

Well, anyway, how can a dry-dock leak?

They had 920 duels in Italy last year and only one fatality, which, on the whole, seems a pity.

"The dogs of war" are still included in the list of our dumb animals. It is well. Their bite is worse than their bark.

A desire for success is natural. Even the hunter who was chased to camp from the woods was glad he came out a little ahead.

They've begun hanging criminals off-hand at Klondike. It may not be exactly civilization, but it shows elevating influences are at work.

"Follow your bent," says President Andrews, in a magazine article. But some men are so badly bent that constables have to do the following.

The sauce cook in the Waldorf-As-toria kitchen draws a salary of \$300 a month. In this case it pays better to cook the sauce than to sauce the cook.

One of the pressing needs of the times is a currency reform which will be effectual in restraining bank cashiers from getting away with the bank's currency.

When it gets so cold right in the heart of New England, where they are in a measure acclimated to the Boston girl, that business is universally suspended, then it is cold.

A pen carrying a small electric lamp to prevent shadows when writing has been patented in Germany. Editors ought to be able to throw a good deal of light on the subject by using that pen.

Children in public schools have not really so much more to learn than formerly, but they have much more to study. They can learn only about so much, anyway, no matter how much they study.

It is said that a pastor in Alabama recently startled his congregation by the following announcement: "Remember our quarterly meeting next Sunday. The Lord will be with us during the morning service, and the presiding elder in the evening."

It ought to be understood that there is no substitute for the enforcement of the law against murder. As long as the murderous spirit exists and is not adequately restrained weapons will be found with which to commit a crime. Legislation against concealed weapons may or may not be useful, but it is entirely inadequate. We must punish the men who use weapons, of whatever kind, unlawfully.

Since the accession of the present German emperor, in 1889, the number of lese majeste sentences passed has reached nearly 5,000. The length to which the Government has gone in the suppression of free speech in the empire is shown by the extraordinary statement that in the five years from 1890 to 1895 seven persons under 15 years of age, forty-eight between 15 and 18 and 183 between 18 and 21 have been imprisoned under lese majeste charges.

The entire history of Russia seems to favor the supposition that she at some future time has a destiny to fulfill. From a small beginning she has risen to an unparalleled power. What at first was only the consolidation of some insignificant barbarous hordes has become an empire of gigantic dimensions. Almost every year adds new strength to her powerful arm, new wealth to her vast resources. Other nations have grown to maturity, decayed and passed away within the period of her history, but Russia remains, still growing.

Many young persons are apt to regard clergymen as a serious and solemn class, and to infer therefrom that religion must be a gloomy matter. Thousands of young readers of "Alice in Wonderland" never suspected that "Lewis Carroll," the writer of that book of wholesome fun, was the Rev. Charles L. Dodgson, a clergyman of the Church of England, whose death was recently announced. Is it not true that, to the fun afforded by his inimitable works, there would have been added a lesson in the cheerfulness of religion, if he had gone out under his own name as the recreation of a cheerful-minded "preacher"?

Men who have had the widest experience in war are those who utter the strongest peace sentiments. Lieut. Gen. Schofield, in his "Forty-Six Years in the Army," dissents from the opinion "that occasional wars are necessary to keep up the fires of patriotism." True patriotism is like a fire on the family hearth, giving light and warmth to the domestic circle. Spurious patriotism blazes up like a bonfire, a center of temporary excitement, but it soon dies out. The steady flame of real devotion to country burns in peace no less than in war. Were there to be no more sound of battle, or sight of garments rolled in blood, disinterested and enduring affection for the land of one's birth or adoption would do its perfect work.

"The gentle art" of thieving from the Government attracted some eminent practitioners, thirty-five years ago, but their performances with shoddy and

talented meats hardly compare with the achievement of one of the contractors who built the dry dock at the Brooklyn navy yard. It was required that the piling which backed the concrete walls should be sunk to the depth of thirty feet. As a matter of fact the ingenious "scamper" drove the piles three feet or less, so that now, after almost a million dollars have been expended on the dock, it is falling apart. The contractor probably relied on the maxim that "what is everybody's business is nobody's business;" apparently the supervising engineer indorsed this view; but it is to be hoped that some way may be found to persuade both gentlemen that Uncle Sam has friends who will not unprotestingly see him robbed.

So many brewers have been elevated to the English House of Lords recently that that body has obtained the name of "the Beerage." One of the first things done by these hereditary legislators when their blushing honors are thick upon them is to construct a pedigree for the official books. Unfortunately there is an individual in London who, under the name of X, has been pricking the bubbles of some of these pretensions to long descent. Two beer lords, Ardilaun and Iveagh, who happen to be brothers, have been claiming descent from the old house of Magennis, simply on the ground that their family name is Guinness. X makes the following interesting statement: "Here is the real origin of Lords Ardilaun and Iveagh. In the year 1750 the Most Rev. Arthur Price, archbishop of Cashel, made his will. This after his decease was proved on Aug. 3, 1752. After mentioning several other items the will proceeds: 'I give my servant, Richard Guinness £100; to my servant Arthur Guinness, his son, £100 (then follows a list of other servants), but this is to be understood of such of my above servants as shall be in my service at the time of my decease.' The above-mentioned Richard and Arthur Guinness were the great-grandfather and the great-grandfather respectively, of Lords Ardilaun and Iveagh. When or where Richard Guinness was born, and who and what his father was, is utterly unknown." Of course there is nothing disgraceful in the fact that a butler was great-grandfather to two lords. The snobbery lies in trying to ignore that fact.

The amendment to the Constitution proposed by Senator Hoar changing the date for the commencement of the Presidential and Senatorial terms from March 4 to April 30 has been the subject of discussion for years. If the amendment should be adopted it would extend the term of President McKinley to April 30, 1901, and also the terms of the Senators and Representatives to the same date. There is no doubt that the change ought to be universally favored. The particular reason, of course, for advocating the change is the inclemency of the early March weather in Washington, which has spoiled so many inauguration ceremonies. In the latitude of Washington it is a very rare thing to have weather that is favorable for outdoor festivities on March 4. To the younger generation, which do not take the trouble to look into history, the selection of a blustering day in March instead of a balmy day in May or June for inauguration has always been a subject of wonder. It came about in this way. After the present constitution was adopted the old congress fixed the first Wednesday in January as the day for the States to elect Presidential electors, the first Wednesday in February as the day for the meeting of the electors to elect the President and Vice President, and the first Wednesday in March for the inauguration of the new government. It happened that the first Wednesday in March fell on the 4th, and hence this order, not the constitution, has fixed the 4th of March as the commencement of the Presidential term. The constitution is silent as to the date of inauguration. It merely declares that a President shall be elected every four years. It happened, however, on account of the poor facilities for travel in those days, that the Senators and Representatives were not able to organize Congress promptly on the date fixed by the old congress, and General Washington was not inaugurated until April 30, 1789. There are those who believe that General Washington could have served four years from the date of his inauguration, thus bringing all subsequent inaugurations upon a more propitious day. It is the date of Washington's inauguration that has suggested the change embodied in Senator Hoar's resolution, and its adoption would tend to recall every four years the interesting historical associations surrounding the inauguration of our first President.

Atlantic Cable Relics. In the valuable collection recently presented by Mrs. Isabella Field Judson to the national museum in Washington is the globe upon which her father, Cyrus W. Field, traced the course for the cable between Newfoundland and Ireland. In addition to this the collection comprises Mr. Field's private papers relative to the laying of the cable, the first cablegram sent, and other interesting papers touching upon the great work of his life.

Woman's University. The emperor and empress of Japan, and their officials and nobles are greatly interested in and have subscribed liberally toward the Women's university at Tokio, which is to cost \$175,000.

Spring bicycle frames are being made with telescopic tubes inclosing air cushions which receive the force of the jar from rough roads, the cushions being inflated the same as pneumatic tires.

When a man gets his hair cut his wife loses her strongest hold on him.

JAPANESE NOT ENTERPRISING.

Their Business Methods Are Crude and Away Behind the Times.

An American manufacturer, writing from Japan, says that those alarmists who would make the world believe that the Japanese can do everything don't know what they are talking about and that the people of the flowery land, unless they change their entire nature, or at all events their methods, can never become formidable commercial rivals with any civilized power. The real fact is that the Japs do nothing; they only half do it, and therein lies the cause of their failure.

The Jap thinks of nothing but the present; of what he can make now and how, by making his commodities a little inferior, he can add a few more cents to his profit. If he has to pay more for his labor the idea of economy or the bold declaration that he can no longer sell at the original price never strikes him, but he extends the whole of his ingenuity in trying to diminish the quality without any loss in the appearance. There is no such thing as standard quality. You are never sure of getting the quality you are asked to pay for. So much is this so in Japan that a man seldom buys an article without untrapping and examining it on the spot. The correspondent continues:

"The Japanese mind is so small that it is difficult to weigh it with American scales; in fact, it may be said that it is made up of trifles, and it is the attention—the labored attention—the Jap gives to these trifles which makes him incapable of ever becoming anything more than a unit in whatever he may be concerned in. As an illustration of what I mean, I will give examples which are of daily occurrence. You want to buy an article and you ask how much it is. The answer is, say, 1 cent. Then you ask how much the articles are by the dozen, fully expecting that you will get them for 10 cents. You are a little amazed when the merchant tells you 13 cents the dozen. You get mad, call the man a fool and insist that you ought to get a reduction by taking a quantity. Not so with the Jap; that is not his way of doing business. If you take one he reasons that is 1 cent, but if you take a dozen he will have to count them and then it will be 13 cents. It is the same with the manufacturer. You give him an order for 100 of a kind, and then wish to make it 1,000. Immediately he demands an advance in the price. Should he, however, reluctantly agree to take the increased order at the original price you will probably get the first hundred articles fairly up to the sample, but as the delivery goes on the quality is sure to fall off. And this smallness is not confined to small people. It permeates the whole country, and one of the leading banks advertises that it allows 4.35 per cent. interest on current accounts and 5.15 per cent. on saving bank deposits.—Boston Transcript.

Reputation Cheaply Made.

A country justice had been elected but a few days, when a young lawyer rushed in and demanded a capias. Now, that justice did not know a capias from a police cell, but he disliked to admit his ignorance. So he said: "Now, see here, my friend. You are a young lawyer, and I fear, lack experience. I would advise you not to be too hasty. Don't be in a hurry. Wait twenty-four hours and then, if you think best, come to me, and I will give you a capias."

The young lawyer agreed and went away. The justice spent the remainder of the day getting acquainted with the writ called capias. When the limb of the law appeared the next morning, the court felt himself qualified to issue capias by the bushel.

Before he could speak, the young lawyer said: "Mr. Justice, you were right. I was too hasty. I have that matter fixed up all right and do not need a capias. I have come to thank you for the good advice, and have also brought you the two dollars fee you would have received for the capias, as I don't want you to lose by your good deed." He went away believing the justice to be a paragon of good sense and legal lore.

Where He Drew the Line.

Among the first stories recorded by T. E. Pritt, in his "Anglers' Basket" is one about a Scottish laird who is relating the story of a fine fish he had caught one day to his friends at the dinner table. "Donald," said he to the servant behind his chair—an old man, but a new servant—"how heavy was the fish I took yesterday?" Donald neither spoke or moved. The laird repeated the question. "Weel," replied Donald, "it was twal' pund at breakfast, it had gotten to aichteen at dinner time and it was sax and twenty when ye sat down to supper wi' the captain." Then, after a pause, he added, "I've been tellin' lees a' my life to please the shooters, but I'll be blowed if I'm going to tell less now, through my old age, to please the fusers."

School for Female Prisoners.

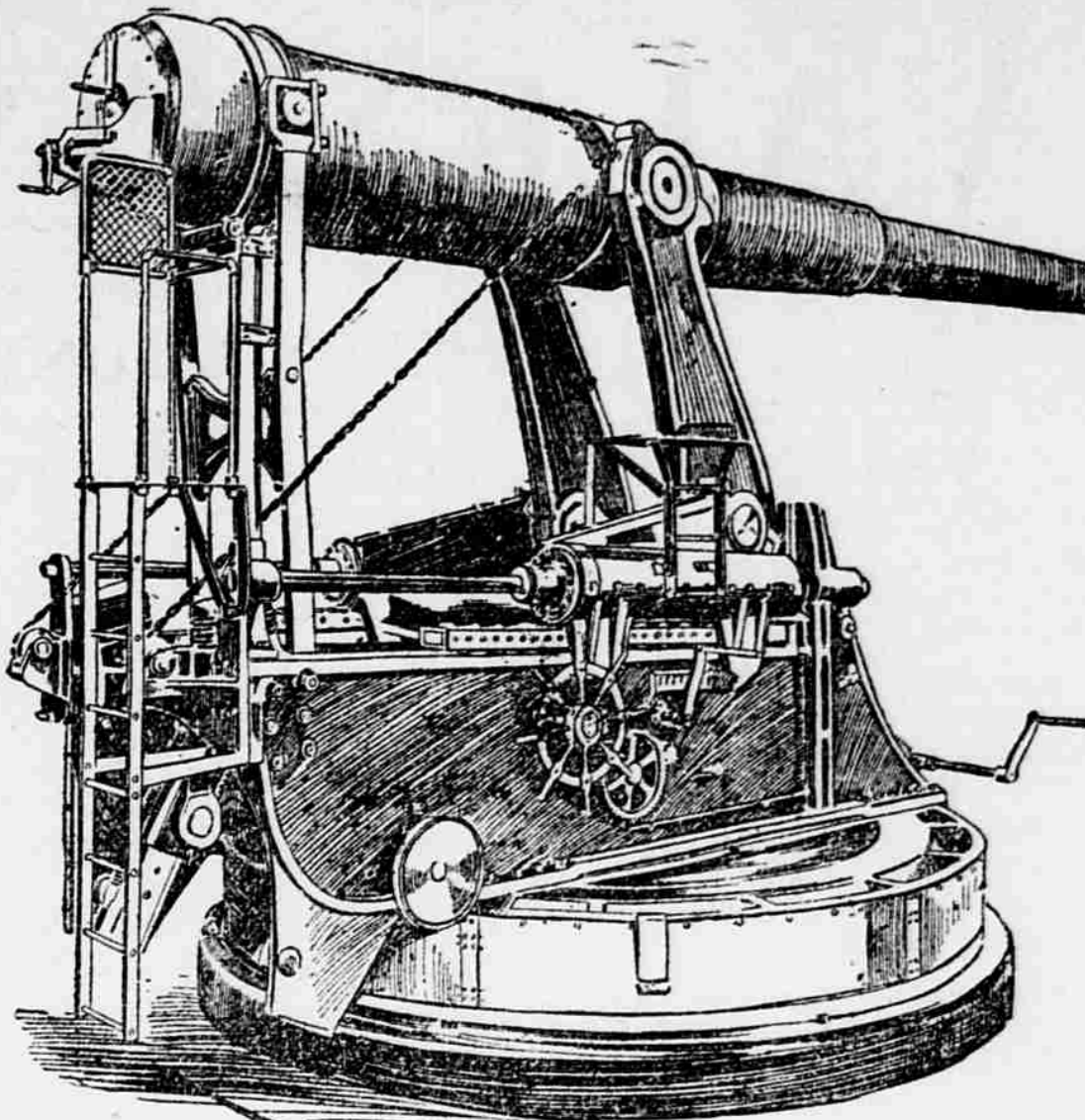
Major McClaugherly, superintendent of the State Penitentiary at Joliet, Ill., who started a school in the prison for the benefit of convict women some time ago, is delighted at the success of the innovation. Women, it is said, who have been a terror to society in Chicago, are likely to be regenerated by the slate-pencil and the spelling-book.

Emperor Likes Excitement.

Emperor William is said to be so fond of excitement that he will often get up at 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning and ride ten or twelve miles to order out a company of troops, as though an enemy were marching on them.

A woman can sleep anywhere, and eat anything.

MECHANISM OF A .30-INCH RIFLED DISAPPEARING GUN.



UNCLE SAM'S LAND FORCES.

Ten Millions of Men Could Be Mustered to Fight the Spaniards.

While a war with Spain would undoubtedly be, in a large measure, a naval conflict, it might extend to the land. Butcher Weyler appears to think that the Spanish warships would quickly sweep the whole American navy from the seas, and that he or some other general would land an army and march victoriously to the national capital and there dictate terms of peace. The Spanish people all seem to think that our navy out of the way, the States has no standing army to speak of. The Spaniards never made a greater mistake in all their lives.

This country has a standing army—not the 25,000 regulars alone, but the 114,262 national guardsmen kept organized and equipped by the several States. Of these guardsmen Alabama maintains 2,488 officers and men; Arkansas, 2,020; California, 3,909; Colorado, 1,056; Connecticut, 2,739; Delaware, 458; Florida, 1,184; Georgia, 4,450; Idaho, 508; Illinois, 6,269; Indiana, 2,875; Iowa, 2,479; Kansas, 1,468; Kentucky, 1,371; Louisiana, 2,695; Maine, 1,845; Maryland, 1,725; Massachusetts, 5,154; Michigan, 2,886; Minnesota, 1,894; Mississippi, 1,705; Missouri, 2,349; Montana, 432; Nebraska, 1,158; Nevada, 368; New Hampshire, 1,305; New Jersey, 4,297; New York, 13,894; North Carolina, 1,537; North Dakota, 467; Ohio, 6,004; Oregon, 1,428; Pennsylvania, 8,521; Rhode Island, 1,315; South Carolina, 3,157; South Dakota, 396; Tennessee, 1,696; Texas, 3,023; Utah, 580; Vermont, 743; Virginia, 2,739; Washington, 737; West Virginia, 965; Wisconsin, 2,711; Wyoming, 356. From these organized forces an army of 50,000 men could quickly be assembled at any point where the Spanish should land, and could hold twice their number in check while a greater army was being assembled.

Where is the greater army to come from? The Secretary of War has just reported to Congress the number of men available for military service in each State as follows:

Table with 2 columns: States, available. Men. Lists states and their respective military service numbers.

Thus it can be seen that this country has quite a respectable reserve force—ten millions of men who can and will fight for the flag, if there is any fighting to be done.

DEFEAT OF THE LOUD BILL.

Buried in the House by an Overwhelming Majority.

The Loud bill, to correct alleged abuses of the second-class mail matter privilege, which last year passed the House by a majority of 144 to 104, was buried by an overwhelming majority by the House Thursday. The vote was not taken directly on the bill, but on motion to lay it on the table. By a vote of 162 to 119 the motion was carried. Forty-seven Republicans joined with the Democrats and Populists in voting against the result, and the bill was accordingly buried. The refusal of Mr. Loud to permit a vote on an amendment at the last minute was responsible in a measure for the result, but the strength of the measure undoubtedly waned throughout the three days' debate.

NEARLY OUT OF MEAT.

Shortage of Beef Cattle Approaching a Famine in the West.

Strange as it may seem, the country lying west of the corn States is just now confronted with the probabilities of a beef famine. The reason for this is the shortage of beef cattle in the West. All of last year and so far this year the demand for cattle to eat corn in the States east of Colorado and the big prices offered, has tempted the cattle men to sell everything they had in the Western country today, from which Denver usually draws its supply of beef cattle, there are not enough fat cattle to supply the local butchers' demands.

Colorado is not the only State suffering for beef cattle. As far west as the Pacific coast the same situation exists. California has usually drawn its beef supply from home, Nevada and Arizona. Last year Eastern California and Nevada were practically denuded of cattle by speculators, who bought them for more than beef buyers were willing to give and shipped them out of the country. The recent

JAPAN MAY HAVE A WORD TO SAY

Eight of the Mikado's Subjects Were on Board the Maine.

The State Department has ascertained, at the instance of the Japanese legation, that eight Japanese were on board the Maine at the time of the disaster. While the avowed purpose of the Japanese legation's inquiry is to assist friends and relatives in identifying those lost or saved in the disaster, it is suggested that Japan may have something to say to Spain in case the Maine shall be declared to have been destroyed by an external attack. Japan has always jealously guarded her citizens abroad, and might occupy the same ground as the United States in seeking the case as finally established. In this connection it is recalled that Japan's relation to the Philippines are somewhat analogous to our relations to Cuba. Similar inquiries came to the Navy Department from the German and Swedish legations, and it is expected that others will follow. Nearly every nationality was represented in the Maine's big crew.

TO SEARCH FOR ANDREE.

Eminent Swedish Scientist to Head an Expedition to Franz Joseph Land.

Prof. A. G. Nathorst, the eminent Swedish scientist and traveler, will head an expedition to start in May and search Franz Joseph Land for traces of Andree's polar balloon expedition. Franz Joseph Land is supposed by many polar scientists to be the present resting place of the Andree party. The almost totally unknown region between Spitzbergen and Franz Joseph Land will be explored also. The expenses of the Nathorst expedition will

be borne by King Oscar and a number of wealthy Swedes. This relief party will include Prof. A. G. Nathorst, chief; Dr. Axel Ohlen, the celebrated zoologist; Dr. Gunnar Anderson, botanist; Dr. A. Hanberg, hydrographer; Lieut. O. Kallstrom, photographer and map constructor, and Dr. Ernst Levin, physician. The vessel to be used is a Norwegian whaling ship, constructed for the purpose. Prof. Nathorst is one of the best known polar scientists in Europe, and his former expeditions have produced important scientific results.

MORGAN BECOMES IMPATIENT.

Will Offer Another Resolution Calling for Cuban Information.

Senator Morgan said Friday that it was his purpose to introduce a resolution at an early date making a second call upon the President for the consular correspondence bearing upon the condition of affairs in Cuba. "I think," he said, "that the Senate and the country are entitled to know officially what the condition there is and that the reports of the consuls should not be withheld for an unusual length of time. I do not, however, wish to complicate this matter with the Maine disaster and shall not introduce the resolution while the court of inquiry is sitting unless its report is unnecessarily delayed. I have set no time for the presentation of the matter, but will be guided as to the time by circumstances as they arise." He said in reply to a question that the resolution proposed by him would be couched in terms demanding the submission of the correspondence.

President Dole Sends \$500.

A most substantial evidence of sympathy for the survivors of the Maine and the families of the victims came to hand at the Navy Department Thursday in the shape of a check for \$500 from President Dole of Hawaii.

Last year the railways of the United States carried 33,000,000,000 passengers one mile and 95,000,000,000 tons of freight one mile.



Henry W. Corbett was on Monday denied admission to the Senate as a Senator from Oregon on appointment by the Governor by a vote of 50 to 19.

The Senate began consideration of the Alaska homestead and railway right of way bill, and had not concluded it when it adjourned. The House passed the sundry civil appropriation bill after four days' debate. The appropriation for representation at the Paris exposition was eliminated on a point of order. The sudden change of sentiment which is often witnessed when members go on record was twice illustrated. On Friday the House, in committee of the whole, where there is no record of the vote, knocked out a provision in the bill for an appropriation to pay those who furnish the Government with information leading to the conviction of the violators of the internal revenue laws, and in committee an extra month's pay was voted the employes of the House. When the members voted on roll calls in the House, however, both of these propositions were overwhelmingly defeated.

The House entered upon the consideration of the Loud bill relative to second-class mail matter, on Tuesday. The bill is identical with the measure passed by the last Congress, but Mr. Loud gave notice of an amendment permitting the transmission at pound rates of sample copies up to 10 per cent. of the bona fide circulation of the newspaper periodicals. This amendment removed much opposition to the bill. Mr. Loud made an exhaustive speech in its favor. Mr. Moon (Dem., Tenn.) spoke in opposition to the bill, and Mr. Perkins (Rep., Iowa) in favor of it. The Senate passed a resolution for erection of a bronze tablet to the memory of the victims of the Maine.

Wednesday's debate in the Senate on the Alaska homestead and railway right of way bill was spirited. Mr. Carter (Mont.) delivered a vigorous speech in reply to that made by Mr. Rawlins (Utah), in the course of which he made a strong defense of the honor of Congressional committees and of officials in the several government departments. One of the special features of the debate was a speech delivered by Mr. Elkins (W. Va.), in which he explained that the Canadian Pacific Railway was enabled to make war upon American interests, and how and why the aggressions of that great railroad ought to be stopped by the United States. The speech drew replies from Mr. Hoar (Mass.), Mr. Chilton (Texas), and Mr. Nelson (Minn.). Mr. Hoar maintained that a large part of the speech of Mr. Elkins was irrelevant to the pending discussion. The House spent another day in debate upon the Loud bill relating to second class mail matter. The speeches as a rule attracted little interest. The speakers were Messrs. Brownell (Rep., Ohio), and Ogden (Dem., La.) in favor of the measure, and Messrs. Bell (Pop., Colo.), Simpson (Pop., Kan.), Clark (Dem., Mo.), Brown (Rep., Ohio), and Lentz (Dem., Ohio), in opposition to it.

In the Senate on Thursday the House amendments to the bankruptcy bill were non-concurred in, and Messrs. Hoar, Nelson and Lindsay were appointed as Senate conferees. During almost the entire session the Senate had under consideration the Alaska homestead and railway right of way bill. One of the features of the discussion was a speech delivered by Mr. Vest, in which he ridiculed the idea of homesteading any part of Alaska or constructing railroads in that district. His motion to eliminate the homestead feature of the bill by striking out the first section was defeated. The resolution for a congressional investigation of the murder of the postmaster at Lake City, S. C., was referred to the Committee on Contingent expenses. A bill was passed to establish an assay office in Seattle, Wash. In the House the Loud bill, to correct alleged abuses of the second-class mail matter privilege, was laid on the table by a vote of 162 to 119, thus killing it. Forty-seven Republicans joined with the Democrats and Populists in accomplishing this result and ten Democrats voted with the majority of the Republicans. Mr. White (Rep., N. C.), the only colored member of the House, asked unanimous consideration for a resolution appropriating \$1,000 for the family of the assassinated Lake City postmaster, but it went over upon objection from Mr. Bartlett (Dem., Ga.).

After a debate lasting several days the Senate on Friday passed the bill extending the homestead laws and providing for right of way for railroads in the district of Alaska. Comparatively little discussion of general interest was created by the bill. Section 13, providing for certain bonding concessions to Canada in lieu of privileges to be extended by the Dominion Government to this country, however, induced a pretty lively debate, as it brought into the controversy the old fisheries question on the New England coast, which has been pending between the United States and Great Britain for 100 years. Two more appropriations were sent to the President Friday, the pension bill and the consular and diplomatic, both of which went through their final stage in the House. It was private bill day. The most important action taken was acquiescence in an agreement to make the bill appropriating about \$1,200,000 for war claims approved by the court of claims under the provisions of the Bowman act a special order for the next Friday. The claims carried by the bill, 730 in number, are for stores and supplies seized during the war in the Southern States. Only two bills were passed, one to pay the heirs of Sterling T. Austin about \$59,000 for cotton seized during the war, and the other to pay an aggregate of \$3,390 in small claims growing out of back pay, etc., earned during the war. The House adjourned until Monday.

Sparks from the Wires.

A cave said to rival the Mammoth of Kentucky has been discovered in Center County, Pa.

It is believed in official circles in London that the French cabinet is attempting to bring about a crisis in Africa in order to return to the popularity enjoyed prior to the Zola trial.

Zola has taken an appeal from the decision of the court which condemned him to a year in prison and a fine of 3,000 francs, and the Dreyfus case will again be heard in the French courts.



PROF. NATHORST.