

The cost of an ironed is about \$400 a ton. This includes guns and all equipments.

The New York World avers that within the modern era the only additions to domesticated animals have been the canary and the ostrich.

By a new route which is proposed from England to Australia, across Canada, the trip from London to Sydney, it is believed, may be shortened to twenty-eight days.

New York's display of grapes at the World's Fair was said to excel that of any other state, even including California. Two hundred different kinds of that fruit were tastefully shown.

The St. Louis Republic thinks that peculiar old South American city, Equique, should certainly be the Mecca of Melbourne, and our government rain-makers. No man ever saw a rainstorm at that place.

A capital of \$52,000,000 is invested in the nursery business in 172,000 acres of land. In all horticultural pursuits the entire capital is estimated at over \$1,000,000,000 by the census of the agricultural department.

Statisticians claim that the earth will not support to exceed 5,994,000,000 people. The present population is estimated at 1,467,000,000, the increase being eight per cent. each decade. At that rate the utmost limit will be reached in the year 2072.

The recent severe storms were responsible for at least one good deed learns the Chicago Herald. They washed several pieces of coal out of a ledge on the farm of Charles Brown of Georgetown, Me., and explorations have shown that coal in paying quantities abounds on the farm.

In France in recent years, much attention has been given to school hygiene. Not only is physical culture made compulsory in all public schools, but the plans of all school buildings, both public and private, must be approved by the proper authorities, and all schools are subjected to systematic medical inspection.

An English authority, in speaking of heavy guns, says that the 110-ton gun, 18 1/2-inch bore, will fire ninety five ordinary rounds, after which the gun is unfit for further service. The 67-ton, 13 1/2-inch bore, will fire 127 rounds, and the 45-ton gun, 12 inches bore, will fire 150 rounds before becoming useless. The cost of the British 110-ton gun is \$82,500; that of the 67-ton gun is \$54,500, and that of the 45-ton gun \$31,500.

Unless all signs fail the bicycle is destined to play no unimportant part in the next great conflicts which will take place when next the issue is joined between civilized nations, remarks the Chicago Herald. In the recent maneuvers of the German armies around Metz the tests made of the bicycle were so eminently satisfactory that it is probable that they will be formally adopted as an auxiliary to the regular army, as has already been done in other European armies.

British husbands when their dinner parties turn out failures, are apt to grumble at their wives for the cook's misdeeds, but they abstain from the practical style of rebuking practiced by the celestials. Recently the Chinese professor at a university gave a national banquet to fellow professors, a noted gift from a lady. It is true that the professor's wife had declined to apply for the certificate required by its provisions. A test case upon procedure by habeas corpus was brought before the Supreme Court, and on May 18th, 1893, a decision was made by that tribunal sustaining the law.

It is believed that under the recent amendment of the act extending the time for registration, the Chinese laborers thereto entitled, who desire to reside in this country, will now avail themselves of the renewed privilege that affords the opportunity of their obtaining their right to remain, and that thereby the necessity of enforced deportation may to a great degree be avoided.

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There is now a great railway system in the course of construction which will girdle the Holy Land from one end to the other. A French company has secured a concession for a line from Beyrouth to Damascus and has already commenced work on a narrow gauge road. An English syndicate is building a railway from Hama to Damascus which will be about 140 miles long, starting from Hama, finding its way along the northern base of the range of Carmel to the plain of Esharion, through the valley east of Nazareth. Leaving Mount Tabor, it will cross the River Jordan on a trestle and then to the point known as Majemeh, where the little Jordan joins the greater river. At this point the road will border on the southern shore of Galilee and almost without a curve along the famous wheat region, biblically known as the plain of Bashan, thence to the southern gate of Damascus.

THE MESSAGE.

President Cleveland Discusses Public Affairs.

"TARIFF REFORM" URGED.

Hawaiian Matters Reserved For a Special Message.

Chinese Registration Law—The United States and Brazil—Effects of the Silver Purchase Repeal—Affairs at Home and Abroad—Work of the Various Bureaus Summarized—Public Economy Advocated—Administration's Pension Policy.

The President's annual message, which has been read in both Houses of Congress, is mainly as follows:

The constitutional duty which requires the President from time to time to give to the Congress information of the state of the Union, and to recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient, is fittingly entered upon by commending to the Congress a careful examination of the detailed statements and well-considered recommendations contained in the reports of the heads of departments, who are chiefly charged with the executive work of the Government. In an effort to abridge this communication as much as is consistent with its purpose, I shall supplement a brief reference to the contents of these departmental reports by the mention of such executive business and incidents as are not embraced therein, and by such recommendations as appear to be at this particular time appropriate.

While our foreign relations have not at all times during the past year been entirely free from perplexity, no embarrassing situation remains that will not yield to the spirit of fairness and love of justice, which, joined with consistent firmness, characterize a truly American foreign policy.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS.
The outbreak of domestic hostilities in the Republic of Brazil, and the United States alert to watch the interests of our citizens in that country, with which we carry on important commerce. Several vessels of our navy are now, and for some time have been, stationed at Rio de Janeiro. The struggle between the established Government, which controls the machinery of administration, and with which we maintain friendly relations, and certain officers of the navy employing the vessels of their command in an attack upon the National capital and in those waters in saluting the revolted Brazilian Admiral, being indisposed to countenance an act calculated to give gratuitous sanction to the local insurrection.

CHILIAN CLAIMS COMMISSION.
The convention between our Government and Chile, having for its object the settlement and adjustment of the demands of the two countries against each other, has been made effective by the organization of the claims commission provided for. The two Governments failing to agree upon the third member of the Commission, the good offices of the President of the Swiss Republic were invoked, as provided in the treaty, and the selection of the Swiss representative in this commission to complete the organization was gratifying alike to the United States and Chile.

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two revolutions, the party at first successful having in turn been displaced by another. Our newly appointed Minister, by his timely and efficient action, secured an adjustment of the controversy involved in the first conflict. The large American interests established in that country in connection with the Nicaragua Canal were not molested.

The United States are especially interested in the successful achievement of the vast undertaking this company has in charge. That it should be accomplished under distinctly American auspices, and its enjoyment assured not only to the vessels of this country as a channel of communication between our Atlantic and Pacific seaboard, but to the ships of the world in the interests of civilization, is a proposition which, in my judgment, does not admit of question.

Guatemala has also been visited by the political vicissitudes which have afflicted her Central American neighbors; but the dissolution of its Legislature and the proclamation of a dictatorship have been unattended with civil war.

HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS.
It is hardly necessary for me to state that the relations between our Government and Hawaii have caused serious embarrassment. Just prior to the installation of the present Administration the existing Government of Hawaii had been suddenly overthrown, and a treaty of annexation had been negotiated between the Provisional Government of Hawaii and the United States, and submitted to the Senate for ratification. This treaty I withdrew for examination and dispatched Hon. James H. Blount, of Georgia, to Honolulu as a special commissioner to make an impartial investigation of the circumstances attending the change of Government, and of all the conditions bearing upon the subject of a treaty. After a thorough and exhaustive examination Mr. Blount submitted to me his report, showing beyond all question that the constitutional Government of Hawaii had been subjected with the active aid of our representatives to the Government, and through the intimidation caused by the presence of an armed naval force of the United States which was landed for that purpose at the instance of our Minister at Honolulu.

Additional advice are soon expected. When received they will be promptly sent to the Congress, together with all other information at hand, accompanied by special Executive message fully detailing all the facts necessary to a complete understanding of the material events leading up to the present situation.

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION.
By a concurrent resolution, passed by the Senate Feb. 14, 1893, and by the House of Representatives on the 31 of April following, the President was requested "to invite, from time to time, as it occasions may arise, negotiations with any Government with which the United States has or may have any dispute, or difference, or disputes arising between the two Governments which cannot be adjusted by diplomatic agency may be referred to arbitration and be peaceably adjusted by such means."

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strated danger of the introduction of contagious diseases from foreign ports have invested the subject of National quarantine with the most important and delicate and harmonious system than now exists, acting promptly and directly everywhere, and constantly operating by preventive means to shield our country from the invasion of disease, and at the same time having due regard to the interests of our foreign commerce, would, I believe, add greatly to the safety of our people.

WORK OF THE ARMY.
The Secretary of War reports that the strength of the army on the 30th day of September last was 25,778 enlisted men and 2144 officers.

Neither Indian outbreaks nor domestic violence have called the army into service during the year, and the only active military duty required of it has been in the Department of Texas, where violations of the neutrality laws of the United States and Mexico were promptly and efficiently dealt with by the troops, to the entire approval of the civil and military authorities of both countries.

POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT.
The report of the Postmaster General contains a detailed statement of the operations of the Postoffice Department during the last fiscal year and much interesting information touching this important branch of the public service.

The business of the mails indicates with absolute certainty the condition of the business of the country, and depression in financial affairs inevitably and quickly reduces the postal revenues. Therefore a larger disbursement than usual between the postoffice receipts and expenditures is the expected and unavoidable result of the distressing stringency which has prevailed throughout the country during much of the time covered by the Postmaster General's report.

THE NAVY.
The report of the Secretary of the Navy contains a history of the operations of his department during the past year, and exhibits a most gratifying condition of the personnel of our navy. He presents a satisfactory account of the progress which has been made in the construction of vessels, and in the making of recommendations to which attention is especially invited.

Progress in the construction of new vessels has not been as rapid as was anticipated. There have been delays in the completion of unarmored vessels, but for the most part they have been completed at low prices, and even in countries having the largest experience in naval ship-building. The most serious delays, however, have been in the work upon armored ships. The trouble has been the failure of contractors to deliver armor as agreed.

While I am distinctly in favor of consistently pursuing the policy we have inaugurated of building up a thorough and efficient navy, I am equally anxious to see that the Congress should carefully take into account the number of unfinished vessels on our hands and the depleted condition of our Treasury in considering the propriety of an appropriation at this time to begin new work.

THE CIVIL SERVICE LAWS.
The continued intelligent execution of the Civil Service law and the increasing approval by the people of its operation are most gratifying. The recent extension of its provisions and regulations to the employment at free delivery postoffices, which has been honestly and promptly accomplished by the commission, with the hearty co-operation of the Postmaster General, is an immensely important advance in the usefulness of the system.

ECONOMY IN PUBLIC EXPENDITURE.
Economy in public expenditure is a duty that cannot innocently be neglected by those entrusted with the control of the money drawn from the people for public uses. It must be confessed that our apparently endless resources, the familiarity of our people with immense accumulations of wealth, the growing sentiment among them that the expense of public money should in some manner be to their immediate and personal advantage, the indirect and almost stealthy manner in which a large part of our taxes are exacted, and a degenerated sense of official accountability have led to growing extravagance in Governmental appropriations.

TARIFF CHANGES.
After a hard struggle, tariff reform is directly before us. Nothing so important claims our attention, and nothing so clearly presents itself as both an opportunity and a duty—an opportunity to deserve the gratitude of our fellow citizens and a duty imposed upon us by our oft-repeated professions and by the emphatic mandate of the people. After full discussion, our countrymen have spoken in favor of this reform, and they have condescended the work of its accomplishment to the hands of those who are solemnly pledged to its execution.

FORESTRY AND AGRICULTURE.
The report of the Secretary of Agriculture will be found exceedingly interesting, especially to that large part of our citizens interested in the progress of their occupations.

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erally have been allotted to many of them. Such allotments have been made to 10,000 individuals during the fiscal year, embracing about 1,000,000 acres.

The solution of the Indian problem depends very largely upon good administration. The personal fitness of agents and their adaptability to the peculiar duty of care for their wants, is of the utmost importance.

The law providing that, except in special cases, army officers shall be detailed as Indian agents, it is hoped will prove a successful experiment.

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Costa Rica has lately testified its friendship by surrendering to the United States, in the absence of a convention of extradition, but upon duly submitted evidence of criminality, a noted gift from a lady. It is true that the professor's wife had declined to apply for the certificate required by its provisions. A test case upon procedure by habeas corpus was brought before the Supreme Court, and on May 18th, 1893, a decision was made by that tribunal sustaining the law.

SILVER PURCHASE REPEAL.
The recent repeal of the provision of law requiring the purchase of silver bullion by the United States as a feature of our monetary scheme, has made an entire change in the complexion of our currency affairs. I do not doubt that the ultimate result of this action will be most salutary and far-reaching. In the nature of things, however, it is impossible to know at this time, precisely what conditions will be brought about by the change, or what, if any, supplementary legislation may, in the light of such conditions, appear to be essential or expedient. Of course, after the recent financial perturbation it is necessary for the re-establishment of business confidence. When, however, through this restored confidence the which money has been frightened into hoarding places is returned to trade and enterprise, a survey of the situation will probably disclose a safe path leading to a permanently sound currency, abundantly sufficient to meet every requirement of our increasing population and business.

THE FINANCIAL REPORTS.
The Secretary of the Treasury reports that the receipts of the Government from all sources during the year ending June 30, 1893, amounted to \$461,716,561.94 and its expenditures to \$459,374,674.29. There was collected from customs \$205,355,016.78, and from internal revenue \$161,027,623.93. Our dutiable imports amounted to \$421,856,711, an increase of \$92,437,000 over the preceding year, and importations of goods amounting to \$444,544,211, a decrease from the preceding year of \$13,455,447. Internal revenue receipts exceeded those of the preceding year by \$7,147,455.32.

THE CHINESE EXCLUSION LAW.
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