

DESIGNATED DEPOSITARY OF THE UNITED STATES.

National Bank of the Republic OF CHICAGO.

CAPITAL, ONE MILLION DOLLARS.

JOHN A. LYNCH, President.

W. T. FENTON, Vice President and Cashier.

J. H. CAMERON and H. R. KENT, Asst. Cashiers.

R. M. McKINNEY, 2d Asst. Cashier.

MUST SAVE STATE'S FORESTS.

John P. Brown of Connersville, president of the Indiana State Forestry association, is in Denver stopping at the Markham hotel. Mr. Brown has been investigating the condition of the forests in the Western states and particularly in Colorado, where he observed with regret the devastation wrought by forest fires and timber thieves.

"The forests of Colorado will disappear unless immediate action is taken to prevent the wholesale destruction that is now going on, remarked Mr. Brown in discussing the wasting of the public timber.

"Colorado is the most careless state in the Union with her forests. The way in which she allows men to strip her mountains of timber is a shame and an outrage. The state itself ought to make legislation in the matter and prevent this wholesale felling of trees. Every man in the state who has any interest in irrigation should rise and demand that some action be taken in this matter. At the present rate of destruction the time will not be long before the magnificent forests of Colorado have joined the buffalo.

"Colorado has paid a great deal of attention to her fish and game," continued Mr. Brown, "but she has neglected her forests. The people of the state do not seem to realize that the passing of the forests will be the passing of the game and fish. The mountains will no longer retain the snow, feeding it gradually to the streams. The snow will melt quickly, the water will flood the country and after the flood will be dry creeks, and, naturally, the complete extermination of the fish will follow. With the drying of the streams, too, irrigation will become an impossibility, and the present rich agricultural lands of Colorado will become barren wastes, not fit even for taxation.

"Campers and reckless people generally have been responsible for the enormous forest fires which have been raging this year in Colorado, destroying hundreds and hundreds of thousands of trees; sweeping entire districts. The state should have a law passed regulating the building of fires on the state domain. Guards should strictly enforce the law. I have made a thorough tour of the state, stopping at Colorado

Springs, Grand Junction, Glenwood Springs, Ward, Boulder, Hagerman pass and other places, and from these places I have made long trips through the mountains. I have been amazed at the reckless manner in which forests have been destroyed, at the manner in which men hew down the trees, not only those that are grown, but those that are young—mere saplings. It sounds ridiculous now, perhaps, to warn people against the danger of destroying the forests, but only a few years ago people laughed when it was said that the buffalo would soon disappear. They did not think it possible, because hundreds of thousands roamed the great prairies. Now there are not 100 buffaloes in the United States, and most of these are either in zoological gardens or private reserves. The forests will disappear unless immediate action is taken to prevent their wholesale destruction.

"Timber in stump in ten years will be \$10 per 1,000 feet, because with the passing away of the forests its price will naturally increase until, by and by, lumber will be a luxury. Only the rich will then be enabled to build frame houses. Every state should take up this important matter of forestry and enact legislation that will prevent the destruction of the forests.

"I would suggest that a systematic planting of trees be begun. Larch and Russian olive trees and catalpa are the most vigorous. They should be planted everywhere. Then it should be contrary to law for anyone to cut a tree under seven or eight inches in diameter. This would permit the trees to grow to maturity."—Denver Republican.

INCREASE IN RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.

The advanced copy of the report of the Interstate Commerce Commission, which has just been issued, shows that on June 30, 1899, there were 928,924 persons in the employ of railways, which is equivalent to 495 per 100 miles of line. It is significant that the number of railway employees at the close of the year covered by this report is greater than for any previous year. As compared with the previous year, the pay rolls show an increase of 54,366 in railway employees, which, added to the increase of the previous year, as compared with the year ending June 30,

1897, shows an increase during the past two years of 105,448. It is worthy of note, however, that, notwithstanding this great increase in the number of men employed, the number employed per 100 miles of line is less than it was in 1893. Thus, the number of men per 100 miles of line in 1899 was 495; in 1893 it was 515. This fact suggests that the economies rendered necessary by the depression of the years 1894, 1895, 1896 and 1897 have resulted in a permanent advantage to the railroads, as also to the public, a conclusion which receives further support should one compare the density of employees with the amount of traffic handled.

GOVERNOR HOADLY ON SECRETARY OLNEY.

EDITOR THE CONSERVATIVE:

I am greatly grieved to see the honored name of Richard Olney in the list of Bryan's supporters. Few, very few gold democrats have more or higher claims to the confidence and respect of our fellow countrymen than Secretary Olney. A lady of my acquaintance who has read his letter says: "Many and cogent are the reasons he gives for not supporting McKinley—none for supporting Bryan." Except that of antagonism to McKinley, what possible reason could Secretary Olney or Postmaster General Wilson give for the advocacy of Bryan's election? None of any value. Bryan is either sincere and honest or insincere and dishonest. If the latter, he is unworthy of Mr. Olney's and Mr. Wilson's support. If the former, as they evidently believe, then he is pledged to destroy the sound currency we have, and substitute a 50-cent dollar, if elected, by all the means in his power, and this without delay. I respect and honor Richard Olney, shall continue to do so, notwithstanding his aberration on the presidential question, but I shall not envy the feelings with which he will contemplate the action of his newly chosen leader in the selection of a secretary of the treasury next March, on the initiation of 16 to 1 soon thereafter, if Bryan should chance to be successful in November.

GEO. HOADLY.

Watkins, N. Y., Sept. 9, 1900.