THE PLATTSMOUTH JOURNAL

R. A. BATES, Publisher.

PLATTSMOUTH, - NEBRASKA.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Lieutenant Guy Hanna of Iowa, heretofore detailed at Fort Hunt, Virginia, has been transferred to San Francisco.

Part of the navy department buildings at Buenos Ayres was destroyed by fire. The loss is estimated at about $800,00.

The statement of the treasury balances in the general fund shows: Available cash balance, $221,971,889; gold, $102,571,295.

At a meeting of Americans in Havana it was arranged to hold memorial exercises at the wreck of the Maine on the anniversary of the destruction.

The Idaho senate passed the house bill providing for a tax on the net output of mines. Strong efforts, it is said, will be made to induct the governor to veto it.

Joel Sumner Smith of the class of 1853 of Yale died at his home in New Haven, Conn. He was assistant librarian at the university and was 72 years of age.

The Kansas senate adopted a concurrent resolution recommending United States Senator William A. Harris for appointment as a member of the isthmian canal commission.

Joseph E. Cot and Juan Gonzales were hanged at San Quentin, Cal., for the murder of an old man in San Benito county named Buiz, whom they killed for purposes of robbery.

The International convention of the Building Laborers' Protective union, in session at Fort Wayne, Ind., for two weeks, adjourned after choosing St. Louis for the meeting place next year.

Twenty-five states were represented by more than 100 delegates at the first session of the annual meeting of the American Roadmakers and International Good Roads conference at Detroit.

The foot and mouth disease has become serious again in Massachusetts and Dr. Salmon, chief of the bureau of animal industry, will return to Boston in a few days to investigate the situation.

At Mystic, S. D., the air compressor plant of the Castle Creek Mining company was totally destroyed by fire. The plant consisted of boilers and engine, as well as air compressor and pump. The loss is $7,000.

The great prevalence of smallpox in the Pennsylvania coke region has prompted the officials of the H. C. Frick Coke company to issue an order calling for the free vaccination of all its employes and their families.

Captain W. W. Brown, general manager of the United States Transportation company of Cleveland, O., died suddenly at Rome, Italy. He was 43 years of age and was in good health when he left for Europe in January.

Willie Stoltzman, aged 20 years, acquitted ten days ago at Fort Scott, Kan., of the charge of killing R. J. Morrison, postmaster at Pawnee, Kan., was arrested at Kansas City for stealing a suit case from Dr. A. Craig of Chicago.

Orders were issued to shut down the print works of the Cocheco Manufacturing company at Dover, N. H. The closing of this branch of the industry is due to the strike of the 250 ring spinners and carders and will throw out of work about 1,000 additional operatives.

William E. Parnell, superintendent of the Tamarack, Osceola Consolidated and the Isle Royale mines of the Bigelow group, Michigan, died at Calumet of cancer of the intestines. He was vice president of the National bank of Houghton, and was interested in many other enterprises.

The Nebraska Telephone company has filed amended articles of incorporation, increasing the capital stock from $2,000,000 to $3,000,000. This action was taken at the annual meeting at which provision was made for the expenditure of about $60,000 this year in improvements and extensions.

An agency dispatch from Corunna, Spain, says that a resolution was passed at a meeting of workmen there in favor of a general strike in consequence of the increase of the octroi duties, which have advanced the price of food. The authorities have taken precautions to cope with possible disturbances.

Senator Cullom, from the senate committee on foreign relations, reported an amendment to the general deficiency bill providing for the payment of $5,000 to the Italian government on account of the killing of two Italians in a riot at Erwin, Miss., in 1901.

The senate committee on foreign relations authorized a favorable report on a new treaty of friendly relationship with Greece. The treaty is general and is constructed upon the lines of the treaty between the United States and Spain which the senate recently ratified.

The interior department has renewed for one year its agreement with the Oregon state insane asylum for the care and maintenance of the insane of Alaska. The government will pay $240 per capita per annum.

The greater part of the $10,000 worth of watches and jewelry stolen from the sale of S. Vann & Co., jewelers of Albuquerque, N. M., November 20, 1902, was found under an old barn by two boys who were hunting for hens' eggs

MILES IS AT HOME

THE GENERAL TALKS OF HIS TRIP ABROAD.

HAS BEEN AWAY FIVE MONTHS

His Observation, Particularly of the Japanese Army and Navy—Through Northern China to Siberia—Notes of the Journey.

NEW YORK—Lieutenant General Nelson A. Miles, commanding the United States army, his wife and party, arrived here Monday on the Lucania. They have been abroad five months, and in that time have been around the world.

One feature of the trip across the Atlantic for the general was the sending of a Marconigram to King Edward VII February 9. When the Lucania was eighty miles from the Marconi station at Crook Haven, General Miles sent the following message:

"Midocean greeting, with best wishes for happiness and health to his majesty and the royal family."

To which the following reply was received by cable on the arrival of the Lucania Monday:

"I have submitted your message to the king. I am commanded by his majesty to thank you for your good wishes and to say for him that it afforded him much gratification to receive it at Windsor.

"KNOLLYS."

With the general were Colonel and Mrs. M. P. Maus, Henry Clark Rousea of New York, F. B. Wilborg of Cincinnati, Mrs. Miles and Sherman Hoyt. Colonel Whitney was with the party when they left this country, but returned some weeks ago.

To his interviewers General Miles said:

"I have been abroad for five months. I left September 11 for the Pacific coast, and there made an inspection of the forts and coast defenses from Puget Sound to Southern California.

"On October 1 we sailed on the transport Thomas. We stopped at Honolulu, the Sandwich islands, and then sailed for Guam. We touched at the island, then continued to the Philippines. We spent a month there. I examined the military situation and visited the principal stations and forts and inspected the troops. There were no serious hostilities at that time. The 20,000 troops there were in fine shape.

"We then went to Nagasaki, Hong Kong and Canton.

"The Japanese army is very well equipped and disciplined; so is the navy. When I was there they were discussing the question of raising a large fund for the equipment of the navy. In the army they have most modern appliances. The Japanese are efficient in their system. The system of inspection and routine is much the same as ours. They pay a great deal of attention to drills, physical condition and gymnastic exercise. The corps of the Tokio academy numbers about as many cadets as we have at West Point and it is a well constructed and efficient corps."

Continuing, the general said the party went from Japan to Port Arthur and thence to Pekin.

"I remained there a short time. We have there a small detachment of troops—the legation guard at the capital. Everything there is quiet. We were accorded an audience by the emperor and the dowager empress. They received us with a great deal of courtesy and attention. We saw the troops of the Chinese army and the troops of the allied forces which are still there."

General Miles' party went through northern China to Siberia, passing through Manchuria en route and on to Moscow.

HE RETURNS TO MISSOURI.

Cole Younger Goes to the Scenes of His Earlier Life.

ST. PAUL, Minn.—Cole Younger, the pardoned bandit, left St. Paul and Minnesota Saturday for his old home in Missouri, which he has not seen in twenty-seven years, when he left it to participate in the memorable Northfield bank raid, which resulted in his arrest and imprisonment.

Younger had planned to leave St. Paul Monday, but he received a telegram Saturday afternoon stating that his sister was seriously ill at Lee's Summet, Mo., and he decided to leave at once. He cannot, under the conditions of the pardon, return to Minnesota. He said he intended to locate in Dallas, Texas, and would probably go into the stockraising business.

Mont Pelee Still Belching.

NEW YORK.—Captain Ebert of the German steamer Catania, which arrived Sunday from Brazil, reports that on February 4, while passing the island of Martinique, he made an observation of Mont Pelee. Much smoke was issuing from the crater and great quantities of lava was flowing down the mountain and into the sea, causing big clouds of steam to rise from the surface of the water.

Kansas Man Succeeds Dawes.

MEDICINE LODGE, Kan.—Ex-Governor W. E. Stanley has accepted the position as a member of the Dawes commission offered him by President Roosevelt.

Defender Named Republic.

NEW YORK—Frank R. Tucker, a nephew of John B. Herreshoff, is authority for the statement that the new cup defender has been named Republic.

VALUABLE MAIL PACKAGE LOST.

Letters Containing $50,000 in Commercial Paper Missing.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.—A package of letters containing upwards of $50,000 in commercial paper was lost by the postal authorities from a pouch on the Pennsylvania train leaving Louisville at midnight January 31 and running to Chicago via Indianapolis.

The postal authorities have failed to produce the missing package. The loss was first made known by complaints coming to the Indianapolis postoffice from towns along the line. Twenty-one complaints have been made and nearly all speak of letters lost with commercial paper in them. The theory at present at the postoffice is that the package was left in a pouch through the carelessness of an employe after it was thought to have been emptied. No suspicion rests on any one of wrong doing, and no attempt has been made to cash any of the missing checks.

The Child Saving Institute of Omaha.

The child Saving Institute of Omaha is distinguished from other organizations in that this institution in some cases allows parents and relatives to know where the children are placed. Some years ago an appeal was made to another society to take charge of a little girl nine years of age, whose mother had died in Omaha. The grandmother of the child, who was 70 years of age and very feeble, was anxious to know where the little girl would be placed. This society said "No, you can never know her location." The grandmother was anxious to receive occasionally little letters that her granddaughter might write. Being refused, an appeal was then made to the Child Saving institute of Omaha and the little girl was placed in a home near Fullerton, Neb., since which time she has written many comforting letters to the old lady in her declining years. It does not appear to this institution that any harm was done to the child nor any one else, in allowing her grandmother to know her whereabouts. There are many similar cases.

MR. BRYAN IN NEW YORK.

Not a Candidate for President or Any Other Office.

NEW YORK.—Many women were present to hear William Jennings Bryan speak before the Women's Democratic club in Brooklyn Monday afternoon.

Among other things Mr. Bryan said:

"I am just as much interested in public affairs as ever, but I am not a candidate for president or any other office.

"I regard the obligations that rest upon the private citizen as imperative as those imposed upon the public official.

"I have felt that I can no more escape from the work that I am now trying to do than a man in the penitentiary can escape the work imposed upon him.

"I am not going to change my views on public questions and I am still prepared to give reasons for my faith."

New Greek Letter Fraternity.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A new secret leteter fraternity named the Sigma Nu Phi, designed to embrace chapters in all the law schools of the United States, has filed articles of incorporation here. Members of other fraternities will not be admitted. The membership will be confined entirely to undergraduates of law schools and alumni associations and their faculties. It is proposed ultimately to own a fraternity house in Washington and to publish a paper here. The incorporators are members of the faculty and under graduates of the National University School of Law.

UNION PACIFIC LOSES CASH.

Court Decides that $800,000 Must Go to Government.

BOSTON, Mass.—In the United States circuit court Thursday Judge Colt decided that the entire fund in dispute between the federal government and the Emergency Loan & Trust company should go to the United States. The amount is $600,000, now in the hands of the American Loan & Trust company of Boston.

The decision is believed to finally settle the long controversy between the United States and the Union Pacific railroad, for which the trust company acted as referee.

Monster Aerolite Falls.

SALT LAKE, Utah.—A special to the Tribune from Bingham, Utah, says:

"A large meteor struck the earth in the vicinity of this place at 4:04 o'clock Saturday morning. The falling body, when it collided with the earth, caused windows to rattle and the house to tremble, while a sound like a mighty clap of thunder awakened the inhabitants from their sleep. The people thought there had been an earthquake and much alarm was felt until the true nature of the shock was learned."

Arbitration with Domingo.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The issues between San Domingo and the United States, arising from claims of the latter country, are in a fair way to be amicably and satisfactorily adjusted by arbitration through the efforts of Minister Powell.

THE TRUST BILLS

WHAT ATTORNEY GENERAL KNOX HAS TO SAY.

ADMINISTRATION IS SATISFIED

The Legislation Will Give Opportunity to Test Many Points and Obtain Useful Court Decisions Withhut Harming Country's Industry.

WASHINGTON—Attorney General Knox, who is known to have proposed many clauses of the anti-trust bills recently passed, being asked the administration's opinion on the legislations, said:

The legislation affecting the trusts passed at this session of congress is satisfactory to the administration and the prompt response to the president's requests is highly gratifying. A long stride in advance has been accomplished and the promises of last fall have been made good.

The giving and taking of railroad rebates is now prohibited by a law capable of effective enforcement against corporations as well as individuals, and the courts of the United States are clothed with jurisdiction to restrain and punish violations.

The act creating the department of commerce vests in that department complete authority to investigate the organization and business methods of corporations engaged in interstate and foreign commerce, and, to that end, to compel the testimony of persons having the desired knowledge.

The legislation is concise in its terms, but comprehensive in its scope. Under its provisions a fair opportunity will be afforded to test the effect upon the tendency toward industrial monopoly of its guarantees of no favors for the great producer as against the small one.

Discretion is lodged in the president as to the publication of facts useful to the public and a wise administration of the law promises much that is helpful and nothing that is harmful.

The law to expedite the hearing of cases and giving an appeal directly to the supreme court from the court of first instance assures, within a reasonable time, authoritative decisions upon important questions on the knowledge of which future legislation, if necessary, can be confidently framed.

Upon the whole, the situation is eminently satisfactory and is the result of concessions, modifications of views and forms of expression upon the part of many earnest and thoughtful men who have endeavored, within a brief session, to meet a rational public demand in a rational and effective way.

SHIRKS HIS PERSONAL TAX.

John D. Rockefeller Pleads Poverty to Commissioners.

NEW YORK.—John D. Rockefeller, jr., is supposed to be about the richest young man in America, but he owes $400,000 and has only $30,000 worth of personal property, according to the statement filed with the department of taxes and assessments.

Mr. Rockefeller was assessed at $500,000. From what could be learned at the tax office he called there and stated that he had $400,000 in debts and that his personal property above his debts was worth only $30,000.

He said he was willing to pay taxes on an assessment of $50,000 and the commissioners accepted his figures.

ROOT NOT READY TO RESIGN.

Will Continue in the Cabinet for an Indefinite Period.

WASHINGTON. — "There is no foundation for the story," declared Secretary Root, referring to the publication of a rumor in New York that he will resign his position in the cabinet after the adjournment of congress March 4, and resume his law practice in New York.

He said that the report undoubtedly originated from chance conversations he frequently had with friends whenever he visited New York. He was asked if he did not expect to resume his law practice there and he invariably replied that he did, and when asked when he was likely to do so he usually gave the non-committal reply that he would take up his law business in New York "when his job in Washington was done."

Many Cattle Are Perishing.

BONESTEEL, S. D.—Stockmen from the range country report that cattle are perishing by hundreds. A Tripp county man lost over 300 steers.

The deep snow begins about fifty miles west of here and the range for 100 miles west of that point is covered with snow two feet deep, making it impossible for stock to secure food.

Sigsbee Prefers League Island.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Captain Charles D. Sigsbee, who has been considered in connection with the command of the navy yard at Bremerton, Wash., has expressed a preference for assignment to the command of the League Island navy yard at Philadelphia, and it is probable that his wishes will be respected.

Defeat the Suffrage Bill.

TOPEKA, Kan.—The Kansas legislature Wednesday, contrary to expectation, finally ended the aspirations of the women of Kansas to vote for presidential electors. The vote in the house on the equal suffrage proposition was 51 for and 62 against. Tuesday it was announced that enough votes had been pledged to secure the passage of the resolution.

LOOKING UP IRRIGATION.

A Lincoln Attorney Investigating as to Plans Mapped Out.

WASHINGTON.—Mr. A. E. Harvey, an attorney of Lincoln, is in the city looking after irrigation matters in Nebraska. In company with Mr. Shallenberger he called upon Professor Newell, chief hydrographer of the geological survey, to ascertain what plans had been mapped out for experiments in Nebraska. Mr. Newell states that before any irrigation projects can be started in Nebraska, it would be necessary for the citizens there to perfect some plans concerning the use of the waters stored; that is, if the government begins any projects they must have some assurance that the land irrigated would be taken by the citizens at least at the cost of irrigation, so that the government would not be out anything. Mr. Newell said that was his understanding of the bill; that the government should be reimbursed for the money spent by the sale of the lands irrigated.

CARNEGIE, THE BEST RICH MAN.

Only One of Millionaires to Rise Above His Money.

NEW YORK.—Addressing a meeting of the St. Vincent de Paul society at Carnegie hall Monday night, Bishop John Lancaster Spalding of Peoria received great applause when he declared that great wealth is almost certain to degrade the possessor of it, and, out of all the men who are known to reckon their possessions in the millions, he named only one—Andrew Carnegie—as a man able to rise above his surroundings.

Bishop Spalding admitted the great power of money, and declared that it appeared to be almost the real form of power in our day, "giving those who possess it," said he, "a hold on things that neither intellectual power nor faith can give.

MELVILLE ABOUT TO RESIGN.

Naval Engineer-in-Chief is to be Succeeded by Captain Rae.

WASHINGTON — Rear Admiral George W. Melville will relinquish his post as engineer-in-chief of the United States navy within the next few weeks and will be succeeded by Captain Charles W. Rae, now on duty as a member of the examining board in this city.

It had been expected that Rear Admiral Melville would remain in his present position until August, at least, and his friends anticipated that he would not withdraw from active service before January, 1904, when the term of office for which he was appointed will expire.

Powers Will Sue Together.

LONDON—Mr. Bowen's formal acceptance of the British protocol is not believed here to be likely to hasten to any great extent the conclusion of the Venezuelan negotiations. The allies' ambassadors have been strictly enjoined not to sign any of the protocols until all three powers are satisfied with the terms, when the signatures will be simultaneous. When the question of separate treatment of the allies is brought before The Hague court of arbitration the triple alliance will appear as one power, their interests being regarded as identical.

Coal Dealers Must Pay.

CHICAGO—The arguments were begun in Judge Horton's court Monday to determine whether the nine indicted officials of the Retail Coal Dealers' association of Illinois and Wisconsin should be granted a new trial. The proceedings followed the rendering of a pro forma verdict several days ago, and the imposition of a $100 fine upon each of the defendants. Judge Horton's decision in the argument for a new trial is the point sought in the first instance and is awaited with much interest.

Agrees on Army Nominations.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The senate committee on military affairs on Thursday agreed to favorably report the nine nominations for brigadier general which were made on the 10th inst., and also about 150 other nominations of minor rank in the army.

Is Bad for Sea Rioters.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Senator Thursday introduced a bill providing fines of $1,000 for persons engaged in riots at sea. A bill providing for postal checks in place of all bills of less than $5 was introduced by Senator Penrose.

Turkey Makes It Clear.

SOFIA, Bulgaria—In her recent note to Burgaria, Turkey declines to accept the Burgarian government's declaration as to the non-existence of revolutionary bands in Macedonia and warns Bulgaria that explicit instructions have been sent to the Turkish authorities to prevent the disturbance. This note is regarded as being intended to justify Turkey's military activity.

Want Wireless Service in China.

VICTORIA, B. C.—According to advices received here Italy has asked the Chinese government for a concession to establish a wireless telegraphic service between Pekin and Taku.

Cortelyou a Cabinet Officer.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The president on Monday sent the following nominations to the senate: George B. Cortelyou of New York, to be secretary of commerce and labor.

THE LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Latest Quotations from South Omaha and Kansas City.

SOUTH OMAHA.

CATTLE—There was a very light run of cattle, so that the market went a little higher again. Buyers all seemed to have quite liberal orders, so that trading was brisk and everything offered sold in a hurry. There were only a few bunches of cornfed steers on sale and those changed hands freely at prices ranging from strong to a dime higher than yesterday. As compared with Tuesday and Wednesday the market is fully 15c higher. The cow market was also active and strong to 10c higher. Prices on cow stuff have improved the last two days fully as much as values on beef steers, so that the market is nearly back to where it was a week ago today. The same as with steers the situation could probably best be described by calling the market nearly steady to a dime lower for the week. Bulls are selling in just about the same notches they were a week ago. Prices have not changed much, as they have been extremely low for some time past. About the only change in the market from day to dey was in the demand, as it was much easier to sell bulls on some days than on others. Veal calves held up in pretty good shape all the week. There were only a few stockers and feeders on sale and the demand was limited, with prices a shade lower.

HOGS—The demand on the part of the packers was quite liberal, so the market opened active and 5@10c higher. The bulk of the medium weight hogs sold from $6.75 to $6.85; while the prime heavyweights sold largely from $6.85 to $6.90. The light hogs sold from $6.75 down. It was evident that packers were anxious for supplies, and it only took a short time for them to buy up all the early arrivals.

SHEEP—Quotations. Choice western lambs, $5.75@6.00; fair to good lambs, $5.50@5.75; choice native and Colorado lambs, $6.00@6.25; choice yearlings, $4.75@5.00; choice wethers, $4.50@4.90; fair to good, $4.00@4.50; choice ewes, $4.00@4.40; fair to good, $3.25@4.00; feeders lambs, $4.25@4.75; feeder yearlings, $3.75@4.00; feeder wethers, $3.75@4.00; feeder ewes, $2.50@3.00.

KANSAS CITY.

CATTLE—Corn cattle firm; canner cows weak; good cows steady; stockers and feeders, slow and weak; choice export and dressed beef steers, $4.40@5.35; fair to good, $2.00@4.35; stockers and feeders, $2.00@4.15; western fed steers, $2.75@5.00; Texas and Indian steers, $3.00@4.00; Texas cows, $2.00@3.05; native cows, $2.00@3.75; native heifers, $2.00@3.75; canners, $1.00@2.00; bulls, $2.25@3.50; calves, $2.50@6.00.

HOGS—Market steady to 5c higher; top $7.02½; bulk of sales, $6.75@6.90; heavy, $6.80@7.02; mixed packers, $6.65@6.90; light, $6.55@6.75; yorkers, $6.70@6.75; pigs, $6.05@6.35.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—Market steady; native lambs, $4.00@6.15; western lambs, $3.55@6.05; fed ewes, $3.00@5.10; native wethers, $3.50@4.85; western wethers, $3.00@4.90; stockers and feeders, $2.50@3.50.

IOWA GETS RHODES BEQUEST.

Hawkeye and Seven Other States May Send Scholar to Oxford.

CHICAGO—Eight American students, representing as many central states, will be able to go to Oxford university next year on Cecil Rhodes' scholarships, according to the provisions made at the convention of the University of Chicago.

One or more from each will go the year following and thereafter two will go from each state during every three years. Each student will have $4,500 for three years at Oxford.

The eight states, all of which were represented in the convention, are Iowa, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Dr. G. B. Parkin met the university and college presidents and as representative of the Rhodes will trustees, authorized them to make the detailed provision. It was decided that each scholar must have legal residence in the state from which he is appointed, and that a standing, self-perpetuating committee in each state shall conduct the annual examination and make appointments on the basis of these tests.

These examinations are to be open to all students from the particular state, whether they have attended college in other states or not.

Caught in a Fly Wheel.

CHICAGO, Ill.—John Ward, an oiler in the engine room of the Grand Pacific hotel, was instantly killed Friday while oiling the machinery. His body was carried around in the large fly wheel time and time again before the power could be shut off. He was dead when finally extricated from the machinery. Ward was 21 years old and was at one time known as a successful jockey on southern and western tracks.

French Minister in Ecuador.

GUAYAQUIL, Ecuador — Frederic Mercier, the new minister of France to Ecuador, has arrived here. Miguel Valverde, secretary of the interior, has been appointed secretary of foreign affairs. He will retain charge of the interior department. Colonel Paul Clement, a Frenchman, formerly military instructor of the Peruvian army, after a short visit, left here this morning for San Francisco on the Mosmes liner Theben.

Acre Trouble is All Over.

LA PAZ, Bolivia—The Bolivian government Friday delivered its reply to the ultimatum presented by Brazil. Bolivia accepts unconditionally, but under protest, all the demands. Therefore it is most improbable that any collision between the Brazilian and Bolivian forces will occur. It is generally supposed here that the Acre revolutionists will surrender their arms to the Brazilian troops immediately.

Young Lad Manages Depot.

CARBONDALE, Ill.—Charles Dixon, aged 15, has been appointed agent of the East and West railroad at Reddleyville, Ill. The boy is believed to be the youngest railroad agent in the country to have active charge of an office.

CHICAGO & NORTHWESTERN RY.

Fist Road to Double Its Track from Chicago to Omaha.

A double track, block system line of transcontinental railway now reaches from the Missouri river to Chicago. This will be in the way of a distinct revelation to the man who made the trip across the plains twenty-five years ago in a prairie schooner, or on the emigrant train of the seventies.

The rapid development of our great agricultural states has been lost sight of to a certain degree in the discussion that has arisen lately concerning the commercial invasion of China and the far east, our occupation of the Philippine Islands, the annexation of Hawaii and the whole general movement by which we have suddenly become a world power. But while we have patriotically discussed these questions, commerce has moved ahead positively and relentlessly in the direction of the Pacifi ccoast, raising up new towns, building up old ones, making factories and farms where wild prairie had been.

The result is shown, in part, in the necessity on the part of the Chicago & Northwestern for this double track line, where great trains of live stock and grain move in long lines eastward to feed not only the eastern states, but to afford an outlet for the products of what is now, more than ever before, the granary of the world.

To the westward there is also a continuous stream of travel. The Northwestern Line, with its connections, operates three daily passenger trains between Denver and Chicago and three from San Francisco to the east. One of these, known as the Overland Limited, is probably the most luxurious and beautiful train in the world. Through Pullman service from Denver, Ogden, Cheyenne, Portland, San Francisco and Omaha to Chicago daily. As to freight movements ,the great double track system across the plains is busy carrying manufactures for Asiatic Russia, cotton cloths for the Chinese, various articles required by the pioneers who have crossed the Pacific to Manila and gone north to the gold mines of Alaska; as well as the tremendous traffic for Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and the Pacific northwest, comprising the product of every known branch of the country's commercial activity.

It was in 1848 that the Galena & Chicago Union, having been completed from Chicago to the Des Plaines river, a distance of ten miles, the first train over the line opened the traffic to Chicago by stopping on its way east to take on a farmer's load of wheat, the first grain shipment by rail to Chicago from the west. It may be imagined that this wheat was hardly desined for export, and that the travelers on this junket of early days little thought to what proportions this nucleus of a great railway system would grow.

But the road grew and in 1867 the line to Council Bluffs was complete, and the Pawnees on the Platte and the Sioux on the Missouri began to feel the crowding of the white man's outposts. In 1880 Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin had become well settled, while along the Platte the Indians still remained. The Northwestern had, however, built a line across southern Minnesota and into Dakota as far as Watertown, with feeders to various points, while in Wisconsin and northern Michigan lines had been extended into the Lake Superior district through Escanaba to Negaunee and Ishpeming.

This all seems very recent, but since that time the system has grown until it penetrates nine states of the union, and its heavy lines of freight trains and its palatial passenger service reach all important points from Chicago to Milwaukee, Madison, St. Paul and Minneapolis, Duluth and Superior, Omaha, the Black Hills and Colorado, with three fast trains between Denver, Salt Lake, Ogden, Cheyenne and Chicago daily; fast service to and from the Pacific coast.

The completion of the first double track between Chicago and the Missouri river puts the road not only at the front as compared with the other western roads, but in advance of many of the eastern lines that traverse country where he population is much more dense.

The Original American Expansionist.

Captain Thomas Read was the pioneer in our expansion policy, but that was just 112 years ahead of time. On a voyage—this is interesting history—in the old frigate Alliance, which his friend Robert Morris had converted into a merchantman, he made the first out-of-season passage to China. There were supposed to be million in it, but they did not pan out. Commodore Dale and George Harrison accompanied him, the former as chief officer and the latter as supercargo. Read discovered two islands, which he named Morris and Alliance. They were in the Caroline group, and by virtue of discovery belonged to the United States. The Carolines are not far from the Philippines. Spain came along and appropriated them, while America sat back on her dignity and looked pleasant. Our rights never were asserted nor respected. Germany bought the Carolines, the Pelew and Ladrone Islands in 1899 for 16,750,000 marks. Read's discovery is a forgotten chapter in our history.

The Oldest School House.

The "old log school house" at Camp Run, Westmoreland county, Pa., is said to be the oldest school house in this country. It is very primitive in all its appointments, but the teacher, Miss Celia J. Miller, who is only 16 years old, has enlisted the help of the "big boys" to make some improvements.

Silence and Superstition.

A curious request has been made by the minister of Alsace and Lorraine to the Societe Industriel de Mulhouse, whom he has asked to select for him a competent electrical specialist capable of writing series of articles in order to refute scientifically the superstitions of various villagers in Alsace. It seems that the villages in which those superstitions people live have been recently provided with electric tramways, and the inhabitants believe that the aerial wires attract storms, and are the special cause of heavy falls of hail.

Hewitt's Last Joke.

Toward the end of the illness which terminated the earthly career of Abram S. Hewitt, the doctors endeavored to keep hi malive by the use of oxygen. Those nearest and dearest to the dying man assembled about his bed. The venerable patient slowly raised his hand, grasped the tube and removed it from his mouth: "And now," he whispered, with a flickering smile, "I am officially dead." His eye lighted up with its last flash and in a moment he was no more.