HIS ANNUAL MESSAGE

THE PRESIDENT SENDS HIS FAREWELL EPISTLE TO CONGRESS.

The Cuban Rebellion the Principal Topic Discussed—Time Not Yet Ripe, He Says, For Our Intervention—Spain Warned That Hostilities Must Soon Cease.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7. — The United States began the second session of the Fifty-fourth congress with crowded galleries and with that accompaniment of activity and of greeting that usually attends the reassembling of congress. But the upper branch of congress never puts aside its dignity, and the meeting developed no demonstration or dramatic incidents. The reading of the president's message was the feature of the proceedings, and beyond this, no attempt was made to enter upon the business of the session. To many of the foreign representatives occupying the diplomatic gallery the message had special interest and significance owing to the part they had taken in the conspicuous foreign events to which the president referred.

While the scenes attending the opening of the house were both brilliant and interesting in the crowds that thronged the galleries and the conspicuous personages present, the proceedings themselves were dull and spiritless, being distinctively routine.

The house met, the chaplain invoked the divine blessing on the work of the session, the roll was called, a committee consisting of Mr. Cannon of Illinois, Mr. Payne of New York and Mr. Turner of Georgia was appointed to wait on the president, and the latter's annual communication was read. The reading consumed about two hours. It was Mr. Cleveland's farewell message, and there was much curiosity as to his views on Cuba especially, but there was no demonstration, either of approval or dissent throughout its reading. The holiday nature of the opening season was saddened by the announcement of the death of ex-Speaker Crisp, which Mr. Turner of Georgia formally made to his associates. Out of respect to the memory of the distinguished Georgian, the house, after adopting appropriate resolutions, immediately adjourned.

The President's Message.

The most vital topic in the president's message and the one of most general interest is the Cuban question. The situation in Cuba and our relations with Spain are reviewed at length, but the president does not think the time has yet arrived for intervention on the part of this country or the recognition of the insurgents as belligerents. He says:

"It is difficult to perceive that any progress has thus far been made toward the pacification of the island or that the situation of affairs as depicted in my last annual message has in the least improved. If Spain still holds Havana and the seaports and all the considerable towns, the insurgents still roam at will over at least two-thirds of the inland country. If the determination of Spain to put down the insurrection seems but to strengthen with the lapse of time and is evinced by her unhesitating devotion of larsely increased military and naval forces to the task, there is much reason to believe that the insurgents have gained in point of numbers and character and resources and are none the less inflexible in their resolve not to succumb without practically securing the great objects for which they took up arms. If Spain has not yet re-established her authority, neither have the insurgents yet made good their title to be regarded as an independent state. Indeed, as the contest has gone on, the pretense that civil government exists on the island, except so far as Spain is able to maintain it, has been practically abandoned. Spain does keep on foot such a government, more or less imperfectly, in the large towns and their immediate suburbs."

Favors Autonomy For Cuba.

After referring to the political grievances of the Cubans the president says:

"It is in the assumed temper and disposition of the Spanish government to remedy these grievances, fortified by indications of influential public opinion in Spain, that this government has hoped to discover the most promising and effective means of composing the present strife with honor and advantage to Spain and with the achievement of all the reasonable objects of the insurrection. It would seem that if Spain should offer to Cuba genuine autonomy—a measure of home rule which, while preserving the sovereignty of Spain, would satisfy all rational requirements of her Spanish subjects—there should be no just reason why the pacification of the island might not be effected on that basis.

"Such a result would appear to be in the true interest of all concerned. It would at once stop the conflict which is now consuming the resources of the island and making it worthless for whichever party may ultimately prevail."

Referring to the efforts of the administration to bring about a cessation of hostilities, the president says:

"It was intimated by this government to the government of Spain some months ago that, if a satisfactory measure of home rule were tendered the Cuban insurgents and would be accepted by them upon a guarantee of its execution, the United States would endeavor to find a way not objectionable to Spain of furnishing such guarantee. While no definite response to this intimation has yet been received from the Spanish government, it is believed to be not altogether unwelcome, while, as already suggested, no reason is perceived why it should not be approved by the insurgents.

"Neither party can fail to see the importance of early action, and both must realize that to prolong the present state of things for even a short period will add enormously to the time and labor and expenditure necessary to bring about the industrial recuperation of the island.

"It is therefore fervently hoped on all grounds that earnest efforts for healing the breach between Spain and the insurgent Cubans upon the lines above indicated may be at once inaugurated and pushed to an immediate and successful issue.

Our Friendly Offers.

"The friendly offices of the United States, either in the manner above outlined or in any other way consistent with our constitution and laws, will always be at the disposal of either party.

"Whatever circumstances may arise, our policy and our interests would constrain us to object to the acquisition of the island or an interference with its control by any other power.

"It should be added that it cannot be reasonably assumed that the hitherto expectant attitude of the United States will be indefinitely maintained.

"While we are anxious to accord all due respect to the sovereignty of Spain we cannot view the pending conflict in all its features and properly apprehend our inevitably close relation to it and its possible results, without considering that by the course of events we may be drawn into such an unusual and unprecedented condition as will fix a limit to our patient waiting for Spain to end the contest, either alone and in her own way or with our friendly co-operation.

"When the inability of Spain to deal successfully with the insurrection has become manifest, and it is demonstrated that her sovereignty is extinct in Cuba for all purposes of its rightful existence, and when a hopeless struggle for its re-establishment has degenerated into a strife which means nothing more than the useless sacrifice of human life and the utter destruction of the very subject matter of the conflict, a situation will be presented in which our obligations to the sovereignty of Spain will be superseded by higher obligations, which we can hardly hesitate to recognize and discharge.

"Deferring the choice of ways and methods until the time for action arrives, we should make them depend upon the precise conditions then existing, and they should not be determined upon without giving careful heed to every consideration involving our honor and interest or the international duty we owe to Spain.

"Until we face the contingencies suggested, or the situation is by other incidents imperatively changed, we should continue in the line of conduct heretofore pursued, thus in all circumstances exhibiting our obedience to the requirements of public law and our regard for the duty enjoined upon us by the position we occupy in the family of nations.

"A contemplation of emergencies that may arise should plainly lead us to avoid their creation either through a careless disregard of present duty or even an undue stimulation and ill timed expression of feeling.

Time May Come For Intervention.

"But I have deemed it not amiss to remind the congress that a time may arrive when a correct policy and care for our interests as well as a regard for the interests of other nations and their citizens, joined by considerations of humanity and a desire to see a rich and fertile country intimately related to us saved from complete devastation, will constrain our government to such action as will subserve the interests thus involved and at the same time promise to Cuba and its inhabitants an opportunity to enjoy the blessings of peace."

The message deals with the atrocities in Turkey in no delicate way. The president expresses his own indignation and that of the people at the wholesale massacres of Armenian Christians, but points out that no American citizen has been harmed and states that claims have been made to the Turkish government for damage to missionary property. Nothing will be omitted, he says, to bring about the settlement of these claims.

The Venezuelan boundary dispute is dismissed briefly as a matter now practically settled, while it is stated that negotiations between this country and Great Britain for a treaty of general arbitration promise to be successful.

Financial conditions are reviewed at some length, though the recent campaign is referred to in the opening of the message briefly as "a political contest involving momentous consequences and creating aggressiveness so intense as to approach bitterness and passion." There is a note of congratulation for the peaceful solution of the contest.

Tariff matters are dealt with in a review of the workings of the present law, which the president pronounces good as far as it goes. He points out that the present law, if given an opportunity, will yield a fair revenue and thinks that the payment of deficiencies of revenue from the surplus treasury fund is perfectly legitimate.

The president is convinced that "we can have no assured financial peace and safety until the government currency obligations upon which gold may be demanded from the treasury are withdrawn from circulation and canceled." National banks should redeem their own notes, he says, and the government should abandon the banking business and confine its financial operations to revenue and expenditures.

Proceedings of Congress.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The notice of the opening of a Cuban discussion was about the only feature of interest developed at the brief session of the senate, which lasted only 25 minutes. Senator Cullom gave notice of a speech on Cuba tomorrow. The senators had expected to start the wheels of actual business, but the appearance of a house resolution relative to the death of ex-Speaker Crisp led to the customary adjournment as a mark of respect. A large number of bureau reports were received, including that of the government directors of the Pacific railway.

Senator Mills has prepared the following resolution for introduction in the senate:

"Joint resolution directing the president of the United States to take military possession of the island of Cuba and hold it until its inhabitants can institute such government as they may wish and organize and arm such forces as may be necessary to protect them against invasion.

"Resolved, by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America, in congress assembled, that the president of the United States is hereby directed to take possession of the island of Cuba with the military and naval forces of the United States and hold the same until the people of Cuba can organize a government deriving its powers from the consent of the governed and arm and equip such military and naval forces as may be necessary to secure them against foreign invasion."

The house, without wasting time, proceeded to business and before the session closed had passed three bills of considerable importance and the first of the regular supply bills—that for pensions.

Three of the bills related to postal matters. One provided for the use of private mailing cards of the same general size and character as the present postal cards when 1 cent stamps are affixed. Another provided for a limited indemnity of $10 for the loss of registered mail matter and the third provided for a private carrier service in cities, towns and villages where no free delivery exists. It provides that on application of 20 persons receiving their mail through the same office, the postmaster shall appoint such persons as are willing to undertake the collection and delivery of mails at a charge not to exceed 1 cent for each letter and that the charge shall be paid by the beneficiaries. The pension bill was passed without factious opposition, but Mr. Grow (Rep.) of Pennsylvania took occasion in the debate to submit some views in favor of higher tariff duties based upon that portion of the president's message relating to the tariff. The bill carries $141,268,880.

Earthquake In Mexico.

CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 9.—Heavy earthquakes occurred yesterday at various Pacific ports of this republic. Nobody hurt.

General Markets.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—FLOUR—State and western quiet and easy; city mills patents, $5.25@5.50; winter patents, $4.90@5.10; city mills clears, $4.65@5.10; winter straights, $4.60@4.65.

WHEAT—No. 2 red ruled weak and lower in consequence of disappointing cables, liquidation and absence of cash demand; March, 85½@85¾c.; May, 85½@86c.

CORN—No. 2 steady on unexpectedly light receipts; May, 31 11-16@31¾c.

OATS—No. 2 ruled dull; track, white, state, 29@33c.; track, white, western, 29@33c.

PORK—Dull; mess, $8.25@8.75; family, $10.50@11.

LARD—Dull; prime western steam, $4.10, nominal.

BUTTER—Steady; state dairy, 11@20c.; state creamery, 19@24½c.

CHEESE—Quiet; state, large, 7½@10¼c.; small, 7½@10¼c.

EGGS—Steady; state and Pennsylvania, 20@20c.; western, 18½@20c.

SUGAR—Raw quiet, but steady; fair refining, 2 15-16c.; centrifugal, 96 test, 3 5-16c.; refined quiet; crushed, 5c.; powdered, 4½c.

TURPENTINE—Steady at 27½@28c.

MOLASSES—Steady; New Orleans, 20@34c. for new crop.

RICE—Steady; domestic, 5½@6c.; Japan, 4¼@4½c.

TALLOW—Weak; city, 3½c.; country, 3½c.

HAY—Easy; shipping, 50@60c.; good to choice, 70@75c.

IS CUBA'S HERO SLAIN?

SPANIARDS INSIST THAT ANTONIO MACEO IS DEAD.

According to Spanish Advices, Maceo Died Heroically Fighting For Cuba's Freedom. Apparently on the Eve of a Great Victory. Gomez's Son Also Reported Dead.

HAVANA, Dec. 9.—It is stated in most positive terms by the Spanish authorities that Antonio Maceo, the great insurgent leader and the heart and soul of the Cuban cause, has been killed in Havana province after having effected the passage of the western trocha near Mariel at its northern extremity. With the Cuban leader died the youth, Francisco Gomez, son of Maximo Gomez, who accompanied the mulatto general on his passage of the trocha.

Most explicit details of the finding of the corpses of the fallen Cubans and of the facts relied upon for their identification are at hand through the report of the Spanish commander, Major Cirujeda, who contested the passage of the trocha unsuccessfully on Dec. 4 (last Friday) with

GENERAL ANTONIO MACEO.

Maceo and who sustained another conflict on Monday with the forces under the insurgent leader. It was in a reconnoissance after the latter engagement that the Spaniards found the two corpses, not separated in death, which they have identified as those of Antonio Maceo and Francisco Gomez.

The authorities now permit the publication of Major Cirujeda's official report, that the engagement with Maceo on Dec. 4, when he forced the trocha, was "a fearful combat," which is the first official admission that Maceo brought with him across the trocha a considerable and well equipped following and fought a hot engagement to effect his passage.

After the Cubans had passed into Havana province the Spanish commander effected a fresh concentration in that province and awaited the arrival of Maceo. He had received confidential information of the proposed movements of the Cubans and arranged his forces accordingly. He had in addition received a detailed description of the horse which Maceo was to ride as well as of its caparisons.

The expected battle occurred Monday, but no details of the engagement are given out for publication here.

After the fight the Spanish troops made a reconnoissance of the ground previously held by the Cuban forces. Here were found the two corpses lying together, and indeed almost locked in an embrace in death. The one body was that of a mulatto, a stout man, with gray, crisply curling hair and the other that of a slender, dark haired youth.

Maceo's Identification.

Both were dressed in white linen duck suits. When the linen suit was removed from the corpse of the older of the two, he was found to have on a fine undershirt with the initials "A. M." upon it. The pair of black silk socks on this body contained the same initials, worked in red silk. There was a gold ring on the finger containing on the inner rim the engraved inscription "Antonio y Maria." A revolver with an ivory handle and marked, together with a small gold mounted telescope, were also found on the body.

The head of the young man's body was resting upon the body of the first. There was found on it a silver watch, an ammunition bag, several handkerchiefs bearing the initials "F. G.," a traveling valise, a portfolio containing a number of papers and a small book, which had apparently been bought in New York, judging from the marks on it.

Among the papers was one containing a daily record of the fights in which the force of the insurgents had been engaged, beginning with Nov. 24 and closing with an entry for Dec. 7. According to this record, Maceo's forces had made a preliminary exploration of the line of the trocha on Dec. 2. The passage of the trocha is recorded under date of Dec. 4. On Dec. 5 they encountered Lieutenant Vasques with his forces. On Dec. 6 again they met Colonel Acosta and Colonel Sartorius and on Dec. 7 General Sanchez. Here the record ends.

On the body was found, it is said, a personal letter signed "M. Gomez."

Heroic Young Gomez.

It is stated, in addition to the above particulars, that there was found on the body of the younger man a letter written in pencil saying that he dies rather than abandon the corpse of his general, Maceo.

Such are the details of the identification upon which the Spanish officials rely for their firmly expressed conviction that Antonio Maceo has met his end. No news that has been received since the outbreak of the insurrection has caused so great a sensation in Havana or has been deemed so encouraging to the Spanish cause. Since the famous raid of the Cubans across the whole of the island last year, when Maceo invaded Pinar del Rio, while Gomez returned to the eastern provinces, the mulatto general has held his own in the western province against the utmost efforts of the Spaniards to dislodge him. He transferred the whole seat of war from the east to the west, and while his enemies claimed he had run into a trap and built a strong trocha across the island to keep him there, he continued his indefatigable campaign and confidently claimed always that he could cross the trocha when he wished and effect a junction with Gomez again in the east.

De Lome Doubts It.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—No information has been received at the Spanish legation of the reported death of Maceo and the son of Gomez, and the rumor is discredited by the Spanish minister. Senor de Lome stated that an event of such importance would have been made known to the legation at once.

Representative James F. McCleary of Minnesota has announced himself as a candidate for secretary of the treasury in President McKinley's cabinet.

William J. Bryan, late Democratic candidate for the presidency, was asked his views of the president's message, but declined to express an opinion until he had thoroughly read and digested it.

It is stated that Louis F. Payn will be the next superintendent of insurance of the state of New York. Governor Elect Black has said he would appoint him, and the ex-marshal has decided to accept.

Colonel John R. Fellows, the district attorney of New York county, who was widely known as an eloquent orator, died at his home in New York city after two weeks' illness, aged 62 years.

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THE POSTAL SERVICE.

Extract From the Annual Report of Postmaster General Wilson.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—A vigorous protest against the abuse of the postal service is made in the annual report of Postmaster General Wilson, which has just been made public. He quotes figures which show an excess of expenditures over receipts of $8,137,088 for the last fiscal year, which, however, is a decrease in deficiency as compared with the previous fiscal year, of $1,679,956.

This satisfactory exhibit for the last year has been made possible, the postmaster general says, by a vigorous policy of bringing suit or pushing collection on bonds immediately after default, which is the only safe practice for the interests of the government and those of the obligors. The postmaster general says he thinks congress may properly grant relief in cases of hardship and injustice following collection, after the lapse of years, by a general bill or otherwise.

The report says: "There is no necessity for this annual deficit. It has its chief source in the transmission at second class rates of a large and rapidly increasing volume of matter never in the contemplation of the law which gave the nominal rate of 1 cent a pound on such matter."

The average cost of receiving, transporting and delivering each pound of mail matter of all classes was about 10 cents.

Matter of the third and fourth class probably paid for its handling, with possibly a slight profit on fourth class matter. At the average postage revenue of 98 cents a pound, great profit accrues to the government on first class matter.

The proposed 1 cent letter rate, the cheapest postage in the world, Mr. Wilson says, would yield a great profit, but it is idle to talk of such reduction while two-thirds of our mail matter is handled at a small fraction of its cost.

He characterizes the loss sustained by the franking privilege in transmitting serial libraries, etc., as indefensible.

The estimates for the current fiscal year and the year 1898 follows: Estimated revenue for 1897, $89,099,145.07; expenditures, estimated, for 1897, $92,571,564.29; deficiency for 1897, $3,472,419.15; estimated revenue for 1898, $96,227,076.68; expenditures, estimated, for 1898, $97,515,411.15; deficiency for 1898, estimated, $1,288,334.47.

Discussing the merits of the postal system, the postmaster general says the people of the United States may felicitate themselves that in no important respect are they behind any other country in their postal facilities, and in many things they are in the van.

Carlisle's Estimate of Expenses.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Secretary Carlisle has sent to congress the estimates of appropriations required for the public service of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898, as furnished by the several executive departments.

The estimates foot up $421,718,970.60, against $418,094,078.17, estimated for 1896-7, and $432,481,605.98 for that year. Estimates for 1898 by their respective titles are: Legislative establishment, $4,379,890.80; executive establishment, $19,865,959; judicial establishment, $907,120; foreign intercourse, $2,052,728.76; military establishment, $24,292,636.48; naval establishment, $32,434,778.69; Indian affairs, $7,279,825.57; pensions, $141,328,380; public works, $31,437,061.92; postal service, $1,288,334.47; miscellaneous, $36,844,916.68; permanent annual appropriations, $120,078,220; total, $421,718,970.60.

TALMAGE TO WED AGAIN.

The Noted Pulpit Orator Will Marry Miss Mangam of Sing Sing.

SING SING, Dec. 9.—Rev. T. De Witt Talmage and Miss Susie Mangam of this city are to be married. This announcement was made in Sing Sing by relatives of both persons.

The exact date of the wedding has not been determined upon, but the event will in all probability be within a week.

The young lady who is about to become the bride of the noted preacher is the daughter of Daniel D. Mangam, commission merchant, of 77 Broad street, New York city. She is a brunette of 30.

The Mangams have a winter residence on Madison avenue, New York. Dr. Talmage's daughter is married to Miss Mangam's brother, Daniel D. Mangam, Jr.

Dr. Talmage's second wife died more than a year ago.

Big Deal In Coal Land.

PARKERSBURG, Va., Dec. 6.—The most extensive purchase of coal lands ever made in the world has just been consummated in this state. It is known as the Preston county coal and land deal. The members of the purchasing syndicate are S. M. Guffy, Mellon Bros. of Pittsburg, Drake & Stratton company of Philadelphia, John Sliney of Corry, Pa., and the builders of the Chesa. River railroad. The tract contains 40,000 acres of land in Preston county. The price paid was $10 an acre. A prominent geologist says it is unquestionably one of the richest coal fields in the world.

Mutilated Cleveland's Picture.

CHICAGO, Dec. 8.—The picture of President Cleveland, which hung in the rooms of the Cook County Democratic club, has been cut to pieces. The perpetrators of the deed are unknown. It is supposed to be the result of the strife between the gold and silver wings of the party, which reached its height at the annual club election Monday. The picture, which was one of the largest and finest of the president in existence, was painted in Buffalo and brought to the national convention of 1888 by the Buffalo Democrats, who presented the portrait to the Cook County Democracy.

Ernest Engel, the German statistician, died in Lossewitz.

The revolution in Uruguay, according to a Mexican cable dispatch from Montevideo, has been suppressed by the government.

PLANTS IN DWELLINGS.

They Are Not Unhealthy But Emanations from the Rich Soil in Which They Grow Is.

It has long been the general impression among our people that plants growing in the living apartments of dwellings, are not only evidences of a commendable taste and refinement, in the occupants, but also healthful by reason of their giving off to the air, oxygen, an element in it necessary to animal life and absorbing from it carbonic acid, which, when present in large proportion is highly destructive to it. Granting that this function has been correctly observed, and that the growth of vegetation in this unnatural sphere gives to the confined atmosphere a healthy condition, yet there is a fact that has not been taken into consideration. These plants which are thus housed are not of the kind like the Mistletoe which feeds upon the air, nor like the Lotus, and many other aquatic plants which take their nourishment from water, but require quite large quantities of rich moist earth from which to germinate and live. The emanations of healthy growing plants in dwellings, I do not propose to maintain, are deleterious to health, I shall even admit that they may be healthful, as they are tasteful, and beautiful, but the miasma which must and does arise from the rich earth, in which tney are rooted I am seriously disposed to indict. It is not an uncommon sight to witness during the frosty seasons of the year in the residences of the well to do, both in our cities and country places, the living apartments turned into well appointed conservatories, for the care and culture of some of our choice indigenous plants and of rare exotics, and these supplied with bushels of rich damp earth around their roots in boxes and pots of considerable sizes.

From some of these vessels I have often seen growing the lemon, orange and rubber trees, and some of them attaining heights of at least from four to eight feet, and from others, quite a variety of Scrub Palmettos, and in addition to these, many of the smaller flowering plants such as the Rose bush, Geranium, Orchids and the like. Now if these conditions were found in the cellars of tenements or flat houses in New York, or in any other city that has an efficient Health Board, especially if the Garden Vegetables were making efforts to grow from these heaps of earth, instead of the favorite plants, orders for removal would be served on the owners of the premises within two days after official inspection, and for reasons too well understood to be here given. These masses of damp earth in cellars, from which these vegetables might be struggling to grow, are no more pernicious or menacing to health if as much so, as those which are adorned with lovely foliage and flowers, in the parlors or living rooms, of the most elegant mansions. In the former, the air is cool, and decomposition, and consequently germination takes place very slowly while in the latter the temperature is warm and closely corresponding to a sub-tropical climate, favorable to the development of the miasm which as surely lurks within these heaps as in the most typical tropical swamp. It has been a well established fact for centuries, that from such swamps under the influence of a temperature which produces rapid evaporation of moisture, that sickening and deadly miasma arises, and this too, when they are unconfined, and are diluted with an immeasurable quantity of wholesome air and agitated by frequent breezes. This being the case, what in reason may we expect of the same kind of earth in relatively large quanties, subjected to about the same temperature, night and day, in rooms having only a few hundred cubic feet of air space, and the air within comparatively still. These miasma we know, notwithstanding all the out door influences to dissipate them, produce in those who reside near them, not only their characteristic agues, but make more severe all the bodily ailments that afflict them. The contagious fevers, Diphtheria, Rheumatism, Pneumonia, Bronchial Catarrh, and the like, have all to be treated, in such patients living in these localities, with a malarial complication constantly in view, and which after a time becomes quite unmanageable by reason of it. This is especially so, if a tendency to consumption or any diseased condition of the nerve system exists, as they lower vitality, and allow these death dealing agencies to finish easily their work. If our passion or love leads us to make of these things, which we acknowledge cover the earth with beauty, our pets, let them have their appropriate shelters and nurseries where they may be visited and harmlessly enjoyed. A. H.

CORN STALKS FOR SALE.—One thousand bunches corn stalks for sale.
JOHN YOUNGS, Layton, N. J.

THE TEACHERS' WORLD.

All teachers and friends of education are cordially invited to contribute whatever may be helpful or suggestive to others in this line of work. Communications will be gladly received by the editor of this department.

AMERICAN HISTORY

In our public schools American history should not be so taught as to load the memory of children with the barren records of elections, defeats and martial deeds. The study should be at first chiefly geographical and sociological. The child should be able to see from consecutive maps how the nation has grown and has spread its power over this continent; he should be taught the social development of this people, how they have founded States built highways, railroads, canals, steamship lines; how our commerce has grown and why it has grown; what we require to support ourselves, and where and how we raise it; what is the nature of our manufactures, and what the relations between employer and employed. Above all, the child should be taught the homely facts of history as they are about him. The village is the first subject for study, then the township, the city, the county, the state, the nation.

AMERICAN HISTORY IN 100 WORDS.

The Washington Pathfinder recently offered a prize for the best original history of the United States in one hundred words. Out of 911 contestants, the prize was awarden to W. T. Gooden, of Pana, Ill., for the following:

"The revival of learning, commercial rivalry and religious zeal in Europe led to Columbus' discovery of America in 1492. Conflicting territorial claims and parental animosity involved English, French and Spanish colonists in wars culminating in English supremacy in 1763. England's oppression alienated colonial affection, induced revolution, hastened independence. Common cause and danger begat colonial union; the weakness of the confederation demanded a federal republic. Party differences tempted legislation. Negro slavery precipitated civil strife, secession, emancipation, federal authority supreme, reorganization succeeded. Religious freedom, an unmuzzled press, invention, internal improvement and universal education have conspired to prosperity at home and honor abroad.

HISTORICAL CONUNDRUMS.

I have used these "Historical Conundrums" for sometime, and they have invariably proven interesting to my class.

1. My first is a gentleman very unique,
Unparalled, a No. 1, so to speak.
2. Two men engaged in a fiendish plot,
The good was hanged the bad was not.
3. Shrewd and miserly, witty and wise,
He drew down fame by a string from the skies.
4. A ripe red apple gave him the clew,
His dog a candle over threw.
5. The greatest writer known to fame,
But no one knows how to spell his name.
6. An old man hanged one bible day,
But his soul goes marching on for aye.
7. A very remarkable pioneer,
Mixed up some how with an egg I hear.
8. A mid many a nation and peril he strayed,
Saved once by a compass and once by a maid.
9. Sprung from a cabin our chosen guide
Shot by a man, in a barn, who died.
10. The King of the world at thirty-two,
Died since he could not himself subdue.
11. The most glorious modern murderer, he,
Died on an isle in a lonely sea.
12. A twinkle, a tear-drop, a broad, hearty grin,
That wrote of a cricket, a raven, an inn.
13. Gold, armor and retinue all could not save,
His mighty discovery was changed to a grave.
14. He made what would separate fiber from seed,
His mighty machine caused the nation to bleed.

(Others to follow in our next.)

A DEVICE FOR THE HISTORY CLASS.

Give this to your class or let them arrange a similar one. I have found such devices quite interesting in teaching the Administrations.

WASHINGTON.

Whiskey Rebellion.
Admission of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Vermont.
Seat of government established.
Hamilton's financial policy.
Indian troubles in the Northwest.
National bank established.
Genet, the French minister.
Treaties with England, Spain, and Algiers.
Orations on these treaties.
New political parties.

ADAMS.

Alien and sedition laws.
Death of Washington and Franklin.
Army increased. Water house.
More trouble with France.
Severe contests of political parties.

(Others to follow.)

HOUSEHOLD.

The Household editor will gladly receive suggestions from any of the interested readers of this department and any questions of a general domestic nature will gladly be considered.

All communications relative to this department must reach this office not later than Tuesday.

When grating a nutmeg start from the blossom end. It will be found to grate much more readily.

If corks are too large for the mouth of the bottle for which they are intended, soak them in boiling water for a short time, and they will soften so that they may be easily pressed into the bottle.

It cannot be said too often that sand or flour sprinkled over burning grease or oil will put out the fire. A box filled with sand kept in a convenient place should be found in every household, to be ready in case of necessity, particularly where lamps are generally used.

THE LADIES' COLUMN.

We wish to suggest to the ladies that this column is always open to any and all who wish to suggest domestic subjects of any nature whatever, either to ask advice or furnish information to others, and we earnestly hope all readers of the PRESS and who desire will avail themselves of the opportunity, and thus receive as well as confer benefits.

All communications relative to this column intend for publication will be laid over until next week if they reach this office later than Tuesday.

A reader of the PRESS asks for a receipt for white fruit cake. We publish one sent in answer to this request which we intend to try for ourselves. Two cups sugar, three fourths of a cup butter, whites of five eggs, and one cup of sweet milk three cups flour, two teaspoons cream tarter mixed with the flour, one teaspoon soda disolved in a very little boiling water and added just before putting in a reasonably hot oven, one cup of blanched almonds chopped fine, three fourths of a cup of grated cocoanut, one half cup of citron cut in small pieces very thin just shaved off. Cream the butter and sugar, add milk then sift the flour in little by little beating hard, then the fruit and nuts lightly sprinkled with flour, and well beaten whites, lastly soda.

COUGH CANDY.—Break in small pieces a cupful of slippery elm bark let it soak two hours in a cupful of water, half fill a cup with flax seed and fill to the brim with water and soak an hour, when you are ready to make the candy put one pound and a half of light brown sugar in a porcelain stew pan add a piece of butter the size of an egg, and strain on this the water from the bark and flax seed and stir until the sugar disolves and it boils, let boil until it hardens in water, add a little lemon juice, and vanilla if desired, beat hard a moment and pour in buttered tins, cut out in squares like caramals.

Teacher—"Can anyone explain how the earth is divided?" Willie (with very important air)—"Between them that's got it and them that would like to have it."

After the foot ball is over—after the field is clear—straighten my nose and shoulder, help me to find my ear.—Ex.

Pure Food

You agree that baking powder is best for raising. Then why not try to get its best results? Just as easy to get all its good—none of its bad, by having it made with digestion-aiding ingredients as in KEYSTAR: greatest raising strength, no bad effects. No use to clog the stomach with what never helps make flesh and blood.

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