

restrictions as to registration as may be prescribed by the executive council.

"No person is to be eligible to membership in the house of delegates who is not twenty-five years of age and able to read and write either the Spanish or the English language, or who is not possessed in his own right of taxable property, real or personal, situated in Porto Rico."

The judicial power will be vested in a supreme court, local district courts, and

The Judiciary. a United States district court like that of other territories. The chief justice and associate justices of the supreme court and the judge and officers of the United States court will be appointed by the president. The judges and officers of the local district courts will be appointed by the governor. In November, at the regular election and every two years thereafter, Porto Rico will elect a commissioner to represent the island at Washington, at a salary of \$5,000 per year. The salaries of the officials appointed by the president are: Governor, \$8,000; secretary, attorney general, auditor, commissioner of the interior, \$4,000 each; treasurer, \$5,000; commissioner of education, \$3,000; chief justice supreme court and United States district judge, \$5,000 each; two marshals, each \$4,000; district attorney \$4,000; associate justices, \$4,500 each.

The act will go into effect May 5, 1900.

**THE BOER WAR.** The South African war has shattered a number of brilliant military reputations. Methuen and Buller were among the first to be humiliated by the strategic Boer. Now, Gatacre has been ordered home in disgrace by Lord Roberts because of his responsibility for the capture, by the Boers, of 600 of his men. Kitchener, the Hero of Soudan, about whom such great things were predicted and who was even mentioned, in terms of extravagant laudation, as a future commander-in-chief of the British army, is proving a dismal disappointment. Since the affair at Paardeberg he has not been mentioned in the dispatches by Lord Roberts. Even the latter gentleman has not achieved any particularly brilliant victories of late. His most notable success was the capture of Cronje. The taking of 6,000 men with an army of 40,000, and only after a prolonged and desperate resistance, is not, after all, such a flattering achievement. The kidnapping, almost without resistance, of a considerable number of his command has somewhat detracted from his reputation for military prowess.

It has been over a month since he entered Bloemfontein. It was thought that his triumphant entrance meant the complete pacification of the Free State and was the beginning of the end of Boer resistance to British occupation in

South Africa. It now develops that the Free State is yet to be wrested from the Boers. Bloemfontein is a long way from Pretoria and it means much hard fighting before the Transvaal capital is taken. The Boers have been especially active of late. The command of General Brabant, at Wepener, consisting of about 1500 men, was attacked last Monday, April 11, by the Boers. The firing has kept up intermittently ever since. Wednesday the British camp at Elands-laagte was fired upon by the Boers who have not yet withdrawn, but continue the firing in a rather desultory way. Interest is centered in these two places. Wepener is thought to be in considerable danger and is not in a position to endure a prolonged siege.

**THE PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION.** The dispatches from the Philippines are somewhat conflicting. General Otis has resigned and it is reported that he is coming home because "the rebellion is at an end." At the same time Generals Young and Bell have both represented that their forces are wholly inadequate and have requested additional troops to assist in restoring order. There is every indication of renewed activity on the part of the insurgents. The natives, appointed to administer the governments of presumably friendly municipalities, are now known to be in sympathy with the insurgents. From present indications, the war is no nearer an end than it was a year ago. Unless something more substantial is accomplished in the way of terminating hostilities than mere assurances of an early peace on the part of the commanding general, the war is apt to have considerable influence upon the fall elections.

**HAY-PAUNCEFOTE TREATY.** The Hay-Pauncefote treaty, to permit the construction of the Nicaragua canal, will not be acted upon at this session of congress. The administration is unwilling to risk a vote upon the treaty prior to the election. It is opposed principally because of the neutrality of the canal and the agreement on the part of the United States not to fortify it. The friends of the treaty insist that this is one of its strongest provisions; in the first place, because of the impracticability of effectively fortifying the canal; secondly, because a neutral canal would be a means of promoting international goodfeeling. Politics will compel its postponement until the next session and thus delay the construction of the canal.

**ART IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.** The introduction of picture study in the public schools is a most commendable innovation. The study of the world's best pictures encourages a love of the beautiful and develops higher and

nobler ideals. Superintendent A. C. Fling, of the Nebraska City schools, who has been one of the leaders among public school men in the west, in the picture study movement, contributes a well written article to the School Weekly, of Chicago, in which he says:

"A demand is made today for practical studies in the schools. One writer has well said: 'Art is practical for two unanswerable reasons: The first is that it makes for manhood, and the second that it nourishes the most conservative and practical idea man ever cherished, namely, the love of immortality. It makes for manhood by stimulating our ideas of patriotism and liberty. Art, then, is grandly, democratically practical, because it makes great and true men.'

Course in Nebraska City School.

"The artists to be studied in the Nebraska City schools this second semester are Lucca Della Robbia (second grade), J. F. Millet (third grade), Dupre (fourth grade), Landseer (fifth grade), Bonheur (sixth grade), Raphael (seventh grade), Murillo (eighth grade). Each month or oftener a masterpiece is taken up by each grade. Each child brings a penny for his picture (some children have brought a nickel or a dime for poor children who would otherwise be without). A short sketch of the artist is given by the teacher; then oral study is followed by a written exercise. The picture is fastened to their papers and tied with a dainty colored ribbon for them to take home. It is a pleasant sight on the afternoon of a 'picture day' to see the little people trudging home, each the proud possessor of a masterpiece and his 'own story.' Who can tell the joy and comfort that even a penny picture may bring to some of these homes?

Choose Only the Best.

"Just what pictures to study and in what grades are perplexing questions. The world is full of artists of varying degree of merit; choose only the best and then you will be safe.

"There can be no cut-and-dried question-and-answer method of studying the masterpieces; the age and capacity of your pupils must determine largely the method. You appreciate a picture according to your own experiences, and as your actual experience differs widely from that of your pupils, so too your interpretation will be different from theirs. Study with your pupils, but do not overreach them.

"One of the greatest pleasures in life is the delight in art, the creations of minds that enjoy and know how to make the world beautiful for others. To know and to love these things so well worth knowing and loving is quite as worthy of achievement as the mastery of equations or the demonstration of a theorem. Such study has a legitimate place in the school curriculum."