

Philadelphia Zoological park, 9; Central park, New York, 5; Denver city park, 5; Buffalo city park, 4; St. Louis city park, 4; Montebello kennels, Philadelphia, 4; herd of Frank Rockefeller, Belvidere, Kansas, 3; in parks at Pittsburg, Toledo, Rochester, Omaha, San Francisco, Winnipeg and other places, 30; individuals or small numbers in the hands of various persons, 36; in Germany and other foreign countries, 114:"

THE attempt to "breathe life into the corpse of the Fourteenth Amendment," according to the Washington Post, deserves from southern statesmen nothing more than contemptuous merriment. The Post declares that the proposed reduction of southern representation in congress is an absurd controversy and in support of this position quotes from the Boston Post as follows: "The republican club of the city of New York now comes forward with a spur to the laggards in Congress who hesitate to cut down the representation of those southern states which prescribe educational qualifications for voters. They say that there was a plank in the republican platform promising to do this and they want immediate action. The New York republicans point out exactly where the cut is to be made. From eleven of the southern states nineteen members of congress are to be taken. This reduction is based upon the number of illiterates, mainly colored persons of voting age, who cannot read and write, and, therefore, are disfranchised. The demand is made practically along the lines of the bill introduced early in the present session. Will this scheme ever be carried out? No, indeed. If it were to be applied to the South, it would have to be applied equally at the North; and that never would do. Right here in Massachusetts our suffrage laws disfranchise for illiteracy as many as are excluded from the polls in Tennessee for the same reason, half as many again as in Arkansas, twice as many as in Florida, and almost as many as in Louisiana and North Carolina. If it is wicked down there, it is wicked up here. And unless a republican congress is ready to wipe out one or two Massachusetts congressmen, it will not venture to rob the south of nineteen."

OF THE young men who entered the United States army under the act of Feb. 2, 1901, nearly 100 have terminated their connection with the service. Referring to this fact, the Army and Navy Journal says: "Some have been unable to pass their examination for promotion and have been dropped; some are the victims of court-martial, neglect to pay their debts and the duplication of pay accounts being the chief offenses, and others have resigned to escape a court-martial. The foolish conduct of some of these disgraced officers would seem to justify the plea of insanity which has been offered in an unusual number of cases. Our army is, unfortunately, too familiar with the sifting process to which it must always be subjected under our system, or want of system, in the selection of officers when a large number are appointed from civilians, many of whom have no proper appreciation of the responsibilities they assume in accepting a commission. The army will be all right when it is shaken down and has rid itself by a healthy process of elimination of the men unfitted for military service."

SEVERAL years ago according to a writer in the New York Herald, Japan instituted an official search "for the secret of a powerful nationality," and conceded that secret to the liberality of the United States patent office. The Herald writer explains: "A special commissioner in the person of Korekiyo Takahashi was sent from Tokio to Washington to make an official study of American conditions and to report upon them. Mr. Takahashi called upon Dr. P. B. Pierce, at that time the examiner of designs in the United States Patent Office, and in the course of a conversation the doctor asked why it was that Japan was so anxious to establish a patent office. 'For this reason,' said the commissioner. 'We have been asking in Japan, 'What has made the United States such a great nation in such a short time?' We have investigated, and we have found that it was patents, and we will have patents.' Senator Platt, speaking in 1884 on a bill for the reorganization of the patent office, declared that the establishment of the patent office in 1836 "marked the most important epoch in the history of our development—I think the most important event in the history of our government from the constitution to the civil war."

IT IS pointed out that the patent idea has been of slow growth, and the Herald writer adds: "At the time of the colonies England's attitude toward her dependencies was to force upon them everything for consumption that possibly could come from an English mill, while in every way discouraging and even forbidding the manufacture of anything that would compete with the English mills. England in those days had her patent laws and sought a tariff for the protection of her manufacturers, yet prior to the reign of George III. English patents had been few. In 1800 only ninety-six patents were issued in England and in 1850 only 523 grants were made. Massachusetts, of all the American colonies, had the first patent office and the first patent in its history was granted to Samuel Winslow, covering ten years of a new process for making salt. If it is questioned that such a process, strictly speaking, is an "invention," then the first invention of the colony was a scythe, perfected in 1646, with papers issuing to Joseph Jenks for fourteen years. In none of the other colonies are records of patents issued prior to 1717. In the original draft of the United States constitution there was no clause covering patents or copyrights, and in the convention acts of August 18, 1787, Madison suggested that provisions be made securing to authors the benefits of their works for a limited time and to "encourage by premiums and provisions the advancement of useful knowledge and discoveries." On Sept. 5, 1787, the copyright and patent clauses of the constitution were submitted. The organic patent for the nation was passed on April 10, 1790."

THE department of commerce and labor recently published a statement regarding the savings deposits of different countries. The figures given for Canada are as follows: "Number of deposits, 213,638; total deposits, \$60,771,128; average deposits, \$289.14; amount per inhabitant, \$10.99." A Montreal reader of the New York Times says that these figures are very misleading, and adds: "In the first place no date is given, but as a matter of fact the above figures should be dated June 30, 1903. Comparatively few Canadians deposit their money in the postoffice or government savings banks, and therefore the figures quoted do not 'reveal different degrees of what might be termed the 'saving capacity' of the people of this country. The Canadian banking system is so thoroughly developed and understood that the people place the great bulk of their savings in the chartered banks, as will be seen from the following figures, which are taken from the government report of Oct. 31, 1904, and are therefore absolutely correct.

Savings deposits in chartered banks.....	\$315,323,000
Postoffice savings banks.....	45,287,000
Government savings banks.....	16,634,000
Special savings banks, (under government supervision).....	23,542,000
Total.....	\$400,786,000

THERE is besides the foregoing other savings institutions whose deposits according to the Times reader, aggregate more than \$20,000,000. The Times informant concludes: "So it will be seen that the total of what may be called the legitimate savings of the people of Canada amounts to not less than \$420,000,000, instead of \$60,000,000, as quoted by the Department of Commerce and Labor. The postoffice and government savings banks are the only institutions that publish the number of their depositors, so that it is impossible to ascertain definitely the 'average deposit.' I can, however, speak for one of the chartered banks, (the Sovereign Bank of Canada) of which I am general manager, and this institution has over \$5,000,000 of savings deposits, divided among some 24,000 depositors, or about \$209 per head. If this is any criterion, the savings depositors in all the chartered banks of Canada would exceed 1,000,000 in number. I think I am on the safe side when I say that we have at least 1,500,000 savings depositors in Canada instead of 213,000 odd for which the department of commerce and labor gives us credit. Taking only the figures above quoted from the official returns of Oct. 31, (\$400,786,000) we find that the "amount per inhabitant" in Canada is \$72.87, instead of \$10.99, the figures given by the department of commerce and labor."

THE grandfather of President Roosevelt was the first man to navigate a steamboat on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. This fact is vouched for by Charles C. Allen in an interview with the St.

Louis Globe-Democrat. Mr. Allen explains: "Capt. Roosevelt was a warm personal friend of Robert Fulton, the inventor of steam craft, and soon after Fulton's successful voyage on the Hudson he conceived the idea of launching such a vessel on the western rivers. A good deal of doubt was expressed as to the practicability of the undertaking, but Capt. Roosevelt was enthusiastic, and along about 1810 made a personal survey of the Ohio and lower Mississippi to determine its feasibility beyond all peradventure. The result of his survey was entirely to his satisfaction, and, returning to Pittsburg, he began the construction of a steamboat from plans furnished him by Fulton and Livingstone. In the spring of 1811 the vessel was launched, and, accompanied by his wife, who had the true pioneer spirit and refused to be left behind, the president's grandfather began his voyage down the Ohio. He entered the Mississippi during the throes of the earthquake which devastated so much of southeastern Missouri, but weathered the tumult successfully and continued his trip to New Orleans, where he arrived a short time after, the first man to build a steamboat west of the Alleghanies and the first to navigate one on Western waters. It is an interesting historical fact in itself and doubly interesting for existing reasons."

EVERYONE who has had the grippe, and very few have been free from that annoying ailment, will be interested in a statement made by an "observing man" to the New Orleans Times-Democrat. This "observing man" says: "There are many persons in the world who look upon 'the grip,' as we have come to call it, as a product of our particular brand of civilization, but they are mistaken. True it has not always been called 'the grippe,' a term first used in this country by a French physician. I was reading some interesting facts about this curious ailment the other day, furnished by W. L. Morgan, who addressed a Baltimore paper on the subject. According to what he says, grip is a disease known in very ancient history by the ancient Romans, and more recently the Italians, by the name influenza, meaning influence. In 1500 an article was written in London fully describing it as we have it now, and calling it influenza, but the French speaking people used the name of la grippe. The American people, following the English, used the Italian name of influenza until 1842, when John Tyler was president of the United States and vetoed the bill for renewing the charter for the United States Bank, which was a pet scheme of the Whig party. A few days afterward the grip appeared, the first for several years, and spread all over the continent and 500 miles east of the Atlantic ocean in a single day, President Tyler being one of its first victims, and thought to be dangerously ill. The Whig papers declared that it was a judgment sent from heaven to punish him for his sin of vetoing their bill. A French physician in Washington called it by the name he knew—la grippe. From that time it was called Tyler's grippe till about the year 1860, when the Tyler was dropped, but la grippe continued to be used. It is a disease with many peculiarities; it belongs to all countries; it is never known where it starts from; it may not be known in a country for many years and it will appear there and spread over an entire continent in a day, as in this country in 1842, and afflict millions of persons at the same time. I suppose, after all the people of ancient times suffered very much as we suffer now, and about the only change that has taken place is in treatment and the nomenclature of the medical profession."

IT IS not yet half a century since Colonel Drake discovered petroleum near the waters of Oil creek, Titusville, Pa., but a writer in the New York American says the total production of crude petroleum from 1859 to 1902—forty-three years—has been no less than 1,165,280,727 barrels. Of this output, Pennsylvania and New York contributed 53.9 per cent; Ohio, 24.3 per cent; West Virginia, 11.3 per cent; Indiana, 3.9 per cent; California, 3.6 per cent; Texas, 2.1 per cent, leaving 9 per cent to be supplied by Kansas, Colorado, Louisiana, Illinois, Missouri, Indian Territory, Wyoming, Michigan and Oklahoma.

L. C. McCarn has disposed of his interest in the Joplin (Mo.) Daily Globe and retires from the editorship of that sterling democratic newspaper. Mr. McCarn has made the Globe a force in democratic councils and his retirement is a distinct loss to the party. Ill health is the cause of his action, and his newspaper and political friends will join with The Commoner in wishing him a speedy recovery.