

A PATRIOTIC APPEAL.

Gen. Sicles to the Old Soldiers of the Union.

He Calls on Them to Put Patriotism Above Party, and Stand Once More for the Country's Peace, Welfare and Honor.

New York, Sept. 18.—The following letter, addressed by Gen. Daniel Sicles to his old companions in the Union armies, is made public hereto-day:

My Dear Comrade: I ask you to consider and reflect upon the sacred interests involved in the present situation of our public affairs. I know you love your country. You have given to it the best proof of devotion man can give—you have defended it in battle.

Let me urge you and every union veteran to lay aside party feeling now and unite for national honor and for law and order, as you did in '61 to '65 against treason and rebellion. The present crisis seems to me as vital to the welfare of the country as that which called us to the field before.

Some of the principles for which we then contended are again at stake. Sectionalism, repudiation and mob rule are threatened. Many of us were obliged to choose between our country and our party in those days. I feel that this is a time when all true patriots should stand together, preferring their country, its honor, good faith and untarnished name above all mere partisan considerations.

Reviving Sectional Hate.

Mr. Bryan and many of his supporters are trying to combine the south and west against the north and east. This is sectionalism—of which the rebellion was the offspring. Will you follow these guides into dangerous paths, or will you not rather follow Washington in "frowning upon the first dawning of every attempt to alienate one portion of our country from the rest, or to ensue the ties which now link together the various parts?" Sectionalism has become hateful to most of our old adversaries in the south, who have outgrown the spirit of the war, and are now as loyal to their united country as any of us. Union veterans who fought for one union, one constitution and one destiny, can never favor any candidate or party seeking to array one section of our common country against another.

Silver Means Repudiation.

Mr. Bryan proposes to pay all the creditors of our government in silver. This is repudiation. It would degrade and disgrace us as a nation in the eyes of the whole world. Among the creditors of the nation are the pensioners. If you consent to pay in debased silver the bondholder who lent his money to the government to arm and feed and clothe its troops, you consent at the same time to a reduction of one-half of the pensions awarded to the war veterans, and to the widows and orphans of those who are not living. All the creditors of the government must stand or fall together. Many of you are pensioners, or the friends of widows and orphans who are pensioners. Many of you have deposited your savings in savings banks. Most of you are farmers at the plow, or in the workshop, or dependent on small-salaries, in public or private employment. To all so situated the payment of wages and pensions and your savings, in silver, not redeemable in gold, as proposed by Mr. Bryan and his hybrid allies, would involve severe losses and hardship. The cost of all the necessities of life would be doubled, while the value of the money in which wages and pensions would be paid would be reduced nearly one-half. On the other hand the farmers would not be benefited, because they must sell their products for money worth only a little more than half its present value, based on a gold standard. Every producer and every workman would thus suffer. All business would be deranged. Employment would be difficult to find. Wages would advance very slowly, if at all.

Washington vs. Bryan.

Mr. Bryan assails the obligations of public and private contracts. He would not pay the public creditors the money they have the legal and moral right to demand and receive. This would destroy the public credit. Mr. Bryan says the government has no use for credit—which is foolish. Washington, in his farewell address to his countrymen, admonished us to "cherish public credit, as a very important source of strength and security." Mr. Bryan would despoil the citizen of his right to recover what is due to him from his neighbor, according to the tenor of an obligation lawfully made. This would destroy confidence between man and man. Public credit and national honor are inseparable. When our people cease to feel a patriotic pride in the honor of their country they will surely lose a just sense of personal honor—and when both of these sentiments are lost, the nation is lost.

The constitution of the United States declares that "the validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred in payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned." This pledge to all the world is consecrated by all the sacrifices and suffering of the secession war. We must make it good.

The Attack on the Supreme Court.

Mr. Bryan threatens to reorganize the highest court in the land so that its decisions shall satisfy the demands of the populists. If elected he would make the judicial department of the government obedient to his will. He would destroy the independence of the courts of justice. This would overturn the framework of our constitution. This would be revolution.

Mr. Bryan proposes that silver shall be the money of the country. There is no nation in which silver is the standard of value where the wages paid for labor are more than a fraction of the wages paid to the American workmen. Nobody understands the evils of a depreciated currency better than the veteran soldier and sailor, because they were paid during the war in paper money not then redeemable in gold. This was the best our government could do for us during the war, and we made no complaint. Often this paper money was worth less than 50 cents on the dollar, while the cost of everything you bought was double, but your pay was not increased.

An Enemy of Order.

Mr. Bryan denies the authority of the president and the courts of the United States to interfere with mobs. They may with impunity disturb the peace, destroy property and life, interrupt travel between the states, and obstruct the United States mails and interstate as well as foreign commerce, but the government must look on powerlessness, helpless, paralyzed. This is mob rule—anarchy. It is impossible to exaggerate the gravity of this issue. It really overshadows all others, because it touches the foundations of social order and civilization. This new doctrine is worse than the old secession heresy you put down with your bayonets. Let us silence the new heresy with our ballots.

While many veterans may not agree with some of Maj. McKinley's political views, we are all, I hope, far more widely separated from the ruinous policy of his adversary. We feel as Stephen A. Douglas felt at the beginning of the war, when he gave his support to Lincoln, saying: "Give me a country where my children can live in peace, and then we can have room to settle our political differences afterward."

Not Democratic.

To those who, like myself, have adhered to the democratic party, let me say that the platform and candidate are not democratic. They are disowned and denounced by millions of the best democrats in the land. No man of recognized authority in finance indorses the financial policy of the Chicago platform. You are not populists, nor socialists, nor revolutionists. Read the platform adopted by democratic national conventions in former years and you will see that the last Chicago convention rejected all the best traditions of our history and adopted much of the revolutionary creeds of the populists and free silverites and socialists, dictated by Altgeld, Tillman & Co. They repudiated you and your party and your principles. They have no claim to your support. Let us defeat them.

What McKinley Stands For.

Comrade McKinley stands for all that America must now uphold. He has been chosen as the candidate of the party which is resisting national dishonor. I can do no better than give our votes to our comrade, who manifested his love for his country by shouldering his musket and serving for nearly two years as a private-soldier. His promotions were fairly earned by his courage and his faithful performance of the duties of an enlisted man in the ranks. His comrades may well trust him. He will see to it that the principles for which you and he have suffered and sacrificed so much, and for which so many of our comrades gave their lives, are preserved and perpetuated. A few days ago I met many thousands of our comrades at St. Paul during the national encampment. Among that vast multitude I only heard one voice, and that was for "McKinley and national honor." Once, only once, did I hear the name of Bryan, and then the cry was: "No use for Bryan!" This will be echoed by the American people in November—"No use for Bryan!"

Defeat of Bryan Sure, But It Should Be Made Crushing.

In this contest we must not be satisfied with mere success. The defeat of Mr. Bryan is sure. It is our patriotic duty to make his defeat and the defeat of all he represents so crushing that neither he nor his allies can hope for political resurrection.

Comrades, let us stand together once more for our country, its peace and welfare and honor. Let us stand together above partisanship. Let us stand together touching elbows as Comrade McKinley stood with you in the ranks in 1861. Fraternal yours, D. SICKLES.

HOW WILL YOU VOTE?

The Lines of Division Between the Two Parties.

HONESTY. Everybody who wants cheap money—that is, money which is loaned at low rates of interest—should vote for the party which is pledged to maintain the present standard of value under which our stock of money has increased and interest rates have steadily declined during the past 25 years.	DISHONESTY. Everybody who wants less money or wants his money to be worth only one-half of its present value should vote for the party which promises to give us 53-cent silver dollars, which will drive our \$20,000,000 of gold out of circulation.
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Everybody who wants a stable measure of values which will be just to both debtors and creditors and will best serve as a medium of exchange should vote for the gold standard, which the experience of all countries has shown to be better than silver.	Everybody who thinks his wages are now too high or that the prices of his necessities are too low should vote for the silverite candidates.
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Everybody who wants the country to be prosperous, confidence restored, capital abundant, and business men willing and able to make loans should vote with the men who stand for honest money and a stable financial system.	Everybody who wants to see hard times, brought on by lack of confidence on the part of investors and business men, and a financial panic, caused by the general calling in of loans, should vote with the silver agitators who are unsettling trade and industry.
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Everybody who knows that congress cannot create a dollar's worth of property and that if the government issues more men rich by law it takes the wealth it gives them from some other men should vote for the party which is opposed to the idea that the government's fiat makes money valuable.	Everybody who believes that the government can and ought to make some men rich by issuing fiat paper dollars or half fiat silver dollars should vote for those schemes.
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Everybody who believes in everyday honesty and in the obligation of debtors to return as good money as they borrowed should vote for a debased and fluctuating silver against the party of repudiation.	Everybody who thinks that men who borrow 100-cent dollars should be enabled by law to pay their debts in dollars as they borrowed should vote for a debased and fluctuating silver against the party of repudiation.
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WHIDDEN GRAHAM.

Quality Not Considered.

Candidate Bryan has a great deal to say nowadays about the "quantity" of money in circulation. Never in the history of the world has the quantity of money had less to do with its value or purchasing power than at present. During the war, when both gold and silver were driven out of circulation, "shin-plasters," stamps and other forms of paper money took their place. To-day the use of credits is almost universally employed in the settlement of accounts. Not less than 90 per cent. of business transactions are adjusted in this way. From this single fact may be gleaned how little sense there is in the Bryanite babble about "cornering gold." It is not quantity, but quality, of money that counts. During the last 18 years the quantity of gold money in the United States has nearly doubled, and during this era the country reached the climax of prosperity.—N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

McKinley's election will put money in circulation, men at work and credit above par.—Chicago Times-Herald.

M'KINLEY TO DEMOCRATS.

Chicago Commercial Men Welcomed at Canton.

Saturday, September 12, was a great day at the home of Maj. McKinley. The Commercial Democratic McKinley club of Chicago paid the republican nominee for presidential honors a visit in force, and gave the noted Ohioan a rousing greeting. In response Mr. McKinley said:

"Mr. Hoffstadt and Gentlemen of the Democratic Commercial McKinley Club of Chicago: Your call is most gratifying to me and most encouraging to the cause in which we are jointly engaged. To have this large body of commercial men, representing every branch of mercantile interest in the great city of Chicago, belonging to another political party than the one with which I am associated, pay me a visit, is peculiarly significant and demonstrates in a most striking manner that the great conservative force of all parties can be relied upon to unite in every crisis of country. [Tremendous cheering.]

"That you should have traveled nearly 400 miles to bring me assurance of support shows your deep solicitude for the honor of your country and signalizes the interest which is everywhere felt that the good faith of the nation shall not be broken and that its credit and currency shall not be degraded. [Great applause and cries of 'Good, good!'] If showing me that party lines, strong as they are, are not strong enough to prevail against the country's highest and best interests, [Tremendous cheering and cries of 'That's right!'] What Gov. Morris said long years ago is peculiarly applicable now: 'Let us forget party and think of our country.' [Cries of 'We will!'] Our country embraces both parties. We must endeavor therefore to serve and benefit both. This cannot be effected while political delusions array good men against each other."

Good in the Present Campaign.

"I sometimes think, my fellow-citizens, that possibly the dangerous menace of free silver and an irredeemable paper currency which now confronts us was needed to convince the whole world that the old sectional lines are obliterated and that the domination of party is not tenacious enough to control against the country's welfare. [Tremendous cheering and cries of 'Hurrah for McKinley!'] If this shall be demonstrated it will be worth to national spirit, to patriotism and the national honor all that this campaign shall have cost of anxious fear and apprehension. [Applause.]

"You have said, Mr. President, that you are still democrats. [Laughter.] I cannot expect you to be otherwise; but now, as in the days of the war, men of all parties are united under the standard borne by the immortal Lincoln—great cheering—those who stood for the national union and the flag of our fathers. This year, moved by the same sentiment of patriotism, you unite with the glorious banner on which is inscribed American honor and American prosperity. [Tremendous cheering and cries of 'Hurrah for McKinley!']

"Gentlemen, I am profoundly impressed by this call, and while differing from me, as you have stated, in minor policies of government, yet I welcome you, every one of you, as patriotic citizens associated in this great contest for the triumph of law and order—[applause]—for national honor and public and private honesty. [Renewed applause and cries of 'Good!'] Our free institutions will never perish so long as the people are guided by the spirit of patriotism which you have exhibited in temporarily turning away from your party, because you believe its success endangers public and private credit and is a menace to public and private morals. [Enthusiastic cheering and cries of 'That's right!']

Enlisted in a Noble Cause.

"It is a noble cause which engages and inspires this large body of commercial men. [Cries of 'Right, right!'] Standing by constitutional authority and law is the highest obligation of American citizenship. [Renewed cries of 'Right, right!'] Standing by the public faith is a call of supreme duty. [Cries of 'Good!'] Preserving the public credit untainted and the currency uncorrupted, and both above challenge anywhere in the world, is the command of simple honesty and good morals. [Cheers and cries of 'Good, good!'] I appreciate the grave responsibility which, by the action of my party and the force of circumstances, has been placed upon me—a responsibility which would almost be impossible to bear but for the consciousness that it has from you, without argument or elaboration. Everybody ought to want good money. Honest money is the only kind for honest people—[great cheering]—and the United States government will have no other. [Renewed cheering and cries of 'Hurrah for McKinley!']

Against Free Coinage of Silver.

"There are a good many people, doubtless, who believe that free coinage of silver at sixteen to one will keep every dollar as good as it is now and result in giving us more money. But will it? [Cries of 'No, no, no!'] We do not have anything but the best in the United States. [Tremendous applause and cries of 'Hurrah for McKinley, our next president!'] We have the best money now, and that is what it will continue to be if the republican party is given control of every branch of the government. [Great applause and cries of 'It will be given that, all right!'] That is what I have in mind, and I am glad to hear of it. [Renewed applause and cries of 'They won't triumph!']

Gold Standard Advocated.

"If we were starting out now, gentlemen, to originate a new financial system, would we make a different one from that we now have? [Cries of 'No, no!'] We might in some minor particulars, but would we not select the metal for our standard which

was the most stable and unfluctuating in value and the most generally recognized by the leading commercial nations of the world? [Cries of 'Yes, yes!'] We would make our standard of that metal which was the most stable in price. We would not overlook the fact for a single moment that gold will sell for as much before it is coined as it will sell for afterward. Is it not best for all interests to have a standard of money of a metal which sells for as much in bullion as it sells for when minted, and is just as valuable out of the mint as in it; that loses nothing, even if it is melted, and which is of the same value if every mark of the government's stamp is effaced? [Loud cries of 'Yes, yes!'] A metal whose market value is the same as its coined value is surely a safer standard than a metal whose market value is 48 cents less than its coin value.

"If you were to have two standards they must be equal. If we would float both gold and silver freely we must make the ratio based upon the commercial value of the two metals. This was the view of both Jefferson and Hamilton, who differed widely on other subjects. This has been the view of wise men, democrats and republicans, from the beginning of the government until now. [A voice: 'Well, we are wise democrats,'] and laughter.] This would seem to indicate it. [Cheers.]

As to the Ratio of Coinage.

"There are those who think there is something sacred about the ratio of sixteen to one because the fathers established it; but the fathers did not establish it. They established the ratio of fifteen ounces of silver to one ounce of gold, and those who established that ratio made it upon the commercial ratio between gold and silver, and they seemed not to have been influenced by the fact that in 1822 the commercial and coinage ratio was ten and three-quarter ounces of silver to one ounce of gold. It was not until 1834 that the United States adopted the ratio of sixteen to one. And why was it done? Because that was believed to be the real relative value, or nearly so, between the two metals at that time, and they seemed not to have been influenced by the earlier ratio of fifteen to one, but determined the ratio upon the then values of the two metals in the markets of the world. [Cries of 'That's right!']

"Mr. Jefferson favored the use of both gold and silver, and yet while he was president of the United States, on his own motion and without the authority of congress, he ordered the mints to discontinue the coinage of silver dollars. Why did he do it? Because he believed that he could keep gold in the country and make it circulate by the ratio of fifteen to one by suspending the coinage of the silver dollar. He thought that if no silver was coined the gold, although more valuable, would flow into the channels of trade. The fact was, that gold did not, notwithstanding the suspension of the coinage of the silver dollar.

"There were no silver dollars coined in the United States from 1806 to 1834. Then congress changed the ratio between the two metals from fifteen ounces of silver to one ounce of gold, and those who established that ratio made it upon the commercial ratio between gold and silver, and they seemed not to have been influenced by the fact that in 1822 the commercial and coinage ratio was ten and three-quarter ounces of silver to one ounce of gold. It was not until 1834 that the United States adopted the ratio of sixteen to one. And why was it done? Because that was believed to be the real relative value, or nearly so, between the two metals at that time, and they seemed not to have been influenced by the earlier ratio of fifteen to one, but determined the ratio upon the then values of the two metals in the markets of the world. [Cries of 'That's right!']

Irreversible Law of Trade.

"That is the irreversible law of trade. That is the unvarying law of business, and it is an indisputable fact that where you have two standards, the one less valuable than the other, the most valuable goes out, and if we had free coinage at sixteen to one, while the commercial value of silver in its relation to gold is thirty-two to one, gold would go out and silver would be the only money with which we would do our business—for a 100-cent dollar will not keep company with a 52-cent dollar. [Tremendous cheering and cries of 'Hurrah for McKinley!'] And, instead of our having more money, we would have less money with which to transact the business of the country. [Great applause and cries of 'That's right!'] We would secure by the Mexican system [great laughter] a poor dollar and less circulation. [Great applause.] That we do not want, and that we do not mean to have. [Renewed applause and cries of 'We won't have it!']

"In 1873, when the free coinage of silver was stopped, we were not using either gold or silver as money. We were using paper. We did not use a dollar of silver then. We now have \$50,000,000 of which \$13,000,000 are full legal tender standard silver dollars, and behind every one of them is the government of the United States. [Great cheering.] The lack of silver surely could not have depreciated prices since 1873, for we have 60 times more of it now than we had then.

"The depression in the price of wheat, about which much is now said, must be accounted for in some other way. The chief of the United States bureau of statistics states that the wheat crop of wheat per capita in 1895 was 25 per cent. less than in 1892. Do you not think that this might be a more reasonable accounting for some of the depreciation in the price of wheat than to charge it to the monetary legislation of 23 years ago? [Cries of 'Yes, yes!'] It was the decrease of consumption and the increase of competition—not the suspension of the free coinage of silver—that accounts in part for the low price of wheat to-day.

Plain Duty of Patriotism.

"We cannot make prices, but we can provide that all prices shall be paid in full dollars, worth 100 cents. [Cries of 'That's right!'] and great cheering.] We cannot reverse the laws of common honesty. [Great applause.] Our interests in the United States are mutual and interdependent, and it is the plain duty of patriotism to protect all of them from undue competition abroad and from ruinous financial schemes at home. [Great applause.] That is our business this year, gentlemen, and what will your ballot in November be? [Cries of 'We will cast our ballots for McKinley and protection,'] and cheering.]

"My fellow citizens, I cannot overstate my feelings of gratitude and thankfulness for the honor of this call. You cannot, I am sure, appreciate yourselves what it means to have a thousand democratic commercial men, who have all their lives been democrats, to come to the home of the republican candidate for president and pledge to him their earnest support. [Tremendous cheering and cries of 'You'll have it, major!'] I thank you from the bottom of my heart, and believe me it will give me sincere pleasure to meet and greet each one of you personally. [Tremendous cheering.]

Whatever else may go unread, we recommend that every student of national politics, or more especially of the great financial questions of the day, shall read McKinley's letter of acceptance, Harrison's Carnegie hall speech and Carl Schurz's speech at Central Music hall. They constitute a great trilogy, and embody the whole law and gospel so presented that he who reads may read.—Chicago Times-Herald.

PENSIONS TO VETERANS.

Commissioner Murphy Presents His Annual Report to Secretary Francis.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—Dominic I. Murphy, commissioner of pensions, has made his annual report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1896, to Secretary Francis. In it he says:

There were added to the rolls during the year 40,374 new pensioners and there were restored 3,813 who had been previously dropped, a total of 44,187. During the same period the losses were 20,393 by death and 1,141 by remarriage (widows), 1,084 by legal limitation (minors), 2,552 because of failure to claim pension for three years, and 9,233 for other causes—an aggregate of 44,094. The net gain over the previous year was only 1.4, and it may be now safely assumed that the roll from this time forth will show a marked and steady diminution unless congress should enact still more liberal provisions than are now upon the statute books. The rate of mortality among our pensioners, particularly among those who served during the war of the rebellion, is rapidly increasing, the number reported decreased during the year far exceeding that of any corresponding period in the history of the bureau. The whole number of pensioners on the roll June 30, 1896, was 973,678. While the rolls show a slight gain in numbers over the year immediately preceding, the amount disbursed for pensions was \$188,214,761, a decrease of \$1,592,753 as compared with the previous year. There were 63,594 pension claims pending at the close of the fiscal year, 234,337 being applicants for increases made by persons now on the rolls.

Although last year's estimate of \$140,000,000 for pensions was \$1,790,620 more than was necessary for the past fiscal year, the commissioner duplicates that estimate for the next fiscal year, stating that he believes the adjudication of many cases will make the full amount necessary. It is his intention to push the settlement of cases as rapidly as possible. An estimate of \$1,228,580 is made for miscellaneous expenses.

The commissioner says the payment by vouchers has worked satisfactorily and opposes a return to personal payments. Some difficulty has been experienced in the executions of vouchers in Germany and the state department has been requested to furnish bureau information as to what persons have authority to administer oaths. There are 601 United States pensioners in Germany.

Regarding the revision of the pension list, the commissioner says:

There is no foundation for the erroneous impression that it is the intention still further to revise the lists, as the purging of the rolls which was commenced in 1893 has been entirely accomplished. It ought to be understood, however, that there still exists the purpose to maintain the pension roll as the nation's roll of honor.

The report shows that there are 53,382 pensioners residing in Missouri, who were paid \$7,372,320 during the past year; 42,433 residing in Kansas, drawing \$6,321,389, and 2,499 in Indian territory, drawing \$332,957.

POST OFFICE REPORT.

R. A. Maxwell Makes the Annual Statement of the Affairs of His Department.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—R. A. Maxwell, fourth assistant postmaster-general, has made his annual report to the postmaster-general for the year ended June 30, 1896. The principal divisions of the department under his care are appointments and inspectors. The report shows that the total number of post offices in operation in the United States is 70,360. Of these 66,725 are fourth-class offices and 3,635 presidential, being an increase over the last fiscal year of 296. During the year 3,016 post offices were established and 1,750 discontinued. The total number of appointments for the year was 12,090, and the total number of cases acted upon 15,332.

Mr. Maxwell commends the work of the post office inspectors. The report shows that the total number of complaints of all classes received during the past year aggregated 103,037, and the number of cases disposed of amounted to 100,205. Only 24 complaints were received of carelessness in the handling of registered matter by postal employees. The employees in the postal service handled during the last fiscal year 13,831,000 pieces of registered mail, with the loss of only one piece in every 16,254.

Mr. Maxwell points out that there has been a decrease in the number of post office and mail burglaries and robberies, owing to the killing and arrest of many desperadoes engaged in the business. During the year there were 2,074 arrests, of which number 158 were postmasters. During the year there were 16,563 complaints treated affecting foreign mail matter. Of these 8,750 related to registered matter and 5,754 to ordinary matter.

ODD FELLOWS IN SESSION.

Grand Sire Stebbins Makes His Annual Report—Rebekah Lodges Flourishing.

DALLAS, Tex., Sept. 22.—A grand public reception was tendered to the sovereign grand lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, which began this morning. Gov. Charles A. Culbertson welcomed the visitors. At the close of the reception the orphans and widows of members of the order, especially charges of the odd fellows of Texas, marched on the stage singing an ode. The first session of the grand lodge was held this afternoon, and Grand Sire Stebbins presented his report. In it he said:

The condition of the business interests and the prospective disturbances in this and other countries have had their effects upon the order. Yet, under the surrounding conditions, our growth has not been seriously retarded. Our losses in membership, through inability to meet their obligations, have been unusually large; though, when the stringency of the times shall have passed, many will return. The additions to the order have been fairly good, and in all branches prosperity has prevailed to an unlooked-for extent. In the subordinate lodges the net gain has been 9,190. In the sub-encampments there has been a net loss of 1,363. In the Patriarchs Militant branch there has been a large increase.