

THE DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: Daily and Sunday, One Year, \$10.00; Three months, \$3.00; Six months, \$5.00; Single Copies, 5 Cents.

Omaha, The Bee Building, South Omaha, Corner 9th and 24th Streets, Telephone 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, Tribune Building, New York, Rooms 214 and 15, Telephone Building, Washington, 114 Fourteenth Street.

ADVERTISING: All communications relating to news and editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor.

BUSINESS LETTERS: All business letters and notices should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha. Drafts, checks and postal orders are made payable to the order of the company.

The Bee Publishing Company, Proprietors, The Bee Bldg., Farnam and Seventeenth Sts.

Table with 2 columns: Description of circulation statistics and corresponding values.

GEORGE B. TASCHEK, Notary Public, State of Nebraska.

It is to be hoped that this is the last Indian war in the history of the United States.

SIoux CITY makes a splendid showing for the past year. It is not because of prohibition, however, but in spite of it.

The reduction of wages ordered all along the line by the Pullman company indicates a desire for increased dividends.

In a few days the fog incident to annual settlements will be cleared away, and the business of the country resume its active progressive course.

KANSAS CITY councilmen are not struggling to advance their own salaries. Their chief anxiety just now is to escape the consequences of indictments for bribery.

The Indian commotion does not affect the vigor of the senatorial ghost dancing in the Dakotas. And on the banners of the leading political chiefs is writ, "No Surrender."

KANSAS talks of sending Judge Popper to the senate as the immediate successor of the venerable statesman, Ingalls. Kansas seems determined to keep the senate well seasoned.

IN the course of Kansas events Sockless Jerry Simpson should capture the senatorship, the result might properly be classed among the political nude departures of the year.

IT is fifteen years since Gladstone formally retired from British public life, and yet his eighty-first birthday finds him still "the pillar of a people's hope, the center of a world's desire."

The three legislators who hold the balance of power in the Illinois senatorial contest have only to indicate their wants to have them lavishly supplied. Nothing on earth is too good for them.

The woman mayor of Argonia, Kan., has attended faithfully to the duties of her office, done all her sewing and cooking and given birth to a baby girl during the past year. Not a single man mayor on record has ever accomplished these results.

A CYCLONE in Louisiana, rain in Illinois, a blizzard in the northwest, and spirit thermometers in demand in New England furnish a glimpse not only of the vast weather wealth of the country, but prove the new year to be one of the liveliest infants on record.

DON'T repeat the folly of the senate and house of 1880 in pensioning the no-ord-wells of Nebraska politics, gentlemen of the reform legislature. Keep the figures in mind: Cost of the Kansas legislature, \$78,740; cost of last Nebraska legislature, \$190,000. Amount stolen from the public treasury and put into the pockets of impecunious bumpers, \$111,200.

The Chicago-Missouri river roads signaled the new year by a general advance of rates. Grain and packing house rates were pushed up several notches, as well as the rates on various classes of merchandise. This deliberate squeeze all along the line, at a time of sharp commercial stringency, will only stimulate the state legislatures to enact more stringent regulations.

GOVERNOR THAYER has acted promptly and used every means in his power to protect the northwestern part of the state. He made New Year's day busy with arrangements for preparing the militia for service. The immediate effect of the active measures taken by the state government must be to reassure the residents of the exposed counties and to prevent a considerable loss of property.

ONE of the results of the Indian war will be a large draft on the state treasury for Indian depletion claims. Settlers can call upon the state to advance them whatever sum they can prove that they have lost as a result of the outbreak. The national government will finally have the bill to settle. This is a just provision of the general law and has recently been illustrated by the payment of a large sum to the state of Kan-

THE STATE LEGISLATURES.

Within a week the legislatures of most of the states will be in session, and the "minor congresses" of the people will share the popular interest with the national legislatures. In several of the states the new legislatures will be dominated by a different political element than that which has been in control for many years, and in all such cases the inauguration of new policies and departures more or less radical and reactionary are expected. Laws of long standing will be modified or repealed, policies that have been adhered to by the defeated parties will be abandoned, and numerous new regulations will take statutory form. In some cases, undoubtedly, these changes will be in the direction of improvement and progress, but it is hardly to be expected that all the departures will be, while from the large amount of experimental legislation that will inevitably be enacted quite as much harm as good is to be looked for. Radical departures from established policies must produce a more or less unsettling effect, and in those states where the legislative control has been transferred from one political party to the other, or where the new element in politics which the past year developed holds the balance of power, changes are to be looked for that will exert a disturbing influence not always for the best. The business of government, however, is yet very far from being an exact science, and in a nation of sovereign commonwealths, whose people have varied interests which are largely influential in directing their political action, no policy is of assured permanence, at least in its entirety. But however much the American people may be predisposed to seek change and to experiment with affairs of government, experience has shown that the general desire and purpose is to reach results that will be fair and just to all classes and promote the general welfare, and while this continues to be the case the danger of seriously hurtful legislation will not be very great. The dissemination of false principles and the advocacy of impracticable policies is perhaps more active today than ever before, but it encounters a larger measure of popular intelligence regarding questions of public policy than at any time in the past.

While there will be a more or less general interest in the new legislature of New York, which is democratic for the second time in many years, and in the Illinois legislature, where representatives of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit association hold the balance of power, and both of which bodies will elect United States senators, the legislature of Nebraska will doubtless command more widespread interest than that of any other state. The fact that representatives of the alliance will be in control causes a general expectation that the legislation will be of a very radical nature, and the proceedings are therefore sure to attract unusual attention, particularly from the corporations and those outside of the state who have vested interests here. We do not apprehend, as many unquestionably do, that the legislature of this state will do anything unfair or unjust to any interest, or that does not appear to be clearly demanded in the general welfare. The state legislatures will undoubtedly offer a great deal of interest to the students of political affairs, and as the best and surest reflex of the ideas and wishes of the people their proceedings should have the attention of all intelligent citizens.

THE CONSULAR SERVICE.

The list given by the Washington correspondent of THE BEE of the employes in the consular service of the government shows one or two things of interest. In the first place, it is seen that this service gives employment to a much larger number of persons than it is commonly supposed to do, and that the nation is very thoroughly represented abroad. In the second place, it appears that for the most part these servants of the government in foreign lands are very fairly remunerated, although complaint that their compensation is inadequate is common. As to some of them this is justified, but the majority should be able to live comfortably on what they receive. At any rate, so long as this service is sought as eagerly as at present there does not appear to be any good reason why salaries should be generally advanced. The consular service proper employs 212 consuls, 41 commercial agents and one vice consul. The commercial agents, who have the privilege of engaging in business, receive a salary of \$1,000 a year, and the salaries of consuls range from \$1,200 to \$5,000 a year. A few get their pay in fees, which in most cases amount to as much as the lower grade of salaries paid. Exceptions to the above are the consuls at London, Liverpool and Paris, each of whom pays a salary of \$6,000 a year. At least one-third of the consular positions are very desirable on the score of salary, and they are besides honorable employment which gives their advantages for men of family who desire to give their children an education abroad. A consul is not expected to maintain the social distinction of a member of the diplomatic service, which usually requires the full salary of a minister, and in some cases a great deal more.

Taking the diplomatic and consular service together, it costs the government a good round sum annually, and it is the opinion of many that it would be wise to abolish the diplomatic establishment and enlarge the consular service. This idea has been repeatedly urged for a number of years, but it is never likely to be adopted. It would hardly be expedient to do away wholly with the diplomatic service, and certainly the country can afford to maintain this, with perhaps some changes, and still enlarge the consular service. The latter has been very much improved in the last ten or twelve years, and its importance and value are more generally recognized now than ever before. It has grown to be less a refuge for politicians whose usefulness at home has been impaired than was formerly the case, and with a greater number of active and wide awake men engaged in the service its efficiency has been greatly improved. Perhaps it might be made still more useful if placed

ON A STRICTLY CIVIL SERVICE REFORM BASIS.

Dot on the whole both the diplomatic and consular services are at present very creditable to the country, and it would not be wise to do anything regarding either likely to impair its character or usefulness.

THE CONDITION OF STATE BANKS.

There are several very encouraging features of the statistics concerning state and private banks in Nebraska reported by the auditor's department.

The figures show that during the period between July 1 and October 18, 1890, 65 of these institutions were discontinued and 52 new ones were organized, the total now in operation being 513. Both facts are hopeful. The discontinuance of a considerable number of small banks shows that the weaker institutions are being gradually weeded out, and that a number of capitalists who were tempted into this field by reason of the high rates of interest that prevailed have taken their rate-saving apparatus elsewhere. There was a time when this class of petty bankers were multiplying very rapidly and fattening upon the necessities of the people. The fact that the same opportunities for satisfying their greed do not now exist is creditable to the state. On the other hand, the fact that nearly as many new banks have been organized in the same period demonstrates that there is still capital in the state to meet legitimate demands, and that it has confidence in the value of Nebraska loans. That this is the true significance of the matter other portions of the report amply prove.

Since June 30, 1890, the resources of the state and private banks have increased \$1,120,083.27. This fact strikingly demonstrates their prosperity and solidity as a whole. This alone would not be evidence that the business interests of the state have been correspondingly prosperous, because the banker sometimes makes money out of the mistakes of the public. But the item of deposits throws strong light on this side of the subject. On June 30 the total deposits in these banks was \$11,579,151.50. On October 18 this item had grown to \$17,513,698.97—an increase of \$2,934,547.47. While a year of good crops would doubtless have made the sum much larger than it was, the figures are still on the right side of the ledger and furnish ground for congratulation. It is exceedingly doubtful if the same class of institutions in the east can make a better showing for the same period.

THE BEE has already directed public attention to the need of better safeguards and more rigid inspection of state and private banks. Much good has resulted from the legislation already enacted. It is probable that the legislature will attend to the demands for improvement in this direction.

STRAINING AT A GNAT.

Mr. Sidney Dillon has always been able to play shuttle-cock and battledore with government directors of the road whenever the Dillonville transfer was in any way attacked.

It was an easy matter for him to get John F. Plummer, government director, to interpose his objections to the contract for the joint use of the bridge on behalf of the "preferred rights of the government."

Were Mr. Plummer and all his associates asleep when the Omaha Union Pacific depot grounds were passed over to a private corporation? Were these watch-dogs of the government conniving with the depot company corporation when they deliberately procured the transfer of \$5,000,000 worth of Union Pacific property to themselves and their successors?

Was not the manifest object of organizing the Union depot company the raising of the bridge embargo and giving access into Omaha to all the roads that converge on the other side of the river?

The government directors have for years been gulping down the biggest-sized camels without exhibiting the slightest discomfort, and now they begin to choke at a gnat. The idea of their trying to protect the government is decidedly amusing.

OMAHA never shows a disposition to gloat over any drawback or damage to the natural growth of Lincoln. But nothing can happen to the detriment of Omaha that does not furnish great satisfaction to all the Lincoln dailies. The Journal, for instance, states that Omaha in the following New Year's greeting:

The tremendous advantage that was to accrue to Omaha over the change in the ownership of the Union Pacific railroad obstinately refuses to materialize. Not only are two trunk lines prevented from entering the city, but there is danger that the bulk of the through traffic from the northwest will be diverted to the Missouri Pacific at Denver and carried east by way of Kansas City and Memphis. This will greatly decrease the importance of the main line running into Omaha, cut down the force of men required to operate it, and eventually may cause a still wider scattering of the general offices. The repelling of the metropolis has been cut short, and there is a tinge of sadness in the Omaha tone whenever the railroad situation is mentioned. The change, as far as can be seen at present, will benefit the Missouri Pacific more than any other property, and the towns in Kansas and Missouri have a better chance to rejoice over it than any communities in Nebraska.

THE SWEETEST ROSE.

Over the mountains wild comes a little child, And all the untrodden ways, Are blooming bright, with his steps of light, And the valleys ring with his praise; And the morning glows in his brow, and tints His cheek with his rosy rays.

His bright eyes beam and his tresses gleam— But the Cuban is going to get all around: That marks his way through the gates of day— As the dying year departs. And the vacant throne is now his own, And his kings are human hearts.

The song he sings, and the joy he brings, Are wonderful, sweet and rare; And the future glows like a fragrant rose— 'Neath the wand that he waves in the air, And with kisses sweet, and with smiles, we greet The beautiful, glad New Year.

And cover the head of the old year, dead, With a cold, cold shroud of snow. Life is sweet, but time is brief, And the years must come and go. The beautiful years, with their smiles and tears, The years that we all love so.

Kisses and tears for his joys and cares— The years whose joys have passed. Into silver sweet, where no fall of foot Is heard in the dim and vast. The old year is dead, but we love the New— The sweetest rose is the last!

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

All observers of European politics are agreed that the present year is likely to be one of untroubled peace. The German emperor, in whose hands more than in any other rests the power of peace or war, is busying himself with reforms in the school curriculum and shows hostility only to the dead languages. France, the secular foe of Germany, is occupied with making both ends meet in financial affairs, while the most "burning" party question is the extent to which the former opponents of the republic shall finally accept and abandon all hope of re-creating a throne for any one. In England, the government, while awaiting the final struggle over the Irish question, has succeeded in bringing together nearly every difficulty with other powers, especially as to the partition of Africa, and its foreign policy commends the respect and cooperation even of Mr. Gladstone. In Italy, Signor Crispi, with the most open adhesion to the policy of the triple alliance, has just won a most signal victory in the elections. Austria is apparently content to find in that alliance the safety from without that will enable it to deal as best may with the complex internal problems that do not seem to her to be so easily handled with the passage of time. Russia is at least quiet, and though what may be going on in the heart of the vast body of that empire it is hard to know, it is certain that against the triple alliance the czar cannot move without an ally; that France is his only possible ally, and the signs that he is wholly distrustful of the republicanism ally have not changed.

THE original intent of the charter revisers was to improve and broaden the scope of the law and to give practical effect to the experience of the past two years. Instead of holding strictly to that purpose, the majority of the committee plunged recklessly into schemes designed solely to fry additional fat out of the taxpayers. What little saving is to be effected is to be turned into the pockets of the supernumeraries. There is no pretense to reform and economize. It is thousands for the taxpayers, not a penny for the taxpayers.

ACCORDING to Union Pacific Attorney Thurston, the viaduct bonds are not involved in the present bridge controversy. No, not directly, but when the company shows such a conspicuous breach of faith on one of the vital conditions of the bond proposition, it behooves the people to be on their guard.

IT was eminently fitting that the advent of the new year should be celebrated by the formal opening of the Tenth street viaduct. The completion of this splendid structure is an event of great importance to Omaha, and especially to the lower end of the city.

SOME familiar faces were seen in Omaha yesterday. They belonged to members of the famous oil-room gang and their presence suggests that rich pickings are expected at Lincoln shortly. They may discover that the business "ain't what it used to be."

THE fact that five of the nine members of the charter committee are councilmen gives peculiar significance to the proposed councilmanic salary grab. Fortunately the legislature is yet to pass on this and like raids on the taxpayers.

NOW that Mr. Plummer has been heard from with a protest against carrying out the contract by which the Iowa railroads are to get into Omaha, we expect, of course, that Major Padlock will come to the front in defense of Omaha.

THE list of Cleveland survivors in the diplomatic service is published, presumably for the benefit of hungry patriots. Little but the dry crusts of patronage is left, however.

ANOTHER ambitious dictator threatens the peace of Paris. But, then, the Peruvian ruler is a good deal more conspicuous than the Peruvian bite.

THE "late democratic victory" has just been celebrated in Harlem. The Harlem mind may be slow, but it catches the idea in the course of time.

A Democratic View of the Situation.

Blaine seems to be the main stay of his party.

Where Silence is Golden.

General Palmer left certain as much as Mr. Farwell, and therefore isn't doing himself as much harm.

New York Will Be All Right in '92.

New York has shown certain democratic tendencies lately, but even the democrats do not claim that it is undoubtable ground and under proper condition it may safely be placed in the republican column.

The Sockless Statesman.

It was a condition and not a theory that confronted Mr. Jeremiah Simpson of Kansas and induced him to take his bold and bare-foot stand upon the platform.

It Is War to the Death.

Grover Cleveland must defeat David B. Hill next fall or forever waive his claims to Democratic leadership. Cleveland asserts that Hill knifed him in 1888. Cleveland will be urged by every consideration of personal selfishness, of political ambition, and of revenge to knife Hill in 1891. We do not believe that Grover Cleveland is too good to do this. While the former farmer lins on his ambitions enough to throw over even his friends to advance his fortunes.

STATE EDUCATIONAL LANDS.

Cullings from Land Commissioner Steen's Biennial Report.

FORECLOSURES IN LANCASTER COUNTY.

Her Husband Had Skipped—Painful Accident—Sergeant Miller's Promotion—Other News from the Capital City.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 2.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The following facts are culled from the annual report of Land Commissioner Steen:

"The following amounts of land have been selected by the state and confirmed by the general land office for several educational purposes indicated, viz:

Table with 2 columns: Land type and acreage.

Total, 9,880,871.37. Of these 232,720 acres have been deeded, leaving a balance of 2,648,151.88 acres to which title is yet vested in the state. Of the amount 62,387.94 acres are now under contract of sale, 1,497,371.95 under contract of lease and 518,792.89 that are neither leased nor sold.

"Of the common school lands there have been deeded 23,419.43 acres, leaving a balance of 2,385,081.73 acres, of which 553,573.55 acres are now permanent contracts of sale and 1,430,304.19 under lease, leaving 519,202.89 acres that as yet have not been leased nor sold.

"There is now invested in United States bonds, state securities and registered county bonds out of the permanent school fund the sum of \$2,222,942.30 in the state treasury to the amount of \$22,304.86, making a total of \$2,245,247.16, as compared with \$2,100,744.83, February 28, 1890, an increase in the permanent school fund of \$644,502.76 in the last two years. The increase during the last biennial period has been 30% per cent, while the corresponding increase in the preceding biennial term was only 12.45 per cent.

"The report of the state treasurer shows that the sum of \$2,222,942.30 in the state treasury and cash in the state treasury and cash in the treasury amounts to \$2,745,307.21. To this sum add the unpaid principal of bonds amounting to \$1,706,782.61 and the grand total of \$4,452,089.81, which is the amount of the permanent school fund of the state, exclusive of the lands under lease and those that are not sold.

"There are now 1,430,304.19 acres of common school land under lease at an appraised value of \$2,182,132.77, with an annual rental of \$199,927.76. This, together with the interest on the unpaid principal on the contracts of sale, which amounts to \$299,096.15, makes a total of \$498,023.91, which is annually apportioned to the various school districts of the state, in addition to the revenues derived from the investment of the permanent school funds in the state treasury.

"During the last biennial year there has been received by the state in lease, rental, interest on contracts of sale and added interest the sum of \$644,502.76. The total amount apportioned to the school districts of the state from November 1, 1889, to November 30, 1890, representing the receipts from these lands and the investment of the permanent school fund, has been \$1,143,353.91, or \$1.45 to each child for each child of school age in the state."

Commissioner Steen then calls attention to the fact that the investment of these funds is limited to United States or state securities or registered county bonds. Under this provision these investments are practically limited to county bonds, and the investments in the investments he extended to include registered city, municipal, school district and precinct bonds, so that together with the surplus that is now being accumulated for bringing the state a fair rate of interest instead.

THAYER CHANGES QUARTERS. The donation at the state house this morning was the discovery that the quarters during the night Governor Thayer had complied with the order of the board of public lands and had moved into the room lately vacated by the secretary of state. The paraphernalia of the supreme court was immediately transferred to the special suite of rooms lately occupied by the governor, as Governor Thayer has steadfastly held possession of the rooms so long as he has been in the state house, and the investments he extended to include registered city, municipal, school district and precinct bonds, so that together with the surplus that is now being accumulated for bringing the state a fair rate of interest instead.

THE RECENT STATEMENT in the Berlin dispatches that the reception given to Prince William of Nassau in that city is believed to foreshadow his betrothal to Princess Margaret suggests that no time is lost in arranging the dynastic sequel of the recent change in the throne of Luxemburg. The princess, who was born April 22, 1873, is the youngest sister of Emperor William II; the prince, who is exactly twenty years older, his birthday being April 22, 1853, is the heir to the grand duchy of Luxemburg, which passed to his father, Duke Adolph, at the recent death of King William III of Holland. Duke Adolph is in his seventy-fourth year, being born only about five months later than the deceased monarch of the Netherlands. It has sometimes been assumed that Luxemburg was already practically under German influence; but its neutrality was guaranteed by treaty more than twenty years ago, while its natural resources, which are very rich, are unfearedly and mostly dismantled, remains undisputed. It was this value that nearly caused a war between France and Prussia in 1838, averted by the withdrawal of the Prussian garrison. There have been various rumors concerning it of late years, but Duke Adolph was willing, when it should pass over to him, to abdicate in favor of his son, Prince William; another that the latter would be betrothed to the young girl who is now Queen Wilhelmina of Holland. But the Berlin rumor suggests rather a closer control of the duchy by the German empire.

Cuba is demanding an unwonted amount of attention from the home government these days. The question of representation in the Spanish Cortes is one which has long been a sore point with the Cubans. A law of 1878 put the Cuban representation at twenty-seven deputies, and authorized the government to make a suitable division of the island into districts. The division has not yet been made. That is one grievance, and another lies in the fact that the abolition of slavery has added at least 300,000 to the free population, thus cutting Cuba to five additional deputies; but she has not had one. A similar state of things exists in Porto Rico also. But the Spanish government has just issued a decree making the requisite enlargement of the colonial representation, and authorizing the governor general to solve to make the proper electoral divisions in the matter of restricted navigation and commercial relations with the United States, the complaining Cubans are not likely to fare so well. Say the Cubans: "Our duty on four is \$7 the hundred lols, while in Spain it is \$1.00; the result is that American flour goes to Spain, and thence gets free entry into Cuba, making mockery of our tariff." The industry admits that this is done, but says that such flour bears only a small proportion to the total amount of flour exported from Spain, and, furthermore, that the Spanish duty is soon to be raised to the prohibitory point. That is the sort of answer the Cubans are going to get all around: their foreign navigation is to be put still more exclusively under the flag of Spain, and their wish for commercial reciprocity with this country will be met by higher tariffs.

Stamping Out SmallPox.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 2.—For months past an epidemic of smallpox has been raging along the Texas and Mexican border, as well as in many towns in Texas. Yesterday the Mexican government took the matter in hand and sent a corps of physicians to Porters Diaz, across from Eagle Pass, to vaccinate the people and isolate those stricken with the disease. A strict quarantine is enforced on the American side.

Engineer and Fireman Killed.

Baltimore, Md., Jan. 2.—Engineer Gosnell and Fireman Williams were killed in a collision last night between two trains on the Chesapeake and Ohio road. The other engineer and fireman were badly injured.

STATE EDUCATIONAL LANDS.

Cullings from Land Commissioner Steen's Biennial Report.

FORECLOSURES IN LANCASTER COUNTY.

Her Husband Had Skipped—Painful Accident—Sergeant Miller's Promotion—Other News from the Capital City.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 2.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The following facts are culled from the annual report of Land Commissioner Steen:

"The following amounts of land have been selected by the state and confirmed by the general land office for several educational purposes indicated, viz:

Table with 2 columns: Land type and acreage.

Total, 9,880,871.37. Of these 232,720 acres have been deeded, leaving a balance of 2,648,151.88 acres to which title is yet vested in the state. Of the amount 62,387.94 acres are now under contract of sale, 1,497,371.95 under contract of lease and 518,792.89 that are neither leased nor sold.

"Of the common school lands there have been deeded 23,419.43 acres, leaving a balance of 2,385,081.73 acres, of which 553,573.55 acres are now permanent contracts of sale and 1,430,304.19 under lease, leaving 519,202.89 acres that as yet have not been leased nor sold.

"There is now invested in United States bonds, state securities and registered county bonds out of the permanent school fund the sum of \$2,222,942.30 in the state treasury to the amount of \$22,304.86, making a total of \$2,245,247.16, as compared with \$2,100,744.83, February 28, 1890, an increase in the permanent school fund of \$644,502.76 in the last two years. The increase during the last biennial period has been 30% per cent, while the corresponding increase in the preceding biennial term was only 12.45 per cent.

"The report of the state treasurer shows that the sum of \$2,222,942.30 in the state treasury and cash in the state treasury and cash in the treasury amounts to \$2,745,307.21. To this sum add the unpaid principal of bonds amounting to \$1,706,782.61 and the grand total of \$4,452,089.81, which is the amount of the permanent school fund of the state, exclusive of the lands under lease and those that are not sold.

"There are now 1,430,304.19 acres of common school land under lease at an appraised value of \$2,182,132.77, with an annual rental of \$199,927.76. This, together with the interest on the unpaid principal on the contracts of sale, which amounts to \$299,096.15, makes a total of \$498,023.91, which is annually apportioned to the various school districts of the state, in addition to the revenues derived from the investment of the permanent school funds in the state treasury.

"During the last biennial year there has been received by the state in lease, rental, interest on contracts of sale and added interest the sum of \$644,502.76. The total amount apportioned to the school districts of the state from November 1, 1889, to November 30, 1890, representing the receipts from these lands and the investment of the permanent school fund, has been \$1,143,353.91, or \$1.45 to each child for each child of school age in the state."

Commissioner Steen then calls attention to the fact that the investment of these funds is limited to United States or state securities or registered county bonds. Under this provision these investments are practically limited to county bonds, and the investments in the investments he extended to include registered city, municipal, school district and precinct bonds, so that together with the surplus that is now being accumulated for bringing the state a fair rate of interest instead.

THAYER CHANGES QUARTERS. The donation at the state house this morning was the discovery that the quarters during the night Governor Thayer had complied with the order of the board of public lands and had moved into the room lately vacated by the secretary of state. The paraphernalia of the supreme court was immediately transferred to the special suite of rooms lately occupied by the governor, as Governor Thayer has steadfastly held possession of the rooms so long as he has been in the state house, and the investments he extended to include registered city, municipal, school district and precinct bonds, so that together with the surplus that is now being accumulated for bringing the state a fair rate of interest instead.

THE RECENT STATEMENT in the Berlin dispatches that the reception given to Prince William of Nassau in that city is believed to foreshadow his betrothal to Princess Margaret suggests that no time is lost in arranging the dynastic sequel of the recent change in the throne of Luxemburg. The princess, who was born April 22, 1873, is the youngest sister of Emperor William II; the prince, who is exactly twenty years older, his birthday being April 22, 1853, is the heir to the grand duchy of Luxemburg, which passed to his father, Duke Adolph, at the recent death of King William III of Holland. Duke Adolph is in his seventy-fourth year, being born only about five months later than the deceased monarch of the Netherlands. It has sometimes been assumed that Luxemburg was already practically under German influence; but its neutrality was guaranteed by treaty more than twenty years ago, while its natural resources, which are very rich, are unfearedly and mostly dismantled, remains undisputed. It was this value that nearly caused a war between France and Prussia in 1838, averted by the withdrawal of the Prussian garrison. There have been various rumors concerning it of late years, but Duke Adolph was willing, when it should pass over to him, to abdicate in favor of his son, Prince William; another that the latter would be betrothed to the young girl who is now Queen Wilhelmina of Holland. But the Berlin rumor suggests rather a closer control of the duchy by the German empire.

Cuba is demanding an unwonted amount of attention from the home government these days. The question of representation in the Spanish Cortes is one which has long been a sore point with the Cubans. A law of 1878 put the Cuban representation at twenty-seven deputies, and authorized the government to make a suitable division of the island into districts. The division has not yet been made. That is one grievance, and another lies in the fact that the abolition of slavery has added at least 300,000 to the free population, thus cutting Cuba to five additional deputies; but she has not had one. A similar state of things exists in Porto Rico also. But the Spanish government has just issued a decree making the requisite enlargement of the colonial representation, and authorizing the governor general to solve to make the proper electoral divisions in the matter of restricted navigation and commercial relations with the United States, the complaining Cubans are not likely to fare so well. Say the Cubans: "Our duty on four is \$7 the hundred lols, while in Spain it is \$1.00; the result is that American flour goes to Spain, and thence gets free entry into Cuba, making mockery of our tariff." The industry admits that this is done, but says that such flour bears only a small proportion to the total amount of flour exported from Spain, and, furthermore, that the Spanish duty is soon to be raised to the prohibitory point. That is the sort of answer the Cubans are going to get all around: their foreign navigation is to be put still more exclusively under the flag of Spain, and their wish for commercial reciprocity with this country will be met by higher tariffs.

Stamping Out SmallPox.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 2.—For months past an epidemic of smallpox has been raging along the Texas and Mexican border, as well as in many towns in Texas. Yesterday the Mexican government took the matter in hand and sent a corps of physicians to Porters Diaz, across from Eagle Pass, to vaccinate the people and isolate those stricken with the disease. A strict quarantine is enforced on the American side.

Engineer and Fireman Killed.

Baltimore, Md., Jan. 2.—Engineer Gosnell and Fireman Williams were killed in a collision last night between two trains on the Chesapeake and Ohio road. The other engineer and fireman were badly injured.

WELCOMED THE AUDIT.