AS TO LAND ENTRIES.

ANNUAL REPORT OF COMMIS-SIONER LAMERAUX.

Statistics Given in Regard to Business and Recommendations Made-The Decline Before Noted Continues-Entries Appear to Have Fallen Off 19,095-Total Cash Receipts \$2,033,454.

Land Office Report. WASHINGTON, Oct. 5 .- S. W. Lamoreaux, commissioner of the general land office, in his annual report to the secretary of the interior, declares that the decline of land office business noted in the last report still continues. Compared with 1894 there has been a decrease in land entries of 19,095, and of 6,016,685 acres entered upon, a decrease of final entries of 6,584 and 356,059 acres entered upon, and a decrease of cash receipts of \$734,370. The business of the office for the fiscal year ended June 30 was as follows: Cash sales, 417,378 acres; homestead entries, 5,009,491 acres; state selections, 626,169 acres; railroad selections, 1,967,479 acres: swamp land patents, 244,774 acres; Indian allotments, 85,455 acres; Indian lands sold, 42,548 acres; total eash receipts, \$2,033,454; patented or certified with the effect of patenting to railroad companies, 8,184,326 acres, surveys accepted by the land office, 10,12: ,653 acres.

The commissioner recommends that appropriations for the survey of public lands be made continuous instead of annual, as under the rules of the treasury department it has been found that where extentions have been made upon a contract an extension operates as a new contract and must be paid for H.; treasurer, Dr. Henry Holton of out of the appropriations for the year for which it was made. He also renews his suggestion of last year that surveys of public lands be made by the government direct, instead of under the contract system, as at present, under the supervision of the director of the geological survey upon recommendation of the commissioner. He refers to the fact that large surveys bition in communities composed of have been made under this system in

Indian territory with success. The total area of vacant public land in the United States is as follows: Surveyed, 313,837,888; unsurveyed, 285,-245.607. The land office has examined and has in process of adjustment twenty-two land grants to railroads. The interior department has approved the findings of the land office regarding the land grant adjustments in eleven cases, and ten other cases for final adjustments have been submitted to the department.

gress, granting lands to states for irrigation purposes, the commissioner says that he believes the necessity-will arise in the near future for the creation of a national commission whose function it shall be to regulate the distribution of these waters which have the interior part of the island are suftheir source in a superadjacent state, and which have heretofore been used in common by the people of that and the sub-adjacent states.

The commissioner recommends a law to compel the attendance of witnesses at land offices in contest cases; an appropriation of \$50,000 annually for making examinations necessary for the establishment of forest reservations and for the protection of reservations already existing.

SHOT AT COL. CROFTON.

Dementia Causes Lieutenant Pague to

Commit a Rash Act. Chicago, Oct. 5 .- Colonel R. E. Crofton, commander of the Fifteenth infantry at Fort Sheridan, narrowly escaped death or at least a severe wound at the hands of Lieutenant S. S. Pague of Company F. Fifteenth infantry, yesterday afternoon. The lieutenant fired three the commander. at One passed through the fold of his overcoat just over the right groin and the second and third passed close to the body. Pague a few moments before had escaped from the hospital, where he had been undergoing treatment for mental trouble, occasioned, it is said, by over-indulgence in liquor. At the fort it was stated that the lieutenant was not responsible for his act, and that his meeting with Crofton was a chance meeting.

Mixed Marriages Forbidden.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Oct 5 .- The consticutional convention, by an overwhelming majority, has adopted a clause forbidding the intermarriage of a white person with any person with any negro blood whatever. This, in connection with the suffrage clause, will have the effect of disfranchising mu-

A Dead Man's Shortage. St. Louis, Mo., Oct. 5 .- An after noon paper says the late Joseph H-Tiernan, for many years prior to his. death, on September 1 last, one of the best known and most prominent realty men on the street, has been discovered to be short in his accounts with the Security Building and Loan association No. 2, of which he was secretary since its organization. It is admitted to be over \$10,000, and some say it

John Teel Dead.

may be as much as \$20,000.

NEVADA, Mo., Oct 5,-Ex-Representative John Teel of Lawrence county, died at the Nevada asylum yesterday morning. Mr. Teel was brought to the asylum early last spring as a private patient. A few weeks before this his mind became unbalanced while he was in St. Louis. Mr. Teel was a lawyer and prominent Democratic politician.

Indians Gut for the Money.

ARDMORE, I. T., Oct. 5 -The Chickasaw tribal authorities are understood to be favorable to allowing the Corbett-Fitzsimmons mill to take place in | with his Wild West show. They were this nation for a satisfactory pecuniary consideration. With them it is a question of revenue. Kilgore, the federal judge at Ardmore, claims there are no legal impediments so far as his jurisdiction is concerned. There is no tribal law prohibiting physical culture exhibitions. Colbert's Ferry, another prospective point, is on the Red river, this side of the Texas border, and is | and blankets on the reservations. All only eight or ten miles from Denison, those that spoke said that they were

LOST IN DARKEST AFRICA. TALMAGE'S

Anxiety About Dr. Donaldson Smith's

Expedition. London, Oct. 5 .- Considerable anxlety is beginning to be felt in scientific circles regarding Dr. Donaldson Smith's African expedition, news of which is long overdue. According to the latest advices Dr. Smith had been stopped by the Abyssinian army, and it is feared that he has had to retrace his steps and go in a southwesterly direction. He may thus have got behind the district where the British are now fighting, at Mweli, on the British East African coast, and have been caught by the natives. It is hoped, however, that when he heard of the fighting, Dr. Smith made a detour, in which case he would be heard from in the neighborhood of Lake Tanganyiki, or along the German or English lake

Dr. Smith, who is a resident of Philadelphia, started from England in the latter part of May, 1894, for the Somali coast, with the object of reaching lakes Rudolph and Stefanie from the from him were dated December 14, 1894, at the Shibeyli river and Russa Gallas. These were written by himself in pencil while in the brush, and were addressed to the press.

HEALTH AND LIQUOR.

Suggestions Made by the Sanitary Com-

mittee of the American Association. DENVER, Col., Oct. 5 .- The American Public Health association to-day elected officers as follows: President, Dr. Eduardo Licego of the City of Mexico; vice presidents, Colonel A. A. Wood hull, United States army, and Dr. Henry Sewall of Denver; secretary, Dr. Irving A. Watson of Concord, N. Brattleboro, Vt. The convention next year will be held at Buffalo, N. Y.

The report of the committee on the abuse of alcoholic drinks from a sanitary stand point, by Felix Formenta of New Orleans made the following recommendations: Increase the penalty for adulterations; remove the tax on beer, wine and coffee; total prohivicious classes; high license to diminish the number of barrooms and cause better liquors to be sold, enforce a strict sanitary inspection of all drinks sold over the bar; promote the culture of grapes; double the penalty for selling to minors, compel drunken men to work when sent to jail; establish eating houses. The committee had no faith in the Sunday closing laws.

A FAMINE IN CUBA.

Discussing the act of the last con- Great Distress Predicted in Case the War Continues.

> NEW YORK, Oct. 5 .- A local paper prints extracts from a private letter from Cuba which predicts a famine if the war continues. "The troops in fering unheard of hardships. They are famished, clothesless, shoeless, and without medical attendance. The very officers confess the total demoralization of the army and pronounce the difficulty insurmountable The departments of Santiago Puerto Principe, Santa Clara and Matanzas-that is to say, nearly all the island-are being devastated. Everywhere small parties of rebels patrol the country with perfect impunity, robbing and firing property."

WILL WED THE PRIEST.

Mrs. Steidel Relents and Her Daughter Will Marry Father Wagner.

St. Joseph, Mo., Oct. 5 .- The mother of Maude Steidel has relented in her prosecution of Father Dominick Wagner and some time to-day or to-morrow there will be a wedding at the pail and Maude Steidel will become the priest's bride. Father Wagner agreed to transfer all his property and money, amounting to about \$10,000, to the girl, if the prosecution were dropped and he be permitted to marry her. This has been agreed to by Mrs. Steidel and the girl.

EPISCOPAL MISSIONS.

Report on the Embezzlement of Henry Oakley and Rev. William Newbold.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Oct. 5 .- In the Episcopal house of bishops one of the principal reports presented to the soard of missions was the report of the executive committee of the American Church Missionary society, read Secretary J. Thompson Cole. It was the first public and official utterance as to the embezzlement of \$41,000 by the former treasurer, Henry Oakley, and the former secretary, the Rev. William A. Newbold. It had been hoped to avoid all public reference to of the heart's affections and in five minthe affair, but this was found impossible. The amount taken by Oakley was computed at \$21,823.24 and by Newbold at \$19,034.16 from September 1, 1887. The defalention was made possible by the fact that there was no check on the accounts of either save by the other, and upon this they relied for safety. The treasurer has reimbursed the society, but the secretary has no money nor anyone sufficiently interested in him to make it good. It would be impossible to prosecute the treasurer without returning | he believes in sprinkling or immersion. the money made good as it came from another source. No promises had been made, but prosecution seemed impossible. The secretary was old, penniless and disgraced. To proceed against him and not against the treasurer would justify the energe that the prosecution was not because he took money but becave he had no friend to pay it back.

Violated Treaties.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5. - William F. Cody was at the Indian office with a large delegation of Indians connected given a hearing by Acting Commissioner Smith, to whom they complained that their treaties were not being carried out according to agreement, all of them saying that if he should stop to tell all that the government had promised them that it would occupy him two days. He said that they were short of rations, clothing being treated well by Colonel Cody.

SERMON.

STORY OF GIDEON'S BATTLE AT MOUNT GILBOA.

"And the Three Companies Blew the Trumpets, and Broke the Pitchers and Held the Lamps in Their Left Hands"-Judges, vil, 20-21.



HAT is the strangest battle ever fought. God had told Gideon to go down and thrash the Midianites. but his army is too large; for the glory must be given to God, and not to man. And so proclamation is

made that all those of the troops who are cowardly and want to go home may northeast. The last advices received go, and twenty-two thousand of them scampered away, leaving only ten thousand men. But God says the army is too large yet; and so he orders these ten thousand remaining to march through a stream, and commands Gideon to notice in what manner these men drink of the water as they pass through it. If they get down on all fours and drink then they are to be pronounced lazy and incompetent for the campaign; but if, in passing through the stream, they scoop up the water in the palm of their hand and drink and pass on they are to be the men selected for the battle. Well, the ten thousand men marched down in the stream and the most of them come down on all fours and plunge their mouths, like a horse or an ox, into the water and drink; but there are three hundred men who, instead of stooping just dip the palm of their hands in the water and bring it to their lips, "lapping it as a dog lappeth." Those three hundred brisk, rapid, enthusiastic men are chosen for the campaign. They are each to take a trumpet in the right hand and a pitcher in the left hand and a lamp inside the pitcher, and then at a given signal they are to blow the trumpets and throw down the pitchers and hold up the lamps. So it was done.

> It is night. I see a great host of Midianites, sound asleep in the valley of Jezreel. Gideon comes up with his three hundred picked men and when everything is ready the signal is given and they blow the trumpets and they throw down the pitchers and hold up the lamps and the great host of Midianites, the lamps for the coming on of an overwhelming foe; and they run, and cut themselves to pieces, and horribly

The lessons of this subject are very spirited and impressive. This seemingly valueless lump of quartz has the pure gold in it. The smallest dew-drop on the meadow at night has a star sleeping in its bosom, and the most insignificant passage of Scripture has in it a shining truth. God's mint coins no

I learn in the first place, from this subject, the lawfulness of Christian stratagem. You know very well that the greatest victories ever gained by Washington or Napoleon were gained through the fact that they came when and in a way they were not expected-sometimes falling back to draw out the foe, sometimes crossing a river on unheardof rafts; all the time keeping the opposing forces in wonderment as to what would be done next.

You all know what strategy is in military affairs. Now I think it is high time we had this art sanctified and spiritualized. In the church, when we are about to make a Christian assault. we send word to the opposing force when we expect to come, how many troops we have, and how many rounds of shot, and whether we will come with artillery, infantry, or cavalry, and of course we are defeated. There are thousands of men who might be surprised into the kingdom of God. We need more tact and ingenuity in Christian work. It is in spiritual affairs as in military that success depends in attacking that part of the castle which is not armed and intrenched.

For instance, here is a man all armed on the doctrine of election; all his troops of argument and prejudice are at that particular gate. You may batter away at that side of the castle for fifty years and you will not take it; but just wheel your troops to the side gate utes you can capture him. I never knew a man to be saved through a brilliant argument. You cannot hook men into the kingdom of God by the horns of a dilemma. There is no grace in syllogisms. Here is a man armed on the subject of perseverance of the saints; he does not believe in it. Attack him at that point and he will persevere to the very last in not believing it. Here is a man armed on the subject of baptism: All your discussion of ecclesiastical hydropathy will not change him. I remember when I was a boy that with other boys I went into the river on a summer day to bathe and we used to dash water on each other, but never got any result except that our eyes were blinded; and all this splashing of water between Baptists and Pedo-baptists never results in anything but the blurring of the spiritual eye-sight. In other words, you can never capture a man's soul at the point at which he is especially intrenched. But there is in every man's heart a bolt that can be easily shoved. A little child four years old may touch that boit and it will spring back and the door will swing open and Christ will come in.

I think that the finest of all the fine arts is the art of doing good, and yet this art is the least cultured. We have in the kingdom of God today enough troops to conquer the whole earth for Christ if we only had skillful ma-

noeuvering. I would rather have the three hundred lamps and pitchers of Christian stratagem than one hundred thousand drawn swords of literary and

ecclesiastical combat. I learn from this subject, also, that a small part of the army of God will have to do all the hard fighting. Gideon's army was originally composed of thirty-two thousand men, but they went off until there were only ten thousand left, and that was subtracted from until there were only three hundred. It is the same in all ages of the Christian Church; a few men have to do the hard fighting. Take a membership of a thousand and you generally find that fifty people do the work. Take a membership of five hundred and you generally find that ten people do the work. There are scores of churches where two or three people do the work.

We mourn that there is so much useless lumber in the mountains of Lebanon. I think, of the ten million membership of the Christian Church today, if five millions of the names were off the books the Church would be stronger. You know that the more cowards and drones there are in any army the weaker it is. I would rather have the three hundred picked men of Gideon than the twenty-two thousand unsifted host. How many Christians there are standing in the way of all progress! I think it is the duty of the Church of God to ride over them and the quicker it does it the quicker it does its duty.

Do not worry, oh Christian, if you have to do more than your share of the work. You had better thank God that he has called you to be one of the picked men, rather than to belong to the host of stragglers. Would not you rather be one of the three hundred that fight than the twenty-two thousand that run? I suppose those cowardly Gideonites who went off congratulated themselves. They said: "We got rid of all that fighting, did not we? How lucky we have been; that battle costs us nothing at all." But they got none of the spoils of the victory. After the battle the three hundred men went down and took the wealth of the Midianites and out of the cups and platters of their enemies they feasted. And the time will come, my dear brethren, when the hosts of darkness will be routed, and Christ will say to his troops: "Well done, my brave men, go up and take the spoils! Be more than conquerors forever!" and in that day all deserters will be shot!

Again: I learn from this subject that God's way is different from man's, but is always the best way. If we had the waking out of a sound sleep, take the | planning of that battle we would have crash of the crockery and the glare of | taken those thirty-two thousand men that originally belonged to the army and we would have drilled them and marched them up and down by the day and week and month, and we would have had them equipped with swords or spears, according to the way of arming in those times, and then we would have marched them down in solid column upon the foe. But that is not the way. God depletes the army and takes away all their weapons and gives them a lamp and a pitcher and a trumpet and tells them to go down and drive out the Midianites. I suppose some wiseacres were there who said: "That is not military tactics. The idea of three hundred men, unarmed, conquering such a great host of Midianites!" It was the best way. What sword, spear, or cannon ever accomplished such a victory as the lamp, pitcher and trumpet?

> God's way is different from man's way, but it is always best! Take, for instance, the composition of the Bible. If we had had the writing of the Bible we would have said, "Let one man write it. If you have twenty or thirty men to write a poem, or make a statute, or write a history, or make an argument, there will be flaws and contradictions." But God says: "Let not one man do it, but forty men shall do it." And they did, differing enough to snow there had been no collusion between them, but not contradicting each other on any important point, while they all wrote from their own standpoint and temperament; so that the matter-of-fact man has his Moses; the romantic nature his Ezekiel; the epigrammatic his Solomon: the warrior his Joshua; the sailor his Jonah; the loving his John; the logician his Paul. Instead of this Bible, which now I can lift in my hand-instead of the Bible the child can carry to Sunday School-instead of the little when he goes to sea-if it had been left amount of ecclesiastical controversy which has arisen. God's way is different from man's, but it is best, infinitely best.

So it is in regard to the Christian's life. If we had had the planning of a Christian's life we would have said: "Let him have eighty years of sunshine, a fine house to live in; let his surroundings all be agreeable; let him have sound health; let no chill shiver through his limbs, no pain ache his brow, or trouble shadow his soul." I enjoy the prosperity of others so much I would let every man have as much money as he wants and roses for his children's cheeks and fountains of gladness glancing in their large round eyes. But that is not God's way. It seems as if man must be cut, and hit, and pounded just in proportion as he is useful. His child falls from a third-story window and has its life dashed out; his most confident investment tumbles him into bankruptcy; his friends, on whom life is a Bull Run defeat. Instead of livelihood, about their reputation. But you? What will become of me? they will find out it is the best way after

Gideon-that they may be induced to throw themselves on his mercy.

A grape vine says in the early spring. "How glad I am to get through the winter! I shall have no more trouble now! Summer weather will come and the garden will be very beautiful!" But the gardener comes, and cuts the vine here and there with his knife. The twigs begin to fall and the grape vine cries out, "Murder! what are you cutting me for?" "Ah," says the gardener, "I don't mean to kill you. If I did not do this you would be the laughing stock of all the other vines before the season is over." Months go on, and one day the gardener comes under the trellis and the grape vine says: "Thank you, sir; you could not have done anything so kind as to have cut me with that knife." "Whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth." No pruning, no grapes; no grinding mill, no flour; no battle, no victory; no cross, no crown!

So God's way, in the redemption of the world, is different from ours. If we had our way we would have had Jesus stand in the door of heaven and beckon the nations up to light, or we would have had angels flying around the earth proclaiming the unsearchable riches of Christ. Why is it that the cause goes on so slowly? Why is it that the chains stay on, when God could knock them off? Why do thrones of despotism stand when God could so easily demolish them? It is his way, in order that all generations may co-operate and that all men may know they cannot do the work themselves. Just in proportion as these pyramids of sin go up in height will they come down in ghastliness of ruin.

Oh, thou father of all iniquity! If thou canst hear my voice above the crackling of the flames, drive on thy projects, dispatch thy emissaries, build thy temples, and forge thy chains; but know that thy fall from heaven was not greater than thy final overthrow shall be when thou shalt be driven disarmed into thy fiery den, and for every lie thou hast framed upon earth thou shalt have an additional hell of fury poured into thine anguish by the vengeance of our God, and all heaven shall shout at the overthrow, as from the ransomed earth the song breaks through the skies, "Hallelujah! for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth! Hallelujah! for the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord Jesus Christ!" God's way in the composition of the Bible, God's way in the Christian's life, God's way in the redemption of the world, God's way in everything-

different from man's way, but the best. I learn from this subject that the overthrow of God's enemies will be sudden and terrific. There is the army of the Midianites down in the valley of Jezreel. I suppose their mighty men are dreaming of victory. Mount Gilboa never stood sentinel for so large a host. The spears and the shields of the Midianites gleam in the moonlight and glance on the eye of the Israelites, who hover like a battle of eagles, ready to swoop from the cliff. Sleep on, oh army of the Midianites! With the night to hide them and the mountain to guard them and strong arms to defend them let no slumbering foeman dream of disaster! Peace to the captains and the spearmen!

Crash go the pitchers! up flare the lamps! To the mountains! fly! fly! Troop running against troop, thousands trampling upon thousands. Hark to the scream and groan of the routed foe, with the Lord God Almighty after them! How sudden the onset, how wild the consternation, how utter the defeat! I do not care so much what is against me if God is not. You want a better sword or carbine than I have ever seen to go out and fight against the Lord omnipotent. Give me God for my ally, and you may have all the battlements and battalions. I saw the defrauder in his splendid

house. It seemed as if he had conquered God, as he stood amidst the blaze of chandeliers and pier mirrors. In the diamonds of the wardrobe I saw the tears of the widows whom he had robbed, and in the snowy satin the pal-Jor of the white-cheeked orphans whom he had wronged. The blood of the oppressed glowed in the deep crimson of the imported chair. The music trembled with the sorrow of unrequited toil. But the wave of mirth dashed higher on reefs of coral and pearl. The days and the nights went merrily. No Bible the sailor can put in his jacket | sick child dared pull that silver doorbell. No beggar dared sit on that marto men to write, it would have been a | ble step. No voice of prayer floated thousand volumes, judging from the amidst that tapestry. No shadow of a judgment day darkened that fresco. No tear of human sympathy dropped upon that upholstery. Pomp strutted the hall and Dissipation filled her cup, and all seemed safe as the Milianites in the valley of Jezreel. But God came. Calamity smote the money market. The partridge left its eggs unhatched. Crash went all the porcelain pitchers! Ruin, rout, dismay, and wee in the valley of

Alas for those who fight against God! Only two sides. Man immortal, which side are you on? Woman immortal, which side are you on? Do you belong to the three hundred that are going to win the day, or to the great host of Midianites asleep in the valley, only to be roused up in consternation and ruin? Suddenly the golden bowl of life will be broken and the trumpet blown that will startle our soul into eternity. The day of the Lord cometh as a thief in the night, and as the God-armed Israelites upon the sleeping foe. Ha! Canst thou he depended, aid the natural force of pluck up courage for the day when the gravitation in taking him down; his trumpet which hath never been blown shall speak the roll call of the dead twenty-two thousand advantages he has and the earth, dashing against a lost only ten thousand-ay, only three hun- meteor, have its mountains scattered dred-ay, none at all. How many people to the stars and oceans emptied in the there are at their wits' end about their air? Oh, then, what will become of

Prince George of England is an inawhile; God will show them that he de- veterate cigaret smoker. He consumes pletes their advantages just for the from forty to fifty of the little rolls of same reason he depleted the army of paper and tobacco each day,

Miniature Painting an Exacting Art. Those who know only the finished miniature, and have no acquaintance with the method of its production, can-

not conceive of the labor that it represents. Each of these tiny masterpieces -these ornaments with human identification -these concentrated expressions of pictorial art-stands for more toil, of a peculiarly exacting sort, than the largest canvas. The brushes, some of them containing scarcely half a dozen hairs, make strokes so fine that most of the painting must be done under a magnifying glass. And the touches on the frail bit of ivory must be as unerring as they are light, for the smallest mistake may destroy the characteristic translucence that constitutes the miniature's greatest charm.

Appropriate to the election season is an article written by Mr. Edward J. McDermott of Louisville, for theOctober number of the Century, entitled "Fun on the Stump; Humors of Political Campaigning in Kentucky." Mr. McDermott has gathered many anecdotes of amusing experiences at the polls, but he laments the decline of public speaking, which he declares is by no means up to the old-time standard in Kentucky.

Daniel Boone's Gun.

The gun of Daniel Boone has been taken to Charleston, W. Va., and it is said to be still capable of good execution. Its stock and barrel are five feet long and it carries an ounce ball. It is a flintlock, of course. The gun has been in the family of Nathan Boone Van Bibber, back in the wilds of Nicholas county. Matthias Tice Van Bibber received the gun from his friend Boone and he carried it at the battle of Point Pleasant in 1774 and through the war of 1812. The original powder horn and bullet moulds are with the gun. Matthias Van Bibber left these relics to Carc C. R. Van Bibber, who left them to his son, Nathan Boone Van Bibber, the present owner.-New York

To make some provision for your physical health at this season, because a cold or cough, an attack of pneumonia or typhoid fever may now make you an invalid all winter. First of all be sure that your blood is pure, for health depends upon pure blood. A few bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla will be a paying investment now. It will give you pure, rich blood and invigorate your whole system.

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