THE RED CLOUD CHIEF

A. C. HOSMER, Publisher.

RED CLOUD. - - NEBRASKA

CURRENT COMMENT.

A STATISTICIAN has found that the average age of men in the past forty years has advanced three years. This is partly due to the toughening qualities in the modern adulteration of foods and liquors.

A TUNNEL 5,000 feet in length has just been discovered on the Island of Samos. It was constructed about nine centuries before the Christian era, and Herodotus says it severed the purpose of providing the old seaport with drinking water.

THE citizens of La Grand, W. T., have posted the following notice: "Tin-horn gamblers, opium fiends and stranglers are hereby warned to leave this camp within twelve hours. Their dishonorable conduct must, will and shall be avenged,"

AT Michigan University, when a class election is held, the meeting is generally humanized by the presence of the young lady students, and the principle of woman's suffrage is confirmed by the election of one or more officers from the fair sex.

IN Alabama is a chica tree ten feet in circumference. Its top was torn away by a storm, but six feet up the trunk two more trees have taken root and grown as high as the old tree is. Half way up the trunk of the original tree a peach tree stands out.

HORSE railroads are an old story, but a camel railway has the merit of novelty. It is announced that camels are to be employed as the motive power on the last section of railroad recently built by Russia through the Trans-Caspian desert toward India.

IT turns out that the new anæsthetic, muriate of cocoaine, which has been found so useful in delicate operations on the eye, was formerly used by specialists to blunt the sensibilities of the throat. Muriate of cocoaine, by the by, is muriatic acid combined chemically with the active principle of the South American cocoa plant.

THE pet aversion of a Japanese is the fate of being buried at sea. The other day Kido, an attache of the Japanese Legation at Berlin, embarked at Marseilles for Yokohama. To make sure that if he died at sea his body should not be consigned to the deep, he took on board with him a handsome coffin and everything necessary for embalmment.

MR. GEORGE LUNT, the old poet, has found a fig tree growing in the seacoast town of Scituate, Mass., probably springing from the seeds of a fig dropped in the spot, protected by a doorsill and warmed by a cellar. The tree dies down with every frost, but for five summers has sprung up again, growing to the height of nearly six feet, but as yet bearing no fruit.

LEFT-HANDED penmanship is now taught in a number of American schools. The method of instruction is to make the pupil write his name in pencil and then go over it with a pen held in his left hand. After doing this for some time the writer is able to write his signature without the aid of the penciled copy. This is kept up until a sufficient degree of proficiency is obtained.

A FEW days ago some dry sage on the battle field of Missionary Ridge, near Chattanooga, Tenn., took fire and the flames spread with great rapidity. A stump soon blazed up, and in a few seconds a roar like thunder reverberated down the valley, and the stump was blown into ten thousand pieces. Investigation developed the fact that three shells were imbedded in the stump and exploded from the heat.

AN eccentric character has just bequeathed to the French Academy of Fine Arts a sum of money to be devoted to an annual prize of two thousand francs, which will fall to the painter who has taken the lowest position in the competition for the Prix de Roam. It has been suggested that the jury will probably have to consider the question "Who is the painter?" before admitting the candidates who stand lowest on the list.

IMMENSE schools of herring, which were evidently frightened by dogfish or bluefish, were driven toward the seashore, near New Biddleford, Me., a few days ago. The number kept increasing and when the tide went out left a place of about an acre completely covered with the fish. In some spots, where there was a depression in the sand, the fish were piled in to the depth of four or five feet. The farmers in the vicinity flocked to the beach and secured cart loads of the herring to be used upon their lands as a fertilizer. One farmer obtained sixty cart loads.

A RESIDENT of Ronkonkoma, L. I., possesses a gold watch which formerly belonged to the ill-fated Marie Antoinette. It is about the size of a trade dollar in circumference, and is open-faced. On the back it bears the device of the French Queen, a cupid on a cloud, worked in gold and silver. The features of the boy god are nearly effaced by long wear. The legend the owner believes is that the watch was the gift of the Queen to the architect of the Temple, who shot himself through the head the day following her execution by the revolutionists. Its present owner was a near relative of a well-known American poet, now dead. The watch came into his possession through marriage, and he got it from his wife's father, who is a lineal descendant of the original recipient.

THE WORLD AT LARGE.

A Summary of the Daily News.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

THE President has appointed Thursday, November 27th, as a day of general thanksgiving throughout the United States, and recommended that it be so observed.

REV. CHARLES BARNARD, a well-known Unitarian clergyman of New York, died recently in his seventy-sixth year. He had been in feeble mental and physical health for some time. He took a very prominent part in the establishment of educational institutions for the poor in New England States.

THE Rev. John Anderson Nelson, pastor of the First United Presbyterian Church at Caledonia, N. Y., died a few days ago. He was in his forty-second year, and was well known throughout the country.

THOMAS BEVERIDGE, a prominent brewer and a leading Mason, died lately at Newburg, N. Y., aged seventy-four years.

ORMSBY PHILLIPS, one of the proprietors of the Pittsburg *Dispatch*, President of the Board of Managers of the West Penitentiary, and ex-Mayor of Allegheny City, died suddenly a few days ago of nervous prostration.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NELLIE HENNESSEY, wife of Captain Philip Hennessey, a young man of Cincinnati, who was shot on election day, killed herself soon afterwards by shooting herself through the heart.

ONE of the saddest sights witnessed for some time was the recent flight of the eminent tragedian, John McCullough, at Chicago. He went to the depot and demanded his baggage. He was dazed and would point to a big black trunk and say: "There, my trunk is like that one; find a trunk like that and you will have mine." Then he would run across another trunk which he took for his and claim it. On investigation it was found that his sole baggage consisted of a hat box and valise. He said that he had an engagement to play at St. Louis and had just an hour to get there in. In due course of time he arrived in St. Louis and was taken charge of by friends. No one seemed to be taking any special care of him and he wandered aimiessly wherever he desired to go.

THE cotton crop of the United States for the present year has been estimated to be 5,276,000 bales. This is somewhat larger than last year.

P. N. FITZGERALD, lately tried for treason-felony in organizing branches of the Irish Republican Brotherhood, was acquitted a few days ago.

THE Franchise bill was passed to the committee stage in the British House of Commons a few days ago amid Liberal cheers.

THERE was lately a movement in Wisconsin in favor of high license. Petitions in futherance of such a policy were circulated quite freely.

THE Norwegian bark Naura was lately wrecked off the Caribou Islands, and two of her crew were drowned. All on board the schooner Emile, which had picked up the passengers of the wrecked steamer Tyigia, were lost.

THE Duke of Cumberland lately addressed a circular to all the sovereigns of Europe except the German Emperor, in which he proclaimed his right to the Duchy of Brunswick.

LATE advices from Turks Island stated that the brig Julia E. Haskell, Captain Paine, sailed from Wavassa October 11, for Baltimore, with guano. She encountered a hurricane October 14, and sprung a leak, which rapidly increased, and the brig was abandoned two days later, and the crew, eight in number, took to the boats and made Calcos Island, and, in attempting to land the boat capsized and all on board, except the Captain and one sailor named Grant, were drowned.

ALL but six of the law students at the Naval University, Montreal, were lately expelled for not submitting to the regulations prohibiting attendance at theaters and political meetings.

AN earthquake shock was recently felt at Salt Lake City, Utah. Many people arose in fright, but no damage was done. The tremors lasted about ten seconds. At Paris, Idaho, six shocks were felt about the same time. Considerable damage to houses was reported, and people were affected as by seasickness. The first shocks were from northeast to southwest, then a swaying motion from north to south. The succeeding shocks were from east to west.

A BAND of Indians lately attacked Deputy Marshal Mershor on his return trip from the Indian Territory, and liberated thirty United States prisoners. Two Indians were killed and several wounded. Mershor got into Fort Smith, Ark., with nineteen prisoners and lodged them in jail.

THE Mackay-Bennett cable was lately rendered useless by icebergs off Newfoundland.

A MAN named E. Poppethawer, who did business under the firm name of the Boston Diamond Cutting Company, was lately missing with diamonds which belonged to various Boston firms and private customers, valued at a large sum. Poppethawer was trusted by jewelers of that city almost implicity. It was his custom to call upon first-class jewelry firms and request the loan of some diamonds, which he said he could sell to good advantage.

THE Austrian Minister of Finance has prepared a measure to restore cash payments throughout Austria and Hungary.

A NORTHWESTERN association of architects was formed in Chicago a few days ago, and a permanent exhibit of building materials and specimens of the latest improvements and patents of interest to architects opened in conjunction therewith.

DIPHTHERIA in its worst form has been prevailing at Oil City, Pa., and adjoining towns.

GOVERNOR CROSBY, of Montana, in his late annual report estimated the increase of population in the Territory during the year at 4,000, and the present population at about 84,000. He said the cattle in the Territory numbered over 900,000, and the value of taxable property, which he said did not represent one-quarter the wealth of the Territory, was between $50,000,000 and $80,000,000. In other directions Montana is steadily increasing in the value of her material resources and she will at an early day apply for admission to the Union as a State.

CHIEF SALMON, of the Bureau of Animal Industry, lately submitted a voluminous report on the subject of contagious diseases among animals to Dr. Loring, Commissioner of Agriculture. The recent outbreak among Kansas herds was attributed to ergotism, due to eating fungus known as ergot. The course of treatment which Dr. Salmon laid down for cattle afflicted with the disease will be consulted with interest by stock-raisers everywhere.

A FEW dozen working days will see the Washington monument completed, and February 22 next will witness its public dedication. Standing 520 feet and ten inches above its base, it now ranks as the highest structure in the world, its nearest rival being the lofty spire of the Cologne Cathedral.

MONTREAL, Can., lately underwent a double affliction—diphtheria and typhoid fever—the result of defective sewerage.

A TRAIN-LOAD of emigrants had a narrow escape from destruction at Cornwall Station, N. Y. on the New West Shore Road, a few mornings ago. The train broke in two and stopped at the station, but the trainmen neglected to send back the danger signal and a heavy freight which was following ran into the rear coach. The emigrants saw the danger and escaped in time.

NEAR Hempstead, Tex., a few mornings ago the north bound train on the Houston & Texas Central Railway was wrecked and eight people were killed outright and fifteen wounded. Prompt investigation by railroad authorities revealed the fact that a diabolical work was done by discharged employes and thieves in the vicinity, who sought to wreck a freight train for spoils contained. After breaking into a section house the wreckers obtained the necessary tools and by pulling spikes and unfastening the plates arranged the rail to yield to the pressure without, however, entirely removing it. It so happened that the passenger train having the right of way and being behind hand was the first to reach the scene of disaster. It struck a loosened rail, and the engine and tender got over safely, while two baggage cars, mail and express and two Pullman sleepers went over the thirty-foot embankment and into the creek. In the baggage car, L. Cardoza, traveling passenger agent of the New York, Texas & Mexican Railway, was drowned, together with E. F. Loris, baggage master, and G. W. Lewis, porter. Some of the wounded were fatally hurt.

NEWS recently came of a most horrible butchery in Guados, South America.

THE Doxey Opera House, at Anderson, Ind., burned a few mornings ago. Loss, $80,000.

THE Joint Executive Committee of Trunk Line Commission in New York decided recently to restore the east-bound tariff rates as adopted last July. They will apply to all classes of freight except live stock. Each road, and especially the President thereof, will be held strictly responsible for any cut hereafter.

THE steamer Rodora was recently very badly scorched at New Orleans, La. Damage of $15,000 was done to the steamer and 500 bales of cotton were destroyed.

BENJAMIN SHORTER'S decapitated and otherwise shockingly mangled body was found on the railway near Berea, O., a few mornings ago. He had money when last seen, also a revolver and pocketbook, none of which were on the body. It was believed he was murdered by tramps, robbed and left on the track.

EDWARD WHITE and a negro called "Punch" Collins were arrested at Santa Fe, N. M., a few days ago charged with being implicated in the attempt to wreck a passenger train near Socorro on the night of October 30. The train was fired into in the hope of securing a large amount of treasure in charge of the express company, but this was prevented by the courage of the engineer. The prisoners were lodged in the Santa Fe jail, and officers started in pursuit of the gang, for whose capture a reward of $2,200 was offered.

SECRETARY MCCULLOCH of the Treasury received an urgent petition against the importation of foreign rags a few days ago, signed by many prominent citizens. It was so urgent and so universally signed that he responded with a promise of immediate consideration. The following is the petition: We, the undersigned, recognizing the fact that there is great danger of the introduction of Asiatic cholera into the United States through the medium of old rags imported into the country and coming from European ports, do hereby respectfully suggest and urge upon you the necessity for immediate and decissive action in reference thereto. We are prompted thus to appeal to you because of the recent removal of restrictions on the importation of old rags, and it is our firm belief that this threatened danger can be averted only by the most thorough and systematic disinfecting of old rags coming from any and all European ports. Trusting your honorable department will see the urgent necessity for speedy and definite action, we beg to subscribe ourselves, very respectfully. Here followed many distinguished names.

AT Trenton, N. J., the Rev. Henry S. Williamson, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, was lately found dead in a lane on the edge of the city, by two boys. He was lying on the ground with a bullet wound on the right frontal bone, from which brains and blood had oozed out and become coagulated. He wore a pair of spectacles which were blood-stained. By his side on the ground was a brand new ivory-handled Smith & Wesson revolver. Only one chamber was emptied, showing that but one shot had been fired. The pistol had evidently been held close to the forehead, and it was no doubt a case of suicide, though no reason was assigned.

ADDITIONAL DISPATCHES.

EDMUND M. PERKINS, aged ninety-nine years, a pensioner of the war of 1812 and for forty years a resident of Quincy, Ill., died lately of old age. One of the last acts of his life was to walk to the polls and vote November 4.

MAJOR-GENERAL WILLIAM S. HARNEY, the hero of three wars, lately set the tongues of the St. Louis gossips wagging by his private marriage to Mrs. Marie St. Cyr, his housekeeper.

AN International Inventions Exhibition will be held at London in 1885 under the patronage of the Queen, the Presidency of the Prince of Wales, and the management of an executive council composed of eminent Englishmen. It will be opened in May at the Royal Horticultural Gardens in South Kensington, and will remain open until the end of the year.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM WILSON, of Menomonee, Wis., President of the defunct Pioneer Lumber Company, lately made an assignment of his separate estate. His affairs were in a confused condition, with his assets and liabilities unknown, though the former were estimated at $400,000.

IMPOSING ceremonies were lately held at the Baltimore Cathedral in memory of the Prelates who died since the last Plenary Council. Archbishop Corrigan pronounced the eulogium. Among the Bishops specially mentioned was the late Bishop Foley of Chicago, well known to all the members of the Plenary Council and others present.

ONE hundred and ninety-one new National banks were chartered in the United States during the past year, adding a net aggregate of about $15,000,000 to the National banking capital of the country. During the period named eleven National banks have failed.

THERE were two hundred and eleven failures in the United States and twenty-five in Canada during the past two weeks of November, an increase of twenty over the preceding week.

ARTHUR H. JANUARY, Deputy State Treasurer of California, was recently arrested, charged with the embezzlement of public funds. He confessed the theft of $9,500, which he gambled away.

DAN HOLCOMB and Judd Crouch were lately indicted and placed on trial at Jackson, Mich., on the charge of being implicated in the mysterious murder of the family.

DISTINCT shocks of an earthquake were felt a few days ago at Colchester and Kingsville, Essex County, Ontario, and similar shocks at Concord, Hopkinton, Hillsboro, Bradford and Warner, N. H.

SERVICES commemorating the one hundredth anniversary of the consecration of Samuel Seabury, the first American Episcopal Bishop, were held recently at Trinity Church, New York, and Christ Church, Hartford.

NEBRASKA STATE NEWS.

SOMETIME in September a man by the name of W. J. Nelson, with his wife and stepdaughter, located at Lincoln, rented a house and bought quite a lot of furniture for house-keeping. As both seemed to be in good circumstances they were permitted to purchase goods on the promise to call and pay for them in a few days. As they did not call, and rent remained unpaid, investigation showed that the goods had been shipped to Sioux City. Telegrams were sent to Sioux City and Nelson was arrested. Within twenty minutes after arrest he shot and killed himself. It was thought that there was something else behind the whole affair as Nelson had amble means to pay for the goods with a handsome balance left.

A CHILD of Mr. Cooles, a girl about four years old, living in the northwest portion of Washington County, met with a terrible death recently. The mother was preparing to scrub the floor, and had left a boiler of hot water standing in front of the stove, when the little one came against it backward and fell in, and was scalded in such a manner that she died in a short time.

THE other day Chris Schleger, his brother Maltz and Frank Lawrence, started from their homes in Omaha to go hunting. Each of the boys carried a double-barreled muzzle-loading shot-gun. They went down through South Omaha to Harwood Lake, where they stayed until a little after noon, and then started for home, when Chris Schleger took his gun from his shoulder, and with the butt downwards, used it for a cane. He had gone only a short distance when the gun was discharged, the contents lodging in the right eye and causing instant death. He was eighteen years old.

A PANTHER or mountain lion is said to be helping himself to steers on the ranges west of Sidney.

MRS. CONLEY, of Fort Robinson, offers a reward of two hundred dollars for the discovery of the remains of her eight-year-old boy, who, about a year ago, wandered away from home and has never been heard of since. It is supposed that he got lost and perished in one of the cañons of that section.

THE other morning Lewis Anguish, the two-year-old son of E. Anguish, of Arapahoe, was thrown out of a buggy and instantly killed. The mother of the boy was also thrown out and severely injured.

GEORGE HENRY, a youth only seventeen years old, was recently arrested at Lincoln and in default of bail sent to jail for forgery. The forgery consisted in presenting a forged order to a clothing store and getting a new suit. He admitted his guilt, and said he had done the same thing in Iowa and thought he could do it in Nebraska.

IN the trial of ex-Mayor Chase, of Omaha, indicted for having levied blackmail on gamblers and contractors, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty, as the refusal of ex-Marshal Guthrie, now in the penitentiary for the same offense, to testify against Chase, rendered the obtaining of necessary evidence absolutely impossible. Colonel Chase's friends are quite happy over the result.

THE boys of Genoa had a good time on election night, despite the uncertainty of the returns. They had a Cleveland-Blaine combination jollification. The first news of the election came so conflictingly that it was too awfully suspensive to wait, so, as the first dispatches showed Cleveland ahead and then the next indications were that Blaine might be ahead, the boys fired the cannon first for Cleveland and then for Blaine, and built their bonfires together and had a mutual ratification meeting for the next President.

WHILE away from home Rev. Hulet, of North Bend, was recently burned out, losing his library, household furniture and everything.

A YOUNG man of dudish appearance recently victimized a landlord at Blair by getting him to cash a fifty-dollar draft on New York, which was afterward found to be bogus. He took the train to Tekamah and on receipt of a telegram the officers there arrested him and took him back. He gave the name of Harry H. Pratt, and said he had a wife and child in Chicago.

IN Washington County, the other day, Perry Mills had a dispute with a hired man which terminated in a row of considerable magnitude, and in which Mr. Mills received an ugly wound near the lower portion of the abdomen.

RUDOLPH DORN, Secretary and General Manager of the Western Horse and Cattle Insurance Company, at Omaha, has disappeared. It was reported that the Sheriff of Keith County had a warrant for his arrest for complicity in the Keith County land frauds, and that he consequently concluded to change his place of residence.

RISING CITY boasts of a new elevator with capacity of 15,000 bushels and a ten-horse power engine.

MISS MOORE, of Ogalalla, was recently quite serious y burned by the explosion of a coal oil lamp.

GEORGE W. SHARPLESS, a well known citizen of Omaha, went down town on Friday night of election week and remained some time to hear the news. The next morning he was found dead in his own yard, having, it was thought, got that far on his return and died suddenly either of congestion of the lungs, congestion of the brain, or congestion of the heart. The deceased had done a great amount of office work and had been continually bending over a desk, and had complained a great deal of his lungs of late, hence the physician thought the theory of congestion of the lungs the most probable.

THE explosion of a gasoline stove in the store of Harry Higely, at Blair, recently came near causing a fire of no little consequence.

THE morning after Halloween, at Madison, quite a change was noticeable in the appearance of the town. A saloon was doing a general insurance business, while the Baptist Church was decorated with the following sign: "Fresh Milwaukee beer always on tap," all of which testified to the fact that the boys had a "high old time."

AT Grand Island the other day, when an officer arrested a man by the name of Howard, one of the swindling gang in that locality, a throng of farmers who were, or thought they were, his victims, made a rush for Howard, hoping to get back their money or send Howard up the golden stairs. Howard paid back their money very rapidly, and then the officer took him before Judge Caldwell, where he pleaded guilty.

MAD dogs infest some localities.

THE Union Pacific Company having completed the Schuyler bridge, offered to turn it over to the Colfax County Commissioners, and that body not being willing to accept it on contract, it was closed, and will not be opened until the matter is settled.

A MAN was recently drowned in the creek near Adams Station, Lancaster County. He had taken all his clothes off but his shirt, dived down and held to some roots under the water. He was about twenty-two years old, six feet high, weight about 160 pounds.

MRS. ED. FALLANSBEE, of Fremont, attempted to kill herself with a revolver the other day. The bullet glazed her abdomen and lodged in her left hand.

AT Albion the other day, Mrs. Loran Clark was thrown out of a buggy, receiving injuries of a serious nature.

THE college of the United Brethren will be located at Homer, Dakota County. A sixty-acre farm near town has been selected for the site. The building will cost not less than $20,000.

WEST POINT has decided that the town should have water-works, costing not to exceed $20,000, and that twenty-year bonds, bearing not more than seven per cent, be issued to pay for them.

RAILROADING on the Valentine extension is not so pleasant and remunerative as it might be. The teams employed in grading were badly affected by alkali water, and many were sick and died.

C. C. CARLTON, employed in the Omaha *Bee* office, was found dead in his room.

PENSIONS AND CROPS.

Reports of Commissioner of Pensions Dudley and Agricultural Department Figures—The Number and Cost of the Nation's Pensioners—The Cotton, Corn and Potato Crops.

WASHINGTON, D. C., November 13.

Commissioner of Pensions Dudley, in his annual report for the last fiscal years, says that at the close of the year there were 322,756 pensioners on the rolls classified as follows: 218,956 army invalids; 75,836 army widows, minor children and dependent relatives; 2,616 navy invalids; 1,958 navy widows, minor children and dependent relatives; 3,898 survivors of the war of 1812, and 19,512 widows of those who served in that war. During the year the names of 35,412 pensioners were added to the roll and 16,315 were dropped for various causes, leaving a net increase to the number on the roll of 19,098. The amount paid for pensions during the year was $56,908,597. Since 1861 526,324 disability claims and 323,462 death claims have been filed. Of the invalid claims 272,624, and of the death claims 213,082 have been allowed. At the rate claims have been filed for the past few years the close of the year 1886 will undoubtedly show 1,000,000 claims filed for pensions since 1861. The total amount which has been disbursed to pensioners since 1861 is $678,348,834.

So general had been the complaint from applicants for pension of inability to ascertain the whereabouts of company, officers and comrades, often defeating the allowance of a claim for want of testimony from these witnesses, and the comparative limited resources of the special examination service to supply the want in the large number of cases of this character that the Commissioner deemed it necessary to inaugurate some method whereby the Post-office addresses of as large a number as possible of the surviving soldiers of the late war be procured and compiled into a permanent record convenient for reference. With this object in view, suitably prepared printed slips for name, rank, company, regiment and Post-office address were accordingly sent out to Grand Army Republic Posts, and as early as April last a sufficient number had been completed and received so that their arrangement, according to military service, could be commenced. In addition to this the examiners in the Pension Office were required to note the names of all witnesses who had been in the service which they met with in the examination of claims, so that from this source alone some 150,000 names were secured. It is expected that by January next there will be arranged and ready for immediate reference a record of between 600,000 and 700,000 names. The practical use of this record became immediately apparent as soon as reference could be made to it, and the information furnished by it has proved of material service in the adjudication of claims, both as to expediting the work and the ascertainment of the necessary facts. Many instances arise which could be cited, if necessary, showing the inability of claimants to procure material testimony for want of knowledge of their comrades' whereabouts, which the information afforded by this record relieves, and often is the means of not only establishing the right to a pension, but of opening the way to defeat an unjust claim.

The Commissioner observes that the system of settlement of pension claims has properly claimed the serious consideration of Congress for the past two sessions. It has not thus far been deemed wise to change this system, imperfect as it may seem in its operations in some cases, and remedial legislation has been proposed which should take from the claimant some of the burdens which in their operations amount to a practical denial of his claim. On the subject of remedial legislation the Commissioner contents himself by briefly referring to and recommending the passage of the bill embracing his recommendations reported to the Senate, and placed on the calendar in May last, where it still remains.

Crop Reports.

WASHINGTON, D. C., November 13.

The November returns of cotton to the Department of Agriculture relate to the yield per acre, and show the effects of the long continued drought in reducing production. The lateness of killing frosts has less effect than usual in enlarging the yield, as the vitality of the plants was too nearly exhausted to produce a top crop. The drought had not been broken at some points on the Gulf coast at the date of reflower turns. The indicated yield per acre is in nearly every State than in the census year, which was one of average production. The lowest yields are now as then in Florida, Georgia, Alabama and Texas. The reduction this year is very marked in Louisiana and Arkansas, the region of most productive cotton lands. The returns by States indicate the yield per acre as follows, the figures being subject to modification by fuller returns: Virginia, 180 pounds; North Carolina, 175; South Carolina, 152; Georgia, 135; Florida, 105; Alabama, 130; Mississippi, 175; Louisiana, 190; Texas, 143; Arkansas, 200; Tennessee, 160.

The indications point to a crop somewhat larger than that of 1883, gathered in unusually fine condition, of good color, unstained by storms and free from trash and dirt.

The returns of the rate of yield of corn indicate a product somewhat in excess of 1,800,000,000 bushels, or an average rate, a small fraction above twenty-six bushels per acre. The best yields are, as in 1883, in what has been designated the great American desert. The "arid regions" in the vicinity of the hundredth meridian have produced heavy crops of maize of high quality. That line of longitude has ceased to be an absolute barrier to corn production, or general farming. The quality of corn is better than in 1883, nearly everywhere, and in the Northern belt it is worth twenty-five to seventy-five per cent. more.

The potato crop is nearly an average yield, or ninety bushels per acre, and exceeds 190,000,000 bushels.

Going to the Mines—The Canadian Pacific.

PORTLAND, ORE., November 13.

Portland was yesterday placed in telegraphic communication with the Eastern States by the completion of a new line over the Oregon Short Line.

Flattering reports having been received here from the Coeur d'Alene mines, large numbers of men are leaving daily for the mines. Parties coming in from along the line of the Canadian Pacific Railroad say the road is being rushed energetically, and but 270 miles yet remains uncompleted. A large force is employed at either end.

Uncle Sam's Gun Foundry Board.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., November 13.

Members of the Gun Foundry Board of the United States Government went to the Bethlehem Iron Works, at Bethlehem, yesterday morning. They returned last evening. There will be no further general conference with steel manufacturers, though the Board will continue to hold meetings at the rooms of the American Iron and Steel Association, for the purpose of talking with individuals with whom they have made engagements. The next place to be visited is the Pennsylvania Steel Works, at Steelton, near Harrisburg, whither the Board will go on Friday morning.

THE PUBLIC REVENUE.

Annual Report of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue—Interesting Figures.

WASHINGTON, November 10.—The annual report of Hon. Walter Evans, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1884, has been submitted to the Secretary of the Treasury. The total receipts from all sources of internal revenue taxation for the year is $121,500,039 as compared with $ 14,553,364 for the year 1883, $146,522,273 for the year 1882, $146,523,273 for the year 1882, and $135,229,912 for the year 1881. It is estimated that $115,000,000 will be collected the present fiscal year. The payment of tax on the large production of spirits in 1881 was a natural factor in the collections during the past year. The Commissioner says a falling off is anticipated the present year, will follow from the diminished quantities of bourbon and rye whiskies produced in 1882, on which the tax will mature the current fiscal year. Another cause contributing to the reduction of receipts will be the largely increased exportation of spirits in bond, on which, for various reasons, owners can not pay tax. Something like 10,000,000 gallons already have been forced abroad during the current calendar year because of the stagnation in trade and the refusal of Congress to extend the bonded periods. A comparative statement of receipts for the fiscal years 1883 and 1884 show a decrease of $16,041,850; from tobacco, an increase of $2,536,610; from spirits, an increase of $1,184,358, from fermented liquors, a decrease of $10,642,404; from laces under repealed laws and penalties, making a total decrease of $22,963,503. The cost of collection the past year was $5,100,451, as compared with $5,105,957 in 1883. This includes $58,000 for accounts, storekeepers and gangers for the last half of June, 1884, that were not paid owing to the appropriation being exhausted, and for which deficiency an appropriation will be needed. Total expenses were a little less than 4 1-5 per cent of the amount collected. The Commissioner says the diminution of the gross receipts could not proportionately affect the cost of collection, as nearly the same force had to be retained. During the year 377 stills were seized and 902 persons arrested for engaging in illicit distillation. The Commissioner says strong representations were made in vain to Congress at its last session against the policy of reducing the force of revenue agents below the number of thirty-five fixed in the revised statutes. Only twenty can now be legally employed. This leaves too many avenues for fraud exposed, and the Commissioner says he fears it will result in much injury, as it is difficult for any one man efficiently to do the work belonging to a revenue agent in territory embracing sometimes three or more States, and never less than two. By comparing the receipts

FOR THE LAST FISCAL YEAR

with those for the fiscal year immediately preceding it, the decrease of revenue from tobacco was $16,041,849, and by comparing those receipts with the receipts for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1882, the decrease was $21,329,588. The last comparison more nearly shows the effect of the reduction of the tax on tobacco under the act of March 3, 1883, for the collections of those two fiscal years were made under the different rates of tax. But this comparison is not complete, owing to the fact that the production of tobacco, snuff and cigars for the past fiscal year shows a large increase over the production for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1882, a decrease in receipts compared with the fiscal year 1883, was $8,648,255 on chewing and smoking tobacco, $287,811 on snuff, $6,526,410 on cigars, and $475,566 on cigarettes. There was an increase of forty-one in the number of grain distilleries registered the last fiscal year, and a decrease of eighteen in the number operated. The increase in the number occurs, as was the case in the preceding fiscal year, in the class of distilleries having smaller capacities for the production of spirits. In the class of larger distilleries a very decided reduction occurs, both in the number registered and the number operated. The quantity of grain used in the production of spirits the past fiscal year was 18,927,982 bushels an increase of 243,195 bushels above the amount used in the preceding fiscal year, but 5,137,897 bushels less than the average of the last five years. A corresponding increase appears in the number of gallons produced from grain during the year, 73,924,581 gallons, an excess of 1,489,406 gallons over 1883. The quantity of molasses used for the production of rum the fiscal year was 2,259,536 gallons, a decrease of 113,570 gallons from the year previous and a decrease of 255,452 gallons from the average of the last five years. The quantity of rum distilled from molasses was 1,711,158 gallons, a decrease of 90,802 gallons from 1883 and a decrease of 204,674 gallons the last five years. A comparative statement of spirits of the different kinds known to the trade remaining in warehouses at the close of the fiscal years 1883 and 1884 shows that while there was increase in the stock of alcohol, gin, highwines and pure spirits held in bond June 30, 1884, over the quantity held June 30, 1882, of 753,252 gallons, there was an actual decrease in other grades of spirits, principally in bourbon and rye whiskies, of 17,750,694 gallons, or a net decrease of 16,997,442 gallons of the spirits held in bond June 30, 1884, nearly two-thirds of which was bourbon whisky. The quantity of spirits produced and deposited in distillery warehouses during the fiscal year 1883 was greater by 1,422,431 gallons. The quantity of spirits withdrawn from distillery warehouses the fiscal year, is greater than the quantity withdrawn during the year of 1883 by 3,901,287 gallons. The number of gallons of each kind of spirits removed for export the first three months of the present fiscal year was 3,467,351, as against 752,584 gallons removed the corresponding period of the last fiscal year. The quantity of distilled spirits removed in bond the past fiscal year was 9,586,738 gallons, against 6,326,427 gallons the previous year. The quantity of distilled spirits in the United States, except what may be in customs bonded warehouses the 1st of October, 1884, was 96,810,521 gallons. The total assessments made last year were 9,436,224, the increase over the previous being in the tax on distilled spirits remaining in the warehouse over three years. The estimate of the expenses of the internal revenue services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1886, are $4,984,500. The recommendation for salaries of collectors are based on the estimate of their probable collections. The salaries are fixed at $2,000 when collections are $25,000 or less, and increase on a graded scale to $4,500, where collections are upwards of $1,000,000.

Thanksgiving Day.

WASHINGTON, November 10.—The President has issued the following proclamation:

The season is nigh when it is the yearly wont of this people to observe a day appointed for this purpose by the President as an especial occasion for thanksgiving unto God. Now, therefore, in recognition of this hallowed custom, I, Chester A. Arthur, President of the United States, do hereby designate as such day of general Thanksgiving, Thursday, the 27th of this present November, and I do recommend that throughout the land, people, ceasing from their accustomed occupations, do then keep it a holiday at their several homes and their several places of worship, and with heart and voice pay reverent acknowledgment to the Giver of all Good for the countless blessings wherewith He has visited this Nation.

Dr. Butler's Sentence.

LOCKPORT, N. Y., November 11.—The well-known case of Dr. Ira Butler, alias Richmond, convicted of manslaughter in causing death of Lizzie Cook, a young girl this city, by abortion was ended yesterday in the County Court, where a new trial was denied, and Judge Potter then sentenced the prisoner to Auburn Prison for six years at hard labor.

Released.

PETERSBURG, VA., November 11.—The jury disagreed and were discharged in the case of W. W. White, late Teller of the Planters' and Mechanics' Bank, indicted for making fraudulent entries. White was released on $2,500 bail.

THE DAIRY.

—A moist, cool nose in horned cattle denotes health; a dry, hot muzzle, fever.

—Dairymen can now begin feeding corn. It makes milk when mixed with other food.

—Breed good stock, but remember that breeding without feeding never put money in the pocket.

—The manufacture of butter and cheese seems a very simple matter, but any one who will go into the markets can not fail to observe that somehow the manufacture of first-class qualities of either is only imperfectly understood, and that the bulk of product offered—and especially is this true of butter—is very inferior; and where positive inferiority cannot be asserted there is a lack of uniformity which operates greatly against commercial value.—*Cleveland Herald.*

MEALS IN THE MILK RATION.

Estimates on the Amount of Milk Produced by Certain Courses of Feeding.

To test the principle that has been very emphatically laid down by German investigators, and somewhat widely accepted in this country, that a liberal supply of digestible protein is the main thing to be looked after in the ration for milch cows, tests have recently been made at the Wisconsin Experiment Station. The first ration consisted of clover-hay and cornmeal, and had one part of digestible protein to about eight of digestible matters of other kinds. In the second ration cottonseed oil meal was substituted for a part of the cornmeal in such quantities that the ration should contain the same total of digestible matters, but at the same time a larger proportion of protein—one part of this to about five of other digestible matters. In the third ration malt sprouts were put in the place of the cottonseed meal in such quantity as to leave the proportion of protein and of total digestible matters unchanged.

If the principle stated in the beginning be correct, the second and third ration should yield more or better milk, or both, than the first. In estimating the effect of the ration, due allowance was made for the natural falling off in the yield of milk as the period of lactation advanced, and for the gradually increasing temperature with the advance of the season—two opposing tendencies which partially but not entirely neutralized each other. The results were not favorable to the principle tested. On the second ration there was a very slight gain, which could be credited to the ration, and on the third ration a very slight loss in yield. There was not, as we should have expected, a notable gain on the second ration, continued on the third.

It will be remembered that the intention was, in making up the rations, to have the same total of digestible matters of all kinds in every one; but when the separate digestion feeding experiments with the fodders used in these milk experiments were finished it was found that the second ration contained a little larger total of these matters than did the first, while the third contained a little less. If now it be supposed that the yield of milk depends especially and mostly on the quantity of digestible matters of all kinds, it is explained way about the same quantity of milk was obtained on these three rations, but a little more on the second than on the first, and a little less on the third than on the first.

Attention is very properly called in the bulletin to the importance of further tests of the correctness of this supposition. Oil-meals of all kinds, such as linseed and cottonseed, have been highly praised for use in the milk rations, because of their richness in protein; but if general richness in digestible matters is just as useful for the purpose mentioned, then the cheaper corn meal, which contains, pound for pound, about as much digestible substance as cottonseed oil-meal, can be as well used in the milk ration. In this connection it should be further noticed that the tests of the milk as to quality, and butter yield on churning, failed to show any unmistakable improvement on the more expensive oil-meal ration.—*Dr. G. C. Caldwell, in N. Y. Tribune.*

CREAM.

An Article Which Everybody Who Makes Butter and Cheese Should Read.

Cream varies in quality wonderfully. To suppose that cream is cream always would be a great mistake. The very nature of cream obliges it to act as a filter to the milk. As soon as the cream globules have gathered into a mass as they rise from the bottom of the pail or pan and begin to ascend together, they necessarily carry up with them anything that will adhere to them or which will arrest their progress. When, for instance, the milk is ropy, or contains strings of adherent matter, as pus corpuscles, or cells, from the mucous membrane of an udder affected by catarrhal garget, or that is inflamed from any cause, all these must necessarily be carried up with the cream, filtered from the milk, in fact, just the same as though a fine screen had been drawn through it and had caught all these in the meshes. The effect is to change the texture of the cream—to make it adherent, stiff, and, as some dairymen complain, it has a leathery texture. When milk of this character goes into the cheese vat, the cheese soon taints and has an offensive odor of rottenness, quite different from the strong ammoniacal odor of highly ripened cheese, which is due to the change of the caseine and albumen of it into ammonia. As albumen contains sixteen per cent. of nitrogen, which is equivalent to nineteen per cent. of ammonia, and diseased milk of the kind under notice contains an unusual proportion of albumen and very quickly enters into putrefactive fermentation, the change of the albumen into ammonia and also sulphureted hydrogen, by combination of the sulphur contained in the albumen with a portion of the hydrogen, there is soon an excessively offensive and pungent odor, like that of rotten eggs, escaping from the cheese made from this sort of milk. Butter made from such