

GRONJE REFUSING TO SURRENDER.

FIGHTING FOR LADYSMITH.

British Advance on the Boers Beyond the Tugela—Gatacre's Scouts Are Repulsed With Heavy Loss.

Dispatches from Natal, dated Saturday, say: The Boers, who had been reinforced, made a stand on Thursday at Groblers Kloof and on a range of hills running east. They had been forced from all their positions on the right. Thursday morning the British advanced under cover of the kopjes. The Boers fired a volley and a "Long Tom." The British artillery was well sheltered in the action at daybreak and until late in the afternoon, when a heavy rifle fire on both sides developed. The British infantry had advanced a mile and a half, and a continuous fire was kept up until after dark. The Boers stuck to their positions. The British artillery fire was irregular. A few salvos were sent toward the thickly wooded spots and ravines from which the Boer fire was heaviest.

The Boers sent shells into the headquarters baggage, close to the hospital, but no material damage was done. Gen. Wynne was slightly wounded. Boer positions are not considered strong, with the exception of Groblers Kloof. The hills eastward are not so high, and cannot be entrenched so well as the mountains which the British have taken.

The British crossed the Tugela in large numbers, with cannon and over 60 wagons. They attacked the Ermelo and Middleburgh's commandoes, but were forced to retreat under a heavy Mauser fire. A renewed attempt to storm the Ermelo men was made this morning, but the British were again driven off. The British losses were very heavy. Eight ambulances were employed in collecting the dead and wounded.

A reconnaissance Saturday in force under Gen. Gatacre, with eight guns, found the Boers occupying a ridge three miles beyond Moltene in the Stormberg direction. Montgomery's scouts charged the Boers, who crept around the scouts' flank, killing in a deadly fire. The scouts were finally compelled to retire, having lost heavily. Fourteen are missing. Capt. Montgomery was killed.

The reconnaissance was valuable and would have been most satisfactory had it not been for the unfortunate disaster to the scouts, with whom Lieut. Col. Hoskier happened to be. Their loss was four killed and many wounded and missing.

The British are now within two miles of being in touch with Ladysmith, but the ground still covered is the hardest part and some severe fighting must be expected.

The campaign is now approaching a most interesting phase. In about a fortnight the congress of the Afrikanerbund will meet, and it is rumored that Mr. Hofmeyr will then propose peace terms on the basis of the republic retaining absolute independence, but offering to disarm. If these terms are rejected it is understood that a manifesto will boldly be issued to the Dutch throughout South Africa, calling upon them to throw off their allegiance to Great Britain.

Details have arrived with respect to the capture of the British convoy at Riet river. It appears the wagons were lagged near the drift and that the convoy was attacked by 1,800 Boers with four guns. The shelling continued all day. One hundred and eighty wagons were captured containing provisions and forage. Half the drivers and leaders were killed or are missing.

Col. Pinner sent Maj. Bior with 200 Colonial to attempt the capture of the Boer 12-pounder on a kopje near Crocodile pools. Maj. Bird met with such a terrific rifle and shell fire that he considered the position too strong, and ordered a retirement.

A dispatch from Mafeking says: "All business here is being conducted underground. The resident commissioner has sumptuous apartments in a subterranean bomb proof. The Cape police have a large hall, with a piano. The Mafeking hotel dining room seats 40. All these have been dug out and are impervious to shells."

When the cruiser Charleston was wrecked two months ago on a reef north of Luzon, she carried twenty thousand Mexican dollars and \$400 in gold in the safe, which had to be abandoned.

PIONEERS IN EXPANSION.

America's First Settlers Were Expansionists, so Says Gov. Nash, of Ohio.

Gov. George K. Nash, of Ohio, speaking at the banquet of the Michigan club at Detroit, Wednesday night, said, in part:

"In these modern days we hear of 'expansionists.' What were the sturdy pioneers, the patriotic soldiers and the men who threw the comforts of civilization to the winds and built up this great empire, other than expansionists? They deprived the Indians of their lands and their hunting grounds, and made them a part of the territory of the United States. By this means barbarism was destroyed and civilization advanced. What our fathers did their children have continued to do. In great numbers they became pioneers, have gone beyond the Mississippi river and carried civilization to the Pacific ocean. We have been expansionists from the beginning and will continue to be such as long as there remains savage peoples to whom we can carry the benefits and blessings of civilization. No power can stay our hands. This is as it should be, for in this way and in this way alone, can freedom, religion and knowledge be carried to the ends of the earth."

Action taken by the Chicago building material trades council Sunday is expected to result in extending the strike of machinists to 3,000 men in other trades and stop work in brickyards, where 10,000 brickmakers are employed.

Victor Hochenstein, of Spencer, Ind., has filed a claim for \$200,000 against the Spanish government for treatment received from Spanish soldiers in Cuba, while he was in the service of the Red Cross Society. He publicly charged in Havana that the Spanish blew up the Maine and was confined in Morro cas-

LATEST NEWS NOTES.

St. John's Episcopal Church and parish house at Franklin, Pa., burned, causing a loss of \$48,000.

William E. Miller and Edward Schlessinger, of the Franklin syndicate, were indicted in New York Friday.

Another suit to enjoin the collection of duties on goods from Puerto Rico was commenced in New York Friday.

It is feared that the war will seriously affect the big Christian Endeavor convention to be held in London this summer.

Twelve passengers in a street car at Atlanta, Ga., Sunday morning, were seriously hurt by the car rolling down an embankment 15 feet.

The Kentucky Democratic Senate Friday passed a bill making it unlawful for corporations to subscribe money to political campaign funds.

Judge Woodward, of Luzerne county, Pa., Friday declared a recent act of the Legislature, classifying townships into two classes, unconstitutional.

W. C. P. Breckenridge, of Kentucky, received an enthusiastic ovation at the Anglo-Saxon banquet at Toronto, Ont., at which he responded to a toast.

Mrs. Amber Louise McLellan, wife of O. McLellan, a millionaire State Senator of Louisiana, has sued for divorce on the ground of extreme cruelty.

American officers returned from the Philippines are spreading a report that Aginaldo was once captured, but released before his identity was discovered.

Russian army and navy commanders are gathering at St. Petersburg for a conference. The czar has ordered the army reserves of the first class called out.

The French senate has sentenced Deputy Mascel-Habert to banishment for five years for inciting soldiers to insubordination at the time of Faure's funeral.

H. H. Hanna, chairman of the Indianapolis monetary convention, while declaring the compromise money bill not an ideal measure, gives it his approval.

The Consolidated Kansas City Smelting and Refining Company has filed, in Albany, N. Y., a certificate of reduction of capital stock from \$4,500,000 to \$2,500,000.

To Wing, a Chinaman, recently convicted of murder at Birmingham City, Utah, and sentenced to be shot, committed suicide Friday by hanging himself in his cell.

The sight of Mrs. F. G. Parker, of Chicago, was restored by a remarkable surgical operation, involving the removal of a tumor in the brain which affected the optic nerves.

A diary kept by a correspondent during the siege of Kimberley shows that 2,500 women and children were nightly lowered into the mines for safety against the bombardment.

Governor J. C. W. Beckham, of Kentucky, has entered suit for an injunction to oust W. S. Taylor, the Republican usurper. Taylor is the plaintiff in a similar suit against Beckham.

A double force is to be put to work in the issue division of the treasury department printing \$1, \$2, \$5 and \$10 bills. Each day 48,000 sheets of four notes each will be printed.

E. W. Bliss, president and chief stockholder of the E. W. Bliss Manufacturing Company, of Brooklyn, has sold out his steel tubing interests to the Shelby tube combination.

Lilian Pauncefoot, daughter of Lord Pauncefoot, British ambassador to the United States, was married in Washington, D. C., Saturday to Robert Bromley, of Stokehall, England.

France is making a popular hero of Colonel Villebois-Mareuil, who is General Joubert's chief of staff, and Republicans fear that the Nationalists will attempt to use him as another Boulanger.

Henry Watterson, editor of the Louisville "Courier-Journal," asserts that the late William Goebel, governor of Kentucky, was not only not the author of the Goebel election law, but had opposed it.

At a dinner given by the Players' club in New York, Raoul Pictet, a Swiss scientist, produced oxygen from air by a secret process, the first time the experiment has been performed in this country.

The United States transport Sedgwick arrived at New York Sunday morning from Matanzas, Cienfuegos and Havana, with 27 cabin passengers, 46 discharged soldiers, 54 soldiers' bodies and \$230,000 in specie.

British Navy to Be Increased.

The naval estimates of England for 1900-1901 total £27,522,600, an increase of £2,288,000, providing for an increase of 220 officers and 4,000 men for new battleships, six first-class armored cruisers, a second-class cruiser, two twin screw sloops, two gunboats and two torpedo boats. Of the 108 destroyers, the turbine Viper's preliminary trial reached 35 knots. There will be under construction in 1900 17 battleships, 20 armored cruisers, a first-class protected cruiser, two second-class protected cruisers, a third-class cruiser, eight sloops, two gunboats, four torpedo boats and 21 torpedo boat destroyers.

California Crude Oil.

According to late estimates the production of oil in California is now about 15,000 barrels a day, or nearly 6,000,000 barrels a year. Los Angeles contributes about one-half of this amount, the remainder being distributed between the other Southern California fields and those recently located in the central part of the State.

The engagement of Lieutenant W. W. Ficus, of the Nineteenth United States infantry, now in the Philippines, to Miss Annie Wheeler, youngest daughter of General Joseph Wheeler, is announced.

Five Killed by a Train.

Shortly after midnight Saturday night the midnight express on the Lehigh Valley railroad struck a carriage containing seven persons at Tuttle's Crossing, about 25 miles east from Rochester, instantly killing five of the occupants, fatally injuring another and badly bruising the other. All were members of a family.

Freezing temperature is reported as far south as Tampa, Fla., and it is feared orange and fruit trees here are damaged.

OLD TIME BOAT RACE ON THE OHIO.

PASSENGERS TERRIFIED.

Crews of the Boats Indulge in a Miniature Naval Battle While Their Crafts Plunged Ahead.

One of the most exciting occurrences that has taken place on the Ohio river for years transpired Saturday. The Valley Belle and the Duffy, two steamboats of great speed, started from Marietta, O., on their way South, and when they had reached just below the point of Neals Island the steamers began a race, the two boats belching huge billows of clouds in their efforts to get away from each other.

Finally, after they were under full headway, they came together, guard against guard, and held their places for nearly 15 minutes. By this time the crews of both boats had become worked up to such a pitch of excitement that their anger got the best of their common sense.

They began hostilities, cursing, swearing and shaking fists at one another, one man of the Valley Belle's crew becoming so enraged that he drew a revolver and fired at the fireman on the Duffy, but missed him. Then one of the Duffy's crew got hold of an ax and made an attempt to sink into the head of one of the opposing crew. The passengers on both boats became frightened and left the scene.

The dangerous state of affairs kept up for 12 miles, when the Duffy rapidly drew away from her adversary. The affair is without parallel in the local history of the Ohio river, and it was undoubtedly only an accident that some one was not killed, as the fight reached such proportions that the crews of both boats deserted their stations to take part in it and only needed a leader to precipitate a bloody encounter. Legal action will probably be taken in the matter and some one will have to answer before the Federal court for endangering the lives of passengers on the two boats.

PHILIPPINE WAR ENDED.

Present Expedition of Gen. Bates Closes Military Operations—Police Work Next.

According to information received at the war department from Manila, with the end of the present expedition of Gen. Bates into the two provinces at the extreme southern part of the island of Luzon military operations in the Philippines will close. Afterward, it is said, there is nothing to do but to undertake to maintain order through a police system. Attention is now being given to that subject and steps are being taken to form a thoroughly mobile, lightly-armed gendarmerie, something on the order of the Canadian mounted police, to cover the islands at all points and conserve the energies of the regular troops.

The arrest of a Tagal on the charge of being a guerrilla, as reported from Manila Wednesday, it is said at the department, marks the initiation of another policy toward the insurgents who still remain under arms. As the summary punishment of guerrillas cannot be had until some action has been taken to declare the termination of the application of the rules of war, it is assumed at the war department that Gen. Otis had already issued some kind of a proclamation or notice to the natives warning them that if they defy the rules of war and pursue a predatory warfare, they will be treated as guerrillas when captured.

The president is devoting special attention to the formation of the new Philippine commission, acting upon the advice that the army has reached the end of its functions in the islands and that the time is ripe for the establishment of civil governments throughout the archipelago. It is hoped that the personnel can be completed before the end of next week.

An Infant's Escapes.

A biggy containing W. Gilbert, wife and a seven-week-old baby, was struck by the westbound Chicago and Erie limited at the famous Mercer street crossing, Decatur, Ind., Sunday afternoon. Gilbert and his wife were thrown 100 feet and both badly injured. Mrs. Gilbert may not recover. The fireman or engineer did not know of the accident until they reached the depot, three squares distant, when the babe was found lying on the pilot of the engine unharmed. Gilbert is a farmer, and had just started home from the city.

Battle at a Kentucky Ball.

A special from Whitesburg, Ky., tells of a free fight near Pounds gap, in which one person was killed and several were injured. The trouble occurred during a dance at the home of Bill Mullins, a Virginia moonshiner. Pistols and knives were used in the scrimmage, which lasted until the place had been cleared of all but the wounded.

John Newberry was shot and died within two hours. Ed Newberry, his brother, was fatally wounded. Luella, the 18-year-old daughter of Mullins, was stabbed three times with a dirk and cannot recover. Mrs. Mullins was severely bruised, and one Keller, of Dickinson county, was shot in the knee. Mullins has been arrested and taken to the county jail at Clintwood, where he is under a heavy guard to prevent lynching.

Cut Off Both Hands.

John Stearn, a mill worker of Bridgeport, O., while temporarily insane from the grip, arose from his sick bed Saturday morning and went to Anna's saw-mill, where he stuck both hands in the doubling shears. Both hands were amputated. He said he had a vision that if he had his hands cut off he would get well.

Reducing Cuban Troops.

It is understood to be the purpose of the war department in carrying out its already announced policy of reducing the force of American troops in Cuba to begin within six weeks the reduction of the present force of 9,000 to about 5,000, which limit will be reached by the beginning of the summer.

The proposition is under consideration to organize three complete Cuban regiments, with Cuban officers, to replace the United States troops in garrison and to form the nucleus of the Cuban army which would exist when the island passes from the United States' control.

NO SECRET ALLIANCE.

Ex-Consul Never Reported to State Department That His Mail Was Tampered With by British Officials.

The most important part of the reply of Secretary Hay to the House resolution of inquiry concerning the allegations made by Charles E. Macrum, former consul at Pretoria, is contained in the concluding paragraph, which is as follows:

"The undersigned, secretary of state, has the honor to say that there is no truth in the charge that a secret alliance exists between the republic of the United States and the empire of Great Britain; that no form of secret alliance is possible under the constitution of the United States, inasmuch as treaties require the advice and consent of the Senate; and finally that no secret alliance, convention, arrangement, or understanding exists between the United States and any other nation."

As to Macrum's charge that his official mail was tampered with by the British authorities, the reply says:

"The department of state has been in regular communication by mail and telegraph with Charles E. Macrum, late consul of the United States at Pretoria, South African republic, since his entrance upon the duties of his office. Communications made to him have been answered and the execution of instructions sent has been reported by him. His dispatches to the department, forwarded through the consulate at Lorenzo Marques, have during that time been regularly received. The only instance of complaint in respect to the transit of the mails for Lorenzo Marques and Pretoria was in November last, when a temporary stoppage of the mails occurred at Cape Town, against which Mr. Macrum and the consul at Lorenzo Marques protested. Arrangements were made for the prompt delivery of the consular mails to the United States consul general at Cape Town, by whom the mail for Mr. Hollis and Mr. Macrum was forwarded to Lorenzo Marques. The delay lasted but a few days, and has not recurred so far as the department is advised."

Since the reply was sent to Congress it has been given out at the state department that inquiries set on foot immediately after the publication of Macrum's first statement, developed the fact that the British government had no knowledge of any interference with the correspondence of the United States consulate at Pretoria, and that if any such interference had taken place it was contrary to instructions.

MUCH MONEY AT STAKE.

Suit in Which \$12,000,000 Is Involved Taken to Court.

A suit for the infringement of patents, which, if successful, will involve over \$12,000,000, was begun in the United States circuit court before Judge M. W. Acheson, Pittsburgh, Pa., Friday. The particulars of the case are interesting. The plaintiff's claim that the alleged infringers are on patents on a friction clutch and compensating gear of a traction engine, such as is used to operate threshing machines. The suit is brought by E. R. Bliss as trustee for the Avery & Rouse Steam Traction Company, of Peoria, Ill., with headquarters in Chicago, and the Minnesota Threshing Engine Company, whose works are at Stillwater, Minn.

The plaintiffs made no claim for a specified amount in their action, but they are claiming the profits on about 40,000 engines that have been made and sold during the past two years under patents that they say they own. Some 25 concerns are made defendants in the action, but the suit in Pittsburgh is brought against D. R. Breed, of Pittsburgh, who is the agent for the Garcoett Company, of Richmond, Ind., the Huber Company, of Marion, O., and the Frick Company, of Waynesboro, Pa., of which A. O. Frick is the president. It is said that the money for defending the suits is furnished by all the traction manufacturers who have formed a pool for the purpose, and there are said to be a number of other companies interested in the outcome of this suit, as it is regarded as a test case on which the others will depend for a settlement.

A breach of promise suit was filed at East Liverpool, O., by Zenora E. Huston against Edward B. Toland, of Fredericktown, for \$10,000 damages. She says they were engaged for four years and lovers for twelve years.

ANARCHY OR IMPERIALISM.

Bourke Cochran, While Denouncing Expansion, Wants No Chicago Platform.

W. Bourke Cochran, of New York, and ex-Gov. George S. Boutwell, of Massachusetts, championed the cause of anti-imperialists at a mass meeting held in Faneuil hall, Boston, Friday night, and Boutwell vehemently argued against the re-election of President McKinley.

Cochran, while denouncing imperialism, said: "While we believe that the Chicago platform was revolutionary, no one ever doubted for a moment that the candidate who stood upon it was animated by the loftiest principles of patriotism. Indeed his virtues made his candidacy doubly dangerous. Vicious principles are never formidable when supported by vicious men. It is only when they are championed by misguided virtue that they become formidable and the principles involved in the Chicago platform I do not hesitate to say that I should pursue the same course in '96, because, while I regard imperialism as fatal to this form of government, I regard the Chicago platform as destructive of all government, and I should prefer some government to no government."

Opposed to Fortified Canal.

Regarding the contention that the United States should not build the Nicaragua canal without erecting expensive fortifications, Admiral Dewey is quoted as saying: "Fortifications? Why of course not. As I understand it, the canal is to be, and should be, a neutralized commercial pathway between the two great oceans. Too fortify it would simply result in making it a battle ground in case of war. Fortifications would be enormously expensive and ought not to be erected. Our fleets will be a sufficient guarantee of the neutrality and safety of the canal in time of war as well as in peace."

MEXICAN INDIAN WAR CONTINUES.

200 MEN SACRIFICED.

Bloodiest Battle of the Yaqui War—Indians Use Maxim Guns With Telling Effect. Towns Relieved.

The Mexican troops under Gen. Torres have saved Guaymas from the Yaquis, but by dint of the fiercest fighting of the war and at a sacrifice of 200 soldiers. The town of Potam is filled with wounded and all the public buildings are utilized. The Indians were accompanied by 40 miners and cowboys, who acted as commanders of separate companies of 40 men each. The Yaquis had also a Mexican gun, which was manipulated the Mexicans claim, by two ex-rough riders. Torres reached Potam Thursday afternoon and decided to divide his army of 700 men into two divisions.

The first and strongest, flanked by the gundob Democrata, left at daybreak Friday morning. The first intimation of the presence of the Yaquis was a withering fire from the Maxim and rifle volleys from concealed fortifications in a dense thicket. The first division retreated in confusion to the timber growth along the river. More than 100 men fell at this first fire. Late in the afternoon hill signals showed the neighboring hills to the southeast in its flank movements. A simultaneous attack was then made from the front and flank and the Indians retreated. Seventy-three Indians were found dead.

REVIEW OF TRADE.

Prices Are Yielding—Stock Developments for the Week Favorable—Shipments of Grain.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s "Weekly Review of Trade" says: "Prices in materials are yielding. Industries could not long prosper without reaction from the extreme prices caused by actual or supposed scarcity of materials last year."

The great iron industry has been embarrassed by prices for pig and billets, which were no longer sustained by the gradually yielding prices of products. Considerable transactions are now reported at Philadelphia \$1.00 to \$1.50 per ton below recent quotations; at Pittsburgh 20,000 tons Bessemer have been sold and 75,000 tons billets, both iron and steel being reported \$1.00 per ton lower. The new furnace supplying foundry iron have been competing sharply at the East, and small sales of Bessemer have been made for Pittsburgh delivery at 50 to 65 cents below previous quotations. Sheets are strengthened there by the new combinations, though it does not embrace some large works, but with this addition of 500,000 tons yearly and its sales to the hoop and tin plate companies, the National Steel Company has secured large and rich mines in Minnesota. Rail mills are full, but have taken a small contract for export, and better business enables tin plate works, which have been idle, to resume. At last it is admitted that the wool quotations so long held are fully 3 cents per scoured pound higher than prices in large actual sales last week, and since the decline covering grades between one-quarter blood and lower, which is in demand and scarce, and fine fleeces graded XX or above. Failures for the week have been in the United States 201, and 33 in Canada."

Wheat, including flour, shipments for the week aggregated 3,660,850 bu., against 3,814,069 bu. last week, 3,844,539 bu. in the corresponding week of 1899, 3,722,459 bu. in 1898, 3,324,216 bu. in 1897, and 2,206,773 bu. in 1896.

Since July 1 this season the exports of wheat aggregated 1,307,241 bu., against 1,327,289 bu. last year and 1,612,759 bu. in 1897-98.

Corn—Exports for the week aggregated 2,896,173 bu., against 3,499,335 bu. last week, 2,871,057 bu. in this week a year ago, 3,662,799 bu. in 1898, 4,744,858 bu. in 1897, and 3,158,318 bu. in 1896.

Since July 1 this season corn exports aggregated 138,993,284 bu., against 127,711,473 bu. during the same period a year ago and 114,256,045 bu. in 1897-98.

H. C. Frick, Henry Phipps, F. T. F. Lovejoy and John Walker, all of whom are or have been partners in the Carnegie Company, are about to erect near Monongahela City the largest plant in the world for the manufacture of car axles, driving rods and similar products.

More Puerto Rico Troops.

The war department has decided to form a second battalion of native Puerto Ricans for service on the island. This battalion will be mounted, while the other will remain infantry. Puerto Rican horses will be used as it has been shown that American horses do not stand the tropical climate well. Maj. Joseph A. Buchanan, of the Fifteenth infantry, has been nominated as lieutenant colonel and will be placed in charge of both battalions.

The additional use of native soldiers is in the line of carrying out the plan of the secretary of war to withdraw as many American troops as possible from Puerto Rico and Cuba. Gen. George B. Davis, the military governor of Puerto Rico, speaks in the highest terms of the native troops on the island.

Chance for Corn Growers.

Consul Canada at Vera Cruz has reported to the State department that owing to lack of rain the corn crop has been short in his district and corn will have to be brought from other parts of the country, as it is virtually the staff of life for a large majority of the inhabitants. He suggests that United States exporters give the matter attention.

Germany Has a Surprise.

Germany is preparing to surprise the world with her exhibits at the Paris exposition, which it is said, will greatly excel those of the United States and England.

The German exposition commissioner, Herr Richter, declared in the reichstag Saturday that the German exhibitors would number thousands. They would take a high rank in every group, he said, and lead in many. "France has fulfilled all our wishes," said Herr Richter. "The French and German laborers are working with the best understanding."

GAGE FULL OF HOPE.

The Secretary Predicts the Next Century Up on the Great Achievements of the Present.

Secretary of the Treasurer Gage was the guest of honor at the dinner of the National Association of Merchants and Travelers at Chicago, Tuesday evening, and made an address on "The Outlook." Mr. Gage, after speaking of the present wonderful prosperity of the country, said that it might afford a basis for judging of the future. Taking the period between 1870 and 1890, he showed that the population had increased from 38,558,000 to over 76,000,000; salaries in public schools from \$37,712,556 to \$123,269,412; the number of newspapers and periodicals from 5,871 to 21,178; the number of postoffices from 38,492 to 75,007; postal receipts from \$19,772,221 to \$93,021,384; and the number of miles of railway from 59,222 to 186,810. The freight carried one mile was in 1880, 39,302,209,249 tons, and in 1890, 114,556,173,101 tons, while the cost of transportation fell 61 per cent. Corn production increased from 1,000,000,000 bushels in 1870 to more than 2,000,000,000 in 1890, and wheat from 235,000,000 bushels to 547,000,000 bushels. The production of pig iron increased from 1,065,179 tons in 1870 to 11,773,934 tons in 1890, and steel from 68,750 tons to 8,912,857 tons; coal from 32,863,000 tons to 106,405,923 tons; petroleum from 185,000,000 gallons to 2,325,000,000 gallons. Exports have increased from \$392,771,768 in 1870 to \$1,227,023,302 in 1890, while imports have increased from \$435,958,408 to \$697,148,489.

Mr. Gage referred to our failure in the carrying trade upon the ocean at the only dark spot on the nation's record. He said that wages of labor during the last half century have increased something over 60 per cent., while the general course of prices has been downward.

"The dawn of the next century brings into view a nobler and a fairer world than has yet been revealed to the sons of men. Education is more universal, the powers of the mind greatly enlarged, the average virtue higher, the sense of human brotherhood greater, war and cruelty more horrible in their aspects, industry more inviting, and peace more charming. Those of us who are permitted to march in column over that imaginary line which separates the two centuries may well take heart and hope and enter upon its undisclosed mystery with faith in God, and faith in man, determined each for himself that he will nobly strive to meet as a man and a citizen of the republic the higher career to which a kind destiny calls us."

Indians Fled in Terror.

Details of the eruption of the Colima volcano on the Pacific coast of Mexico, recently reported by telegraph from Guadalajara, Mexico, have been received. An immense river of lava ran over the side of the volcano and threatened to overwhelm three Indian villages near its base. The Indians fled to the Santa Ana mine in the center of Colima copper region and sought safety by hiding in the mine, leaving their women and children to shift for themselves. A company of Mexican troops drove the Indians from the mine and sent them back to their homes to protect their families. One of the most serious results of the volcanic disturbance is the entire cessation of work on a tramway now being built to connect the copper mines with the Port of Manzanillo. The contractors were unable to restrain the terrified Indians employed in the construction of the road. Many of them have gone to Michoacan and Jalisco, and others have fled to the more distant southern states of the republic. One of the reasons for the fright of the Mexican natives is that for many years belief has prevailed that the close of this century would be marked by devastating floods and earthquakes.

Mrs. Lawton's Thanks.

Mrs. Lawton, widow of Gen. Lawton, has sent Gen. Corbin the following letter of acknowledgment of the receipt of the home fund: "Such kindness as yours can never be repaid, and my heart is very full when I try to thank you. Words seem very poor at such a time. Will you please believe that I do appreciate it and all my life will find comfort in the remembrance? The universal feeling, which prompted such wonderful generosity from the nation is so beautiful to me, and so dear my gratitude is inexpressibly profound. I have relieved the anxious thought Henry would have had and I do not know how to thank you or the nation."

Steel Wire Co's. Profits.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the American Steel and Wire Company, which controls 39 plants in cities of the United States, and has a capital stock of \$20,000,000, was held Tuesday in Jersey City. Five directors were elected to serve three years, and new powers were conferred upon the board of directors by amendments to the certificate of incorporation. The first annual statement shows assets aggregating \$106,161,947.78, according to the balance sheet struck on December 31. Of this \$70,620,512.72 is in real estate, buildings, plant and machinery, \$3,225,293.42 in cash and the remainder in investments, inventories and accounts receivable. The net profits, including dividends and miscellaneous income, after allowing for bad debts and depreciation, were \$12,162,520.73. The allowance figured for depreciation is \$1,000,000 and for bad debts \$200,000, but Mr. Gates' statement says that this reduction was made for the purpose of conservatism and not because any deduction was justified.

James Phillips, the original "noted sneller" in Edward Eggleston's novel, "The Hoosier Schoolmaster," is dangerously ill in Switzerland county, Ill.

China Would Make War.

The empress of China has dispatched a circular to the governors and viceroys of maritime provinces appealing to resist by force of arms all further aggressions by foreign powers on Chinese soil.

The empress says: "It is our express command that shall any high official find himself so hard pressed by circumstances that nothing short of a war would settle matters, he is expected to set himself resolutely to work out his duty to this end."

The Russian ministry of finance is working out a law to make this petroleum industry a state monopoly.