have luscious fruit, which tempts the appetite of the robust and healthy, excite our loathing and disgust when it first appears on the platter; to have the rapier of pain strike through the side or across the temple like a razor or to put the foot into a vise or throw the whole body into a blaze of fever. Yet there have been men and women, but more women than men, who have cheerfully endured this hardness. Through years of exhausting rheumatisms and excruciating neuralgias they have gone and through bodily distress that rasped the nerves and tore the muscles and paled the cheeks and stooped the shoulders. By the dull light of the sick room taper they saw on their wall the picture of that land where the inhabitants are never sick. Through the dead silence of the night they heard the chorus of the angels.

The cancer ate away her life from week to week and day to day, and she became weaker and weaker and every "good night" was feebler than the "good night" before, yet never sad. The children looked up into her face and saw suffering transformed into a heavenly smile. Those who suffered on the battlefield amid shot and shell were not more heroes and heroines than those who, in the field hospital and in the asylum, had fevers which no ice could cool and no surgery cure. No shout of a comrade to cheer them, but numbness and aching and homesickness, yet willing to suffer, confident in God, hopeful of heaven. Heroes of rheumatism, heroes of neuralgia, heroes of spinal complaint, heroes of sick headache, heroes of lifelong invalidism, heroes and heroines! They shall reign for ever and ever. Hark! I catch just one note of the eternal anthem, "There shall be no more pain!" Bless God for that!

In this roll I also find the heroes of toil, who do their work uncomplainingly. It is comparatively easy to lead a regiment into battle when you know that the whole nation will applaud the victory, it is comparatively easy to decorate the sick when you know that your skill will be appreciated by a large company of friends and relatives, it is comparatively easy to address an audience when in the gleaming eyes and flushed cheeks you know that your sentiments are adopted, but to do sewing when you expect the employer will come and thrust his thumb through the work to show how imperfect it is or to have the whole garment thrown back on you to be done over again; to build a wall and know there will be no one to say you did it well, but only a swearing employer hovering near you to see that you work until your eyes are dim and your back aches and your heart faints, and to know that if you stop before night your children will starve! Ah, the sword has not slain as many as the needle! In the great battlefields of our civil war were not Gettysburg and Shiloh and South Mountain. The great battlefields were in the arsenals and the shops and in the attics, where women made army jackets for a sixpence. They toiled on until they died. They had no funeral eulogium, but, in the name of my God, this day I enroll their names among those of whom the world was not worthy. Heroes of the needle! Heroes of the sewing machine! Heroes of the attic! Heroes of the cellar! Heroes and heroines! Bless God for them!

In this roll I also find the heroes who have uncomplainingly endured domestic injustices. They are men who for their toil and anxiety have no reward in their homes. Exhausting application to business gets them a livelihood, but an unfrugal wife scatters it. He is fretted at from the moment he enters the door until he comes out of it. The exasperations of business life, augmented by the exasperations of domestic life. Such men are laughed at, but they have a heartbreaking trouble, and they would have long ago gone into appalling dissipation but for the grace of God.

Society to-day is strewn with the wrecks of men who, under the northeast storms of domestic felicity, have been driven on the rocks. There are tens of thousands of drunkards to-day, made such by their wives. That is not poetry; that is prose. But the wrong is generally in the opposite direction. You would not have to go far to find a wife whose life is a perpetual martyrdom—something heavier than a stroke of the fist, unkind words, staggering home at midnight and constant maltreatment, which have left her only a wreck of what she was on that day when in the midst of a brilliant assemblage the vows were taken and full organ played the wedding march and the carriage rolled away with the benediction of the people. What was the burning of Latimer and Ridley at the stake compared with this? Those men soon became unconscious in the fire, but there is a thirty years' martyrdom, a fifty years' putting to death, yet uncomplaining, no bitter words when the rollicking companions at 2 o'clock in the morning pitch the husband dead drunk into the front entry, no bitter words when wiping from the swollen brow the blood struck out in a midnight carousal, bending over the battered and bruised form of him who when he took her from her father's home promised love and kindness and protection, yet nothing but sympathy and prayers and forgiveness before they are asked for, no bitter words when the family Bible goes for rum and the pawnbroker's shop gets the last decent dress. Some day, desiring to evoke the story of her sorrows, you say, "Well, how are you getting along now?" and, rallying her trembling voice and quieting her quivering lip, she says, "Pretty well, I thank you; pretty well." She never will tell you. In the delirium of her last sickness she may tell all the other secrets of her lifetime, but she will not tell that. Not until the books of eternity are opened on the throne of judgment will ever be known what she has suffered.

I find also in this roll the heroes of Christian charity. We all admire the George Peabodys and the James Lenoxes of the earth, who give tens and hundreds of thousands of dollars to good objects. But I am speaking now of those who, out of their pinched poverty, help others—of such men as those Christian missionaries at the west, who proclaim Christ to the people, one of them, writing to the secretary in New York, saying: "I thank you for that $25. Until yesterday we have had no meat in our house for three months. We have suffered terribly. My children have no shoes this winter." And of those people who have only a half loaf of bread, but give a piece of it to others who are hungrier, and of those who have only a scuttle of coal, but help others to fuel, and of those who have only a dollar in their pocket and give twenty-five cents to somebody else, and of that father who wears a shabby coat and of that mother who wears a faded dress, that their children may be well apparelled. You call them paupers or ragamuffins or emigrants. I call them heroes and heroines. You and I may not know where they live or what their name is. God knows, and they have more angels hovering over them than you and I have, and they will have a higher seat in heaven. They may have only a cup of cold water to give a poor traveler or may have only picked a splinter from the nail of a child's finger or have put only two mites into the treasury, but the Lord knows them. Considering what they had, they did more than we have ever done, and their faded dress will become a white robe, and the small room will be an external mansion and the old hat will be exchanged for a coronet of victory and all the applause of earth and the shouting of heaven will be drowned out when God rises up to give His reward to those humble workers in His kingdom and to say to them, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

You have all seen or heard of the ruins of Melrose Abbey. I suppose in some respects they are the most exquisite ruins on earth, and yet, looking at it, I was not so impressed—you may set it down as to bad taste, but I was not so deeply stirred as I was at a tombstone at the foot of that abbey, the tombstone placed by Walter Scott over the grave of an old man who had served him a good many years in his house, the inscription most significant, and I defy any man to stand there and read it without tears coming into his eyes—the epitaph, "Well done, good and faithful servant." Oh, when our work is over, will it be found, because of anything we have done for God or the church or suffering humanity, that such an inscription is appropriate for us? God grant it!

Who are those who were bravest and deserved the greatest monument—Lord Claverhouse and his burly soldiers or John Brown, the Edinburgh carrier, and his wife? Mr. Atkins, the persecuted minister of Jesus Christ in Scotland, was secreted by John Brown and his wife, and Claverhouse rode up one day with his armed men and shouted in front of the house. John Brown's little girl came out. He said to her, "Well, miss, is Mr. Atkins here?" She made no answer, for she could not betray the minister of the gospel. "Ha!" Claverhouse said, "Then you are a chip of the old block, are you? I have something in my pocket for you. It is a nosegay. Some people call it a thumbscrew, but I call it a nosegay." And he got off his horse, and he put it on the little girl's hand and began to turn it until the bones cracked and she cried. He said: "Don't cry, don't cry. This isn't a thumbscrew; this is a nosegay." And they heard the child's cry, and the father and mother came out, and Claverhouse said: "It seems that you three have laid your holy heads together, determined to die like all the rest of your hypocritical, canting, snivling crew. Rather than give up good Mr. Atkins, pious Mr. Atkins, you would die. I have a telescope with me that will improve your vision." And he pulled out a pistol. "Now," he said, "you old pragmatic, I set you should catch cold in this cold morning of Scotland, and for the honor and safety of the king, to say nothing of the glory of God and the good of our souls, I will proceed simply and in the neatest and most expeditious style to blow your brains out."

John Brown fell upon his knees and began to pray. "Ah!" said Claverhouse, "look out if you are going to pray. Steer clear of the king, the council and Richard Cameron." "O Lord," said John Brown, "since it seems to be Thy will that I should leave this world for a world where I can love Thee better and serve Thee more, I put this poor widow woman and these helpless, fatherless children into Thy hands. We have been together in peace a good while, but now we must look forth to a better meeting in heaven, and as for these poor creatures, blindfolded and infatuated, that stand before me, convert them before it be too late, and may they who have sat in judgment in this lonely place on this blessed morning upon me, a poor, defenseless fellow creature, may they in the last judgment find that mercy which they have refused to me. Thy most unworthy but faithful servant. Amen."

He rose and said, "Isabel, the hour has come of which I spoke to you on the morning when I proposed hand and heart to you, and are you willing now, for the love of God to let me die?" She put her arms around him and said: "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord." "Stop that sniveling," said Claverhouse. "I have had enough of it. Soldiers, do your work! Take aim! Fire!" And the head of John Brown was scattered on the ground. While the wife was gathering up in her apron the fragment of her husband's head—gathering them up for burial—Claverhouse looked into her face and said: "Now, my good woman, how do you feel now about your bonnie man?" "Oh," she said, "I always thought well of him. He has been very good to me. I had no reason for thinking anything but well of him, and I think better of him now." Oh, what a grand thing it will be in the last day to see God pick out His heroes and heroines! Who are those paupers of eternity trudging off from the gates of heaven? Who are they? The Lord Claverhouses and Herods and those who had scepters and crowns and thrones, but they lived for their own aggrandizement, and they broke the heart of nations. Heroes of earth, but paupers in eternity. I hear the drums of their eternal despair. Woe, woe, woe!

What harm can the world do you when the Lord Almighty with unsheathed sword fights for you? I preach this sermon for comfort. Go home to the place just where God has put you to play the hero or the heroines. Do not envy any man his money or his applause or his social position. Do not envy any woman her wardrobe or her exquisite appearance. Be the hero or the heroine. If there be no flour in the house and you do not know where your children are to get bread, listen, and you will hear something tapping against the window pane. Go to the window, and you will find it is the beak of a raven, and open the window