SEEKING OFFICE.

The Civil-Service Law a Stumbling Block in the Road of Ambitious Young Americans.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—"There is little use," said Solicitor Blaine, "in attempting to conduct a civil-service for one set of officeholders and ignoring the just claims of others. This has been brought very prominently before the State Department recently in cases where young Americans desire to go abroad as diplomatic representatives of the United States. Before there was such a thing known as civil-service reform, politicians were accustomed to bring their friends to Washington, and, after receiving attention from the head of a department, an appointment to a lucrative position was generally the result. But now all this is changed and the doors of the departments are practically closed against applicants for office, owing to the requirements of the Civil-Service Commission. Disappointed in their efforts to get into public position in other ways, many of the workers of the two political parties turned their longing eyes in the direction of the State Department and coveted long and earnestly some of the consular offices held by others. Examinations are not required for these places, and they are matters for the exertion of influence, if the solicitation of candidates for them can be believed. In consequence of the demand for consular positions it is quite likely that they will be recommended to be turned over to the Civil-Service Commission to pass upon the ability of the applicants, and thus relieve the State Department of a great deal of annoyance."

RAILROAD BUILDING.

The Showing For the Past Year Not So Favorable as to Foreclosures.

CHICAGO, Jan. 5.—The Railway Age says that the year 1889 makes a much less favorable showing in respect to foreclosures than did its immediate predecessor, although on the other hand its record is much less discouraging than in the three years preceding 1888. A table is appended showing that during 1889 twenty-five roads were sold under foreclosure. They had an aggregate mileage of 2,930 miles and a total funded debt and capital stock of $137,815,000.

Among the lines so sold were: The Wabash, with 948 miles and $27,000,000 of capital; the Cincinnati, Washington & Baltimore, 281 miles; the Richmond & Allegheny, with 252, and the narrow gauge Denver, South Park & Pacific, 326 miles, and Port Austin, 218 miles. The record for 1888 was nineteen foreclosures, covering 1,596 miles and $64,555,000 capitalization; in 1887, thirty-one failures, covering 5,478 miles and $328,181,000 capitalization; in 1886, forty-five failures covering 7,687 miles and $374,100,000 capitalization.

During 1889 twenty-two roads with an aggregate of 3,800 miles of track and $84,702,000 funded debt, and $99,664,000 capitalization went into the hands of receivers, the most prominent of which was the St. Louis, Arkansas & Texas, with 1,170 miles of line, and $55,443,000 of funded debt and $23,083,000 capital stock. The International & Great Northern, with 775 miles of lines $15,000,000 of funded debt and $9,755,000 of capital stock, came next in magnitude.

JUDGE KELLEY.

The "Father of the House" Likely Not Again to Take Part in Its Deliberations.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—Judge Kelley is slightly improved. The members of his family who are here were not summoned to Washington on account of the judge's illness, but came to spend the holidays with him. While it is true that the judge has a throat trouble of a cancerous nature, it is not a new development, as Mr. Kelley submitted to a surgical operation for the removal of this growth in 1883. There has been, however, a renewal of the trouble quite recently, but this was not the cause of his present prostration. About a week ago the judge contracted a heavy cold, which developed into a very severe case of intestinal catarrh, accompanied by copious and obstinate diarrhœa, which has resulted in great weakness and a general breaking down of the system. The judge is extremely anxious to go to the House of Representatives once more, but his friends are of the opinion that he will never take his seat there again.

NEW YORK SNEEZING.

Increased Mortality Due to Influenza—Policemen Suffering.

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—The deaths Friday numbered 220, against 125 Thursday and 165 on Wednesday. This is something unprecedented at this time of the year. Pneumonia, bronchitis and consumption show an increase over the standard per day at this season. The number of policemen reported to be sick was 357, showing a steady increase. The increase in the number of deaths is attributed to la grippe and the diseases which follow that malady.

Louis Natal, the well known author and dramatist, died at the French hospital from la grippe.

The bureau of vital statistics has received four death certificates on which the cause of death was given as "epidemic influenza." The officials, however, positively refuse to give the names of the people who have so died, for some unexplained reason.

A Gambler's Complaint.

GAINESVILLE, Tex., Jan. 4.—Deputy Marshal Swain passed through here with warrants for the arrest of Deputy Marshals Thomas Cadell and Ridenour and Indian Policeman Charles Lafore who are charged with robbery by ex-Deputy Marshal C. J. Foster, who claims that the officers unlawfully took from him two revolvers and broke into his house and took a lot of gambling paraphernalia. The complaint grew out of a recent raid on Foster's gambling house in the Indian Territory by these officers, who were acting under instructions from Indian Agent Bennett.

CROP REPORT.

The December Crop Report Shows a Good Average Yield.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—The December report of the Department of Agriculture contains a detailed statement of the estimates of the principal cereals, by States, including area, product and values.

The reported area of corn is 78,319,651 acres. This represents an increase of 2½ per cent. over the acreage of 1888. The wheat acreage is 38,123,859 acres, 2 1-10 per cent. greater than the aggregate of 1888. The revision of acreage gives a smaller area in Iowa, Nebraska, Oregon and Washington, and a larger breadth in Kansas and Dakota. Dairying and meat production have for years been encroaching on wheat growing on the eastern side of the great spring wheat belt, as former reports have shown. Wide fluctuations in the breadth of wheat in Kansas, Illinois and other States, occurring from year to year, are the result of variable meteorological conditions. Economic considerations, especially changes in market value, also affect peculiarly the distribution of wheat.

The acreage of oats is placed at 27,462,310 acres, an increase of less than 2 per cent.

The yield per acre of corn is very nearly 37 bushels, or one and one-tenth bushels less than the product of 1879 and is the largest rate of yield since 1880. The product as estimated is 2,112,892,000 bushels. The largest yields are west of the Mississippi-Iowa, taking first rank in the aggregate produced and yield per acre, 349,966,000 bushels, 39.5 per bushel per acre.

The yield per acre of wheat is nearly 12.9 bushels, or one-tenth of a bushel greater than the November average of yield per acre. The variation from the current expectation of the last six months is not over 1 per cent. The total product as estimated is 499,560,000 bushels.

The product of oats is 751,515,000 bushels at the rate of 27.4 bushels per acre. The aggregate of all cereals is about 3,460,000,000, or at least fifty-three bushels per capita.

THE SUGAR TRUST.

A Petition to Wind Up Its Affairs Under a Receiver.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—Notice of an action in the Supreme Court for the dissolution of the sugar trust and asking for the appointment of a receiver to wind up its affairs was filed in the county clerk's office of Kings County in Brooklyn, late Tuesday afternoon by the North River Sugar Refining Company, a member of the trust, through Henry Winthrop Gray, receiver.

The document gives notice that the action will be brought in the Supreme Court and says the partnership (trust) was entered into by plaintiff and defendants August 16, 1887. The appointment of a receiver is asked for to take possession of all the property of the trust. The petition describes in detail all the lands and buildings of the Havemyers' at Green Point and Williamsburg, and on the East river and Wallabout Bay water fronts, involving many millions of dollars. The court is asked to restrain the defendants from disposing of any of the property of the trust and from paying any further moneys out of the assets of the co-partnership or otherwise disposing of the assets.

Plenty of Wool.

BOSTON, Jan. 4.—The Boston Commercial Bulletin's annual telegraphic canvass of the wool supply in the United States shows a heavy increase over last year's. The detailed and classified reports from the markets and the growers show a total supply in dealers' hands of 70,000,000 pounds domestic and 15,000,000 pounds foreign against 50,000,000 domestic and 17,000,000 foreign in 1888. The New York and Philadelphia stocks are less than last year, but Boston shows an increase of 11,000,000 pounds of domestic wool and most of the small markets follow the lead of the chief wool market of the country. The imports of clothing wool coming from abroad show a decline of nearly 75 per cent.

Eight Lives Thought to Be Lost in a California Snow Slide.

MARYSVILLE, Cal., Jan. 4.—A disastrous snow slide occurred at Sierra City yesterday. Particulars are meagre, but as far as can now be ascertained the dead are Mrs. I. T. Mooney, Miss Ethel Langdon, Mrs. R. Rich and her little son and daughter. The force of the snow slide was so great that trees in its path were mowed down as if they were stalks of grain. The number of the dead may reach eight. Two houses and a church were torn to pieces and several buildings were moved.

A Brigantine Sunk.

LONDON, Jan. 4.—The White Star Line steamer Britannic ran into the brigantine Czarowitz, in the Mersey, and the after part of the brigantine was cut clean away and she rapidly filled and sank. The Britannic succeeded in saving all hands from the Czarowitz, except the captain, who was drowned.

The Spanish Ministry Resigns.

MADRID, Jan. 4.—The Ministry has resigned. Senor Agasta will attempt to form a new Cabinet on a basis that will reconcile the various liberal groups.

Heavy Rains.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Jan. 4.—A steady rain has been falling all over the State for the past three days, causing interruption to railway travel and serious alarm. No trains have arrived from St. Louis over the Iron Mountain railroad for forty-eight hours, owing to washouts, while the track is under water for miles. The Cotton Belt route, running from Pine Bluff into Texas, is also a hoy sufferer and the sale of tickets to points south of Texarkana was closed suspended to-day, the southern end of the road being inundated for miles.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

Report of the Cherokee Commission Concerning the Collapsed Negotiations.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 31.—The Cherokee Commissioners' report to Congress on Cherokee affairs is about complete. It is an interesting document. The report says that the Commission was created by the act of Congress approved March 2, 1889, by which Oklahoma was opened to settlement. They were empowered to negotiate for the purchase of all the Indian lands west of the ninety-sixth degree. A proviso in section 14 authorized a payment for the Cherokee Strip on the same terms as made with the Creeks for Oklahoma, namely, $1.25 per acre, which, if accepted by the Cherokees, required no ratification by Congress, but became a part of the public domain when the Cherokee Legislature had ratified the agreement and provided the details for payment of money, etc. The Commissioners say that the personal request of the Cherokee Chief that Congress send a Commission to the Cherokee Nation strongly influenced Congress in creating the Commission. They quote from Senate document No. 89, in which Mayes urgently requested the Senate to send a commission down. The report recites the incident connected with their visit to the Cherokees last August, when, after waiting two weeks upon the Chief for an answer to their proposition, he finally declined to call an extra session of the Legislature, stating that the Cherokee Constitution forbads a sale of Cherokee lands. The Commissioners then returned the latter part of October and staid for six weeks, during which time voluminous correspondence passed between them and the Cherokee authorities, but no definite conclusion was reached till the end of that period.

The Commissioners suggest the opinion that the alleged "Cherokee Nation," with laws passed and administered by white men who are really United States citizens, has become extinct by virtue of a long continued intermarriage between the Indians and whites, and ask if a strict sense of justice warrants the disposition of Indian annuities and other revenues equally among white United States citizens and full blood Cherokees.

The report recommends that the Government avail itself of its undeniable right, under section 15, of the treaty of 1866, to settle civilized Indians on the unoccupied lands in the Cherokee Nation proper, and the payment of such a sum as shall be agreed upon by the Indians; or in case of their disagreement the price per acre to be fixed by the President. By the payment of $2,500,000 to the Cherokees fully 10,000,000 acres, now occupied by tribes west of the 96th degree, by executive order could be opened to settlement, while on the other hand $7,000,000 expended for the Cherokee Outlet would only secure 6,000,000 acres inferior in quality to the lands now owned by the Government, but occupied by Indians who have no title to the soil, but only the right to occupancy at the Government's pleasure.

The Cherokees having refused a generous offer for alleged ownership of the Cherokee Outlet, it now lies with Congress to say whether the cattlemen and an unscrupulous body of white men, calling themselves Indians, can thwart the Government's purpose to furnish homes for a vast number who are crying for a little spot of ground from which they may derive sustenance for hungry families. A high judicial authority, whose legal attainments have lately elevated him to the Supreme Bench of the United States, has decided that the Cherokees have no ownership in the soil of the Cherokee Outlet. If his opinion and the opinions of other jurists have any weight, then Congress ought to declare the Outlet a part of the public domain; or if the Cherokee tenure is good, the Government can avail itself of the provisions of article 16 of the treaty of 1866, which provides that the Government can settle friendly Indians on the outlet by paying 47½ cents per acre to the Cherokees.

THE KEMMLER CASE.

Death By Electricity Held to Be Constitutional in Capital Offences.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 31.—The general term of the fifth department has handed down a decision in the case of Kemmler, the murderer condemned to death under the new law providing for the killing of criminals by electricity.

After reviewing the experiments made upon animals by electricity and the accidental death of men, through the same instrumentality, the judge concluded: "The light of the scientific evidence in this case is sufficient, as we think, to remove every reasonable doubt that the passage of a current of electricity of a certain well-determined intensity through the vital parts of the body under chosen conditions of conduct and resistance, must result in instant death. If the question were of the advisability in the change of the mode of inflicting death by capital punishment the discussion might be prolonged. As we are confined to the question of constitutionality we deem further discussion unnecessary. The order dismissing the writ of habeas corpus and remanding the prisoner must be affirmed."

To Represent St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 31.—The World's Fair executive committee has elected Governor Francis, Mayor Noonan, ex-Governor Stanard, Colonel Charles H. Jones and E. S. Rosz, all members of the committee, to represent St. Louis before the Congressional World's Fair committee. They will leave here for Washington next Saturday, and will be accompanied by a delegation of twenty-five thoroughly representative citizens of St. Louis and the State, who will add their forces to those of the committee in urging the claims of this city as a site for the World's Fair.

Syrup of Figs.

Produced from the laxative and nutritious juice of California figs, combined with the medicinal virtues of plants known to be most beneficial to the human system, acts gently, on the kidneys, liver and bowels, effectually cleansing the system, dispelling colds and headaches, and curing habitual constipation.

A good many people publicly thank the Lord for their prosperity, who would be very mad if somebody should suggest that they were not mainly responsible for it themselves.—Somerville Journal.

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LUMBAGO.

Lumbago is a form of the chronic stage of rheumatism. In the lumbar region it manifests itself in the form of a pain in the back, which is readily cured by rubbing the part freely with St. Jacobs Oil. It is commonly known as

BACKACHE.

Victoria, Tex., June 25, 1888.

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As a powerful, invigorating tonic, it imparts strength to the whole system, and to the womb and its appendages in particular. For overworked, "worn-out," "run-down," debilitated teachers, milliners, dressmakers, seamstresses, "shop girls," housekeepers, nursing mothers, and feeble women generally, Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is the greatest earthly boon, being unequaled as an appetizing cordial and restorative tonic.

As a soothing and strengthening nervine, "Favorite Prescription" is unequaled and is invaluable in allaying and subduing nervous excitability, irritability, exhaustion, prostration, hysteria, spasms and other distressing, nervous symptoms, commonly attendant upon functional and organic diseases of the womb. It induces refreshing sleep and relieves mental anxiety and despondency.

Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is a legitimate medicine, carefully compounded by an experienced and skillful physician, and adapted to women's delicate organization. It is purely vegetable in its composition and perfectly harmless in any condition of the system.

"Favorite Prescription" is a positive cure for the most complicated and obstinate cases of leucorrhœa, excessive flowing, painful menstruation, unnatural suppression, prolapsus, or falling of the womb, weak back, "female weakness," anteversion, retroversion, bearing-down sensations, chronic congestion, inflammation and ulceration of the womb, inflammation, pain and tenderness in ovaries, accompanied with "internal heat."

For an Illustrated Treatise on Diseases of Women, 100 pages, (sent sealed in plain envelope,) send ten cents in stamps, to WORLD'S DISPENSARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, No. 663 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

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