FROM THE FARTHER WEST

WATER SUPPLY OF WYOMING

Engineer Computes the Amount Available in Streams.

RIVERS DISCHARGE MORE THAN USUAL

Records Show that the State's Principal Growth During the Last Year Has Been Along Agricultural Lines.

CHEYENNE, Dec. 31.—(Special.)—The state engineer has just completed computation of the water supply of the state the last year. Statistics in regard to the Laramie river show that more water flowed down that stream in the month of May this year than in the entire seasons of either 1895 or 1896. The water which the stream discharged in May this year would cover 117,000 acres one foot deep. The May discharge of the North Platte river was also much larger this year than for many years past. The discharge for the same month being sufficient to cover 790,670 acres one foot deep. For the entire irrigation season the fall of the North Platte would cover 1,750,000 acres to the same depth. During the last year applications were received to take water out of 160 streams. These applications described 593 miles of ditches with an estimated cost of $1,400,000 and susceptible of irrigating 277,673 acres.

Only one large enterprise is included in these applications. This was the Cody & Salsbury canal the estimated cost of which is $1,000,000. If completed in accordance with the surveys and the maps in the engineer's office it will irrigate 125,000 acres of land. The remainder of the projected ditches are all small ones and are being built by resident settlers.

These records show that Wyoming's principal growth this year has been in the direction of agriculture, increasing the number of farms and adding to the acres of irrigated land. The engineer's office has just completed the maps of the ditches surveyed last summer. In all there are sixteen of these maps and they show the location of sixty-five ditches on La Prele creek, eighty on Box Elder, twenty-five on Deer creek, ten on Elkhorn creek, sixty-one on La Bonta creek and nineteen on Wagonhound. Few, except those familiar with the country embraced in these surveys, realize how greatly agriculture has been extended along the tributaries of the Platte in Converse and Natrona counties during the last few years. The 260 ditches surveyed show that this section is fast becoming one of the important agricultural centers of the state. The recently completed determination of the rights to water on Black's Fork creek in Uinta county shows that another agricultural district, heretofore but little thought of, is being rapidly created. Certificates of appropriation ae being issued to 184 users of water. Ten years ago there were scacely a score of settlers along the entire stream.

WARREN REPLIES TO CRITICISMS.

Talks Back at the Papers on the Silver Question.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Dec. 31.—(Special.)—The attention of Wyoming's senior senator, Francis E. Warren, was called this morning to the criticisms of several of the Denver newspapers upon the course pursued in the senate by himself and some of the other western republican senators upon the financial question. Concerning the matter, Senator Warren said:

"The extreme free coinage papers of Denver, it seems to me, insist upon doing injustice to Wyoming and its senators, either maliciously or through misinformation. One of these papers says, referring to Wolcott, Warren and Clark, and other senators: "Not one of these senators could have been elected to the office he holds if his constituents had the slightest cause to suspect that he would not stand fast for free coinage at the ratio of 16 to 1 through the independent action of our own government, from the beginning to the end of his term."

"As a matter of fact, the republican party in Washington has never declared 'for free coinage at the ratio of 16 to 1 through the independent action of our government,' and I dare say it never will, for that would mean for us silver monometallism. The republicans of Wyoming are not and never have been either gold or silver monometallists, but are bimetallists, and desire recognition and actual and general use of both metals. Since Wyoming republicans have always refrained, or I might say, refused to declare for silver monometallism, it must be patent to everyone that the senators of Wyoming could not have been elected had they entertained, or given promise of advocating the extreme position taken by the Denver papers. One of these papers, the Republican, kindly gives the following warning: 'Of course, Senator Warren has the largest portion of his present term yet to serve, but time flies, and he cannot hope to be his own successor if he continues to march much longer under the direction of the national banking ring, etc.'

"This prediction may prove true. But it is a matter of entire indifference to the public whether Senator Warren succeeds himself or not, providing the state of Wyoming is well represented in the United States senate, and it should be a matter of more concern to a senator to faithfully serve his state while occupying that position of great trust than whether he be continued as its representative. Under a man's conscience and commission he ought to consider it a duty, as well as a high privilege, to represent, while holding office, the sentiment of the people who have committed their case, in part, to his charge. When a public officer cannot do that, he ought in justice to either resign or be retired by his constituents. Speaking personally, I am proud to be the representative of one of the most promising young states in the union, at the greatest and grandest court or parliamentary body in the world, the United States senate. I have endeavored heretofore to ask nothing for myself that my party was not inclined generously to accord me, and, should retirement follow tomorrow, my good services and gratitude would be due, and I am sure forthcoming for the balance of my lifetime, and I give the Republican and all others notice that a re-election for myself will not be unduly pressed by me upon an unwilling constituency."

Change in Wyoming's Officers.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Dec. 31.—(Special Telegram.)—Benjamin F. Fowler, who has held the office of attorney general for Wyoming for the last three years, tendered his resignation today. It was accepted by the governor, who at once appointed J. A. Van Orsdell to the position for the remaining year of Mr. Fowler's term. As a result of the change, Mr. Van Orsdell, who was an applicant for the United States attorneyship of Wyoming, withdrew his application, and T. F. Burke, the law partner of Mr. Fowler, will be appointed to that position at the expiration of the term of the present incumbent, Gibson Clark.

Davis Fills Warren's Place.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Dec. 31.—(Special Telegram.)—The republican state central committee for Wyoming met today and elected Hon. J. C. Davis of Rawlins chairman, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Senator Warren, which was tendered last year, but not acted upon until the present time.

COURSE OF STUDY DOES NOT SUIT.

In Trying to Please Everyone Committee Pleases No One.

SIOUX FALLS, S. D., Dec. 31.—(Special.)—The course of study for the use of high schools, prepared by the committee of ten appointed by the State Teachers' association, gives such poor satisfaction that it is doubtful if the recommendations of the committee will be followed in a single high school in the state. Prof. Frank McClelland of the Sioux Falls schools says Sioux Falls will have nothing to do with it, and it is not thought that it will be adopted anywhere. The report is admitted by members of the committee to be a compromise, no two members being able to agree. In effect it makes of the high school simply a fitting school for the colleges and it gives to the pupil not so much of the studies he may need in later life, in case his education should cease wha the high school, but the branches he will need to fit him to enter college. Inasmuch as less than one-fifth of the high school pupils ever enter college the high school men vigorously oppose the wasting of the time of pupils in fitting them for that for which they will never qualify.

Redfield was chosen as the next place of meeting. The Black Hills country made a fight for the location but it was decided to hold the session next year at Redfield and the following year in the Black Hills.

The department of graded and common schools elected these officers for the ensuing year: President, Homer Davis, Turner county; secretary, Miss Hattie Lyman of Minnehaha. Prof. George M. Smith of the State university was elected president of the department of colleges and high schools, and Prof. George Nash of Yankton, secretary.

The session closed last night by a social in Germania hall. A dance had been arranged by the local committee, but many of the visiting teachers objected and it was finally decided to forego this feature of the entertainment.

LEE AND PETTIGREW MAKE TIE-UP.

Result of Long Conference Between Senator and Governor.

SIOUX FALLS, S. D., Dec. 31.—(Special.)—Before leaving for Washington Senator Pettigrew had a two hours' interview with Governor Lee. It is understood that the senator agreed to support the governor for renomination if he would kill off the anti-fusion movement started in the populist party by H. L. Loucks and that the governor assented to the terms and will exert his influence in that direction.

Wolves Becoming More Numerous.

SIOUX FALLS, S. D., Dec. 31.—(Special.)—Harry Sheldon, a rancher on the White river, west of Chamberlain, is here on a visit to his brother. He says that every year the wolves west of the river are increasing, and that the ranchers are kept busy devising means to protect their flocks and young cattle. The wolves are thicker than are jack rabbits east of the river, and the losses to ranchers are great in spite of high corrals and great care. Aside from the wolf problem cattle and sheep are doing well, very little snow having fallen thus far on the ranges.

GAMBLERS GOING TO SKAGWAY.

They Believe There Will Be Money There for All Kinds of Games.

CRIPPLE CREEK, Colo., Dec. 31.—(Special.)—It is anticipated that gamblers will be scarcer in this part of Colorado this year than ever before, since so many of them are making arrangements to ply their vocations in the towns of Alaska or the northwest. Sam McDowell, or "Texas Sam," Tony Abbott and Bobby Burns, all noted gamblers of this district are preparing a gambling layout to take to the Klondike region in the course of the next two weeks. The parties have plenty of money and are backed by the richest gambling men in this part of the country. Abbott has just returned from Skagway, where the party intends to locate, and left for that place again today to superintend the erection of a building for the outfit. Everything in the way of gambling paraphernalia will be taken, and the outfits have already been procured.

They will take two faro layouts, two roulette wheels, four poker tables and all the other appliances that are necessary for their line of business, and if anything else is needed they will procure it when there.

From an interview with Abbott it is gathered that the party expects to reap a rich harvest in a very short time, as he says that there is money to burn in that place, and the indications point to the fact that there will be more during the coming season. Abbott says that nothing has been exaggerated in regard to the richness of the gold production of the country, and that there are some great surprises in store for the public when the first steamers get down the river after the spring cleanings. He says that he expects to come back a millionaire and people who have known him for a long time say that he usually knows exactly what he is talking about.

Not for Grant for Senator.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 31.—Nathan Cole, jr., national committeeman for the silver party of California has given to the press a letter in which he positively denies the statements that have been published to the effect that the silver republicans under his leadership are endeavoring to secure the election of U. S. Grant, jr., as successor of Stephen M. White in the United States senate. They are for White, the democratic senator.

To Yukon with Dogs.

MISSOULA, Mont., Dec. 31.—(Special.)—D. C. Blandy and wife are in Missoula, having come from Brainard, Minn., on the way to the Klondike, in a wagon drawn by six dogs. Harness for two additional dogs was procured, and a ninth animal goes along as substitute. Blandy goes to Spokane by way of Walbice. He may take the overland route from Spokane to Yukon.

California News Notes

The prune crop of Santa Clara county this year will reach 25,000 tons.

Clara Fallmer is on trial in Oakland for the murder of Charles la Due. Insanity is the phase of the evidence her attorneys emphasize.

James W. Chard, a postoffice employe who falsified papers as to money paid by newspapers for postage, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment in the Alameda county jail.

Clerks in the recorder's office in the city hall, San Francisco, are puzzled to know how a steel-gray fox got onto the roof. It jumped fifty feet to the pavement when pursued and was killed.

Dr. Noah Fields Drake, a graduate student in geology at Stanford university, has been called to the University of Tien-Tsin. He will be the head of mining, engineering and geology in the Chinese university, which is presided over by American professors.

Thomas Pauling, one of the jurors in the Phelan case at Downieville, while attending court to hear the sentence, fell down the stairs leading to the gallery and fractured his skull, and died three hours later from the effects of his injuries. He was an old and respected pioneer of Sierra county.

Charles Walter Willey, a young San Franciscan, inherited a fortune from his mother a few years ago, married, and the couple squandered it, the wife securing a divorce. The father later left $125,000, but the young fellow only receives $500 a year from the trust. He confessed judgment for this to defeat alimony and is in jail for contempt.

The appraisement of the estate of Colonel Charles Fred Crocker shows that it amounts to a trifle over $7,000,000, of which all except $375,000 is represented by stocks and bonds. There were no notes of friends, so that if Crocker had loaned any money in this way he destroyed the notes. When Mr. Stanford's estate was appraised such notes, most of them worthless, amounted to a large sum.

A cup of JAPAN TEA

"invigorates in the morning and refreshes at night." Every pound of tea shipped from Japan is critically inspected by the Japanese officials and pronounced pure and of high quality.

All good grocers sell Japan Tea.

MORE EMPLOYMENT FOR WORKMEN

Reopening of Two Long Idle Cotton Mills.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Dec. 31.—A syndicate has bought the two mills of the Norwich Woolen company at the village of Beam Hill, in the town of Norwich, Conn., and will reopen them for the manufacture of textile fabrics, giving employment to 200 hands. The mills have been closed for several years.

KITTANNING, Pa., Dec. 31.—An advance of 12½ per cent in the wages has been granted to the employes of the Wyck China company, and the men will go back to work.

HUNTINGTON, Pa., Dec. 31.—It is reported on the best authority that the Berwind Coal Mining company has purchased the property of the East Broad Top Railroad company, which includes, besides its railroad connection with the Pennsylvania line at Mount Union, this county, its coal mines, furnaces and timber lands. It is said that the new purchasers will change the East Broad to a standard guage, put the idle furnaces into operation and enter largely into the manufacture of coke.

HAZLETON, Pa., Dec. 31.—A committee of the striking employes in the Honeybrook district had a conference today with Superintendent Gomer Jones, the result of which was an amicable settlement of the strike begun yesterday. All the men discharged are to be reinstated, and tomorrow work at both Honeybrook and Audenried will be resumed.

BRADDOCK, Pa., Dec. 31.—The new wage scale for the employes of the Edgar Thompson Steel works and the blast furnaces has been made and will go into effect on Saturday. The signatures of the men to the contract are required on or before January 1. The officials claim that there will be an amicable adjustment of the wages of the tonnage men, but the wages of the day men will remain practically the same as they were during the past year. It is said that owing to improved machinery at the steel department the cut in tonnage will range from 5 to 20 per cent. The workmen are expected to make equally as much money as they did at the beginning of the last wage scale, owing to the facilities for turning out more work.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Dec. 31.—The United Mine Workers, in session here, has elected state officers and an executive board and adopted a resolution extending an invitation to the operaiors of West Virginia to attend the interstate meeting at Chicago January 17 to agree upon a scale of prices for mining in this state. The indications are that the operators of West Virginia will refuse to attend the Chicago meeting.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Dec. 31.—The Blackman mine, operated by the Lehigh Valley Coal company, suspended operations today indefinitely, throwing 500 men out of work. Dullness in the coal trade is given as the reason for the suspension.

Deaths of a Day.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 31.—The Rev. John B. English, a prominent Baptist minister, died yesterday at Deland, Fla., where he was the professor in the Baptist institute and pastor of the Baptist church, aged 50 years.

CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 31.—Pedro Escuero, who was minister of justice during the empire of Maximillian, and who was the author of the civil code, one of the most eminent of Mexico's jurists, died today, at the age of 80.

BAR HARBOR, Dec. 31.—Miss Lucille, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pulitzer of New York, died today at Chatwold, their summer home, after an illness from typhoid fever lasting over four months. Miss Lucille was in her 18th year, and last summer made her debut in Bar Harbor society.

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., Dec. 31.—Reuben Stonesifer, a well known citizen of Williamsport, died at his home on Park avenue last night, aged 60 years. Mr. Stonesifer was employed in the government service at Washington at the time Abraham Lincoln was shot. Shortly after the assassination Stonesifer was arrested, being mistaken for John Wilkes Booth, to whom he bore a remarkable resemblance.

Low Rates, Omaha and Chicago.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—The Great Western road has announced that it will run excursions twice each month between Chicago and southwestern Missouri river points, and when the Burlington announced that it would carry the rates into Council Bluffs and Omaha, the Great Western made a rate of $16 for the round trip between St. Paul and Kansas City.

WEEKLY CLEARING HOUSE TOTALS.

Aggregate of Business Transactions of the Associated Banks.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—The following table, compiled by Bradstreet, shows the bank clearings at eighty-seven cities for the week ended December 31, with the percentage of increase and decrease as compared with the corresponding week last year:

CITIES.	Amount.	Inc.	Dec.
New York	$ 743,298,977	62.9	.....
Boston	84,641,202	23.5	.....
Chicago	95,135,633	35.7	.....
Philadelphia	61,157,128	24.1	.....
St. Louis	24,914,877	24.1	.....
Pittsburg	15,232,237	22.7	.....
Baltimore	13,091,199	9.6	.....
San Francisco	14,316,620	24.2	.....
Cincinnati	11,202,350	12.0	.....
Kansas City	8,586,464	.....	11.4
New Orleans	9,043,768	6.7	.....
Minneapolis	19,091,907	51.5	.....
Detroit	5,783,417	19.4	.....
Cleveland	6,210,570	7.8	.....
Louisville	4,879,192	3.8	.....
Providence	4,597,700	.....	8.1
Milwaukee	4,892,930	11.3	.....
St. Paul	3,941,972	1.8	.....
Buffalo	3,752,592	13.2	.....
OMAHA	4,674,674	13.4	.....
Indianapolis	4,707,623	40.2	.....
Columbus, O.	3,739,900	18.2	.....
Savannah	2,657,759	21.7	.....
Denver	2,127,165	6.5	.....
Hartford	2,318,287	32.9	.....
Richmond	1,981,729	6.4	.....
Memphis	1,981,380	20.0	.....
Washington	1,791,531	49.6	.....
Peoria	1,671,537	31.4	.....
Rochester	1,422,985	1.3	.....
New Haven	1,264,885	6.3	.....
Worcester	1,226,341	5.1	.....
Atlanta	1,296,020	.....	8.5
Salt Lake City	1,732,163	9.4	.....
Springfield, Mass.	1,223,938	24.5	.....
Fort Worth	1,478,155	16.6	.....
Portland, Me.	1,105,644	.....	5.1
Portland, Ore.	1,789,239	44.7	.....
St. Joseph	1,721,327	36.5	.....
Los Angeles	1,318,288	50.5	.....
Syracuse	945,270	10.2	.....
Des Moines	956,971	9.7	.....
Nashville	920,130	14.8	.....
Wilmington, Del.	684,424	25.2	.....
Norfolk	885,303	.....	.....
Scranton	922,276	.....	7.1
Fall River	789,388	.....	9.5
Grand Rapids	858,430	34.4	.....
Augusta, Ga.	813,952	2.6	.....
Lowell	575,554	3.4	.....
Dayton, O.	642,557	13.4	.....
Seattle	758,676	50.4	.....
Tacoma	778,871	86.7	.....
Spokane	588,428	8.5	.....
Sioux City	549,751	30.5	.....
New Bedford	354,336	11.3	.....
Knoxville, Tenn.	366,556	14.0	.....
Topeka	424,796	4.0	.....
Birmingham	434,549	28.8	.....
Wichita	370,761	26.2	.....
Binghamton	317,200	3.2	.....
Lincoln	380,253	3.9	.....
Lexington, Ky.	286,259	9.0	.....
Jacksonville, Fla.	179,279	18.2	.....
Kalamazoo	289,464	17.1	.....
Akron	271,100	5.0	.....
Bay City	242,147	24.6	.....
Chattanooga	282,000	28.1	.....
Rockford, Ill.	181,001	5.9	.....
Canton, O.	147,900	.....	5.7
Springfield, O.	167,276	28.4	.....
Fargo, N. D.	219,591	156.0	.....
Sioux Falls, S. D.	154,785	18.1	.....
Hastings, Neb.	82,850	.....	18.0
Fremont, Neb.	88,448	24.3	.....
Davenport	477,650	11.7	.....
Toledo	1,328,828	5.5	.....
Galveston	5,946,000	22.4	.....
Houston	6,779,545	.....	5.4
Youngstown	358,814	.....	.....
Totals, United States	$1,188,331,046	42.4	.....
Outside New York	445,052,069	22.2	.....
DOMINION OF CANADA.			
Montreal	$ 19,237,193	23.3	.....
Toronto	6,812,242	25.5	.....
Winnipeg	1,716,264	34.1	.....
Halifax	1,061,433	.....	7.4
Hamilton	813,962	5.5	.....
St. John, N. B.	594,185	3.0	.....
Totals	$ 21,195,279	22.6	.....

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

YEAR IN BUSINESS WORLD

Comparatively Few Failures During the Twelvemonth Just Closed.

LIABILITIES ARE SMALLER THAN USUAL

New Year Opens with a Bright Outlook Commercially, and Full of Hope for Successful Business.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade will say:

Failures for the year, which closed last night, have been smaller than in any year since 1882, in number smaller than in any year except in 1895, and in average liabilities per failure, smaller than in any other year during the last twenty-three, except four. The aggregate of all failures, commercial and banking, was $180,600,000, of which $25,800,000 was in banking. In 13,396 commercial failures the amount of liabilities was $154,800,000, of which $29,000,000 was in manufacturing and $73,700,000 in trading, with $12,100,000 in brokerage and other commercial lines. The average of liabilities per failure was only $11,559, and in 1892 only $11,025, but only three years in the last twenty-three were rivals, 1888 with $11,595, 1886 with $11,651, and 1885 with $11,078.

A new year opens with conditions radically different from those which prevailed a year ago. Great financial distrust existed then, but has passed away. After a whole year of entire freedom from disturbance or alarm, in which the country has paid heavy foreign indebtedness, taken and paid many millions for stocks sent from abroad and accumulated credits against other credits represented by merchandise balances of more than $320,000,000 in its favor for the last five months, with deferred exchanges for more than $20,000,000 held by New York banks alone, while the great industries have been pushing their way into foreign markets with unprecedented success, the monetary situation is no longer a matter of anxiety.

More than 500,000 men in a few states, according to official reports, are employed now who were idle a year ago, and the general advance in wages for those employed has gone far to restore the rates prevailing before the panic. The volume of business through clearing houses for the week, 14.2 per cent larger than in 1892, has for the month been 6.3 per cent larger than in that year, and in many industries and branches of business the latter months of this year have surpassed all records.

The iron industry has been greatly encouraged by increased demand during the last few weeks, and while the slight improvement in pig iron at Pittsburg has been maintained, notwithstanding the greatest output ever known, the new contracts for finished products have been unusual for the season. They include 30,000 tons of steel rails to one eastern mill, 12,000 tons of structural work for improvements at New York alone, with large operations at Chicago and other cities and a greatly increased demand for manufacturing materials generally and especially for sheets. Minor metals have been rather weak, with tin at 13.6 cents and copper at 10.87 cents, in spite of large exports, while lead is quoted at $3.72½ and spelter at $3.85. The best Bessemer full weight tin plates are selling at $3.65, against $4.10 for foreign. No change in prices of coke appears, though the shipments were the largest for any week this year.

The cotton industry is halted by the question of wages, although a general reduction now seems probable. The manufacturers have been buying largely of material for worsted goods and their purchases have stimulated buying by wool manufacturers so that the wool markets are stronger, though without changes in quotations.

After the great excitement at Chicago wheat still goes out of the country as largely as before, Atlantic ports, 2,570,783 bushels, flour included, against 1,542,540 bushels last year, and from Pacific ports, 1,712,625 bushels. In four weeks the Atlantic exports, flour included, have been 15,030,047 bushels, against 8,590,161 bushels last year. Heavy western receipts are only reflecting temporary conditions in the Chicago market. But extraordinary exports of corn, 14,404,905 bushels, against 9,444,833 bushels in the four weeks last year, show how surely foreign markets are pushed by the increasing demand for breadstuffs. Wheat has declined ¾ cents with the Chicago market and corn has meanwhile advanced ¾ cents.

The cotton movement continues remarkably heavy, and yet the slight advance last week is maintained. The movement to date, although more than 7,000,000 bales have come into sight, scarcely supports the largest current estimates.

Failures for the week have been 395 in the United States, against 439 last year, and twenty-one in Canada, against thirty-nine last year.

BRADSTREET'S REVIEW OF TRADE.

Best Reports from the West and Northwest.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—Bradstreet's tomorrow will say:

Holiday quiet and stock taking close a year which, while not fully realizing the most sanguine expectations, certainly contained much that was gratifying and more that is full of promise for the year 1898. Following a series of years of alternate panic, stagnation and slow and even painful revival, 1897 presented a large volume of business done as a whole at prices which, while not altogether satisfactory, resulted in a total of trade larger than in any previous year since 1892.

Tariff changes restricted demand, but encouraged speculation, and heavy imports in the first part of 1897, while the enlarged foreign demand for American breadstuffs and for some varieties of manufactured articles bettered the condition of the American farmer, and therefore business generally, quite materially, in the latter part of the year. Price conditions have not favored the southern producer of cotton nor the northern manufacturer of cotton goods.

The best reports come from the west, northwest and the Pacific coast. Prices at the close are as a whole on a higher range than at the opening, advances being most numerous in food products, raw silk and wool, while decreases are reported in raw cotton and cotton goods, nearly all metals, anthracite coal and petroleum.

Railroad interests share in the revival of prosperity, with gross and net earnings larger than in any year since 1893, and the year 1898 opens with the business community, with the few exceptions noted, in a very cheerful frame of mind.

A heavy falling off in number and in liabilities of individuals, firms or corporations failing, was shown in 1897 from 1893 and the four preceding years. A partial return to more or less normal conditions is further indicated by a drop in the percentage of assets to liabilities and by a reduction in the commercial death rate as compared with every year since and including 1893.

The total number of failures reported to Bradstreet's for the year just closed was 13,689, a decrease of 2,699 for the year and over 13 per cent from 1895, a falling off of 15 per cent from 1891, a year of prosperous business, but of numerous business embarrassments. Compared with 1895 there was a gain in the number of failures shown of about half of 1 per cent, while compared with 1892 there was an increase of 27 per cent. Liabilities of these failing constituted one of the smallest totals of recent years, amounting to only $155,166,000, a decrease of 37 per cent from 1896, of 60 per cent from 1895, and of 19 per cent from 1891, but a gain of 47 per cent over 1892. The least favorable showing is made by the eastern states, which report increases in number and liabilities over 1896. In spite of depression in cotton prices, southern failures and liabilities are smaller than a year ago, while the greatest falling off is reported in the west and the northwest. The percentage of assets to liabilities of those failing in 1897 was 54.4 per cent, the smallest percentage since 1892, and only slightly above the normal. The commercial death rate, that is, the percentage of those in business failing in 1897, was 1.20 as compared with 1.40 in 1896 and 1.30 in 1893.

Those reliable indications of the business situation—bank clearings—point to the year 1897 as witnessing the heaviest business, both speculative and commercial, done since the record year 1892, just preceding the panic. The total clearings at fifty-eight cities for the year, one week estimated, aggregated at least $63,826,000,000, a sum larger by 13 per cent than the total of 1896, a year of silver agitation and an exciting presidential election; 8 per cent larger than 1895, the disappointing year, when a boom in iron and kindred products led to false hopes of business improvement; 25 per cent over the year 1894, when the depth of depression following the panic may be said to have been reached; 6 per cent over 1893, the year of widespread disaster in financial and commercial circles; and only 7 per cent smaller than the total of 1892, when the boom following the large foreign demand for American breadstuffs and other products reached its height.

Practically the entire gain in clearings in 1897 was concentrated in the last six months, and it is a significant fact that the heaviest monthly total reported for five years past was reported in the month of December. Gains were heaviest in the northwest, the middle and New England states, and smallest in the south and northwest, at the latter of which the trade improvement was rather later in arriving.

The total reports of wheat (flour included as wheat) from both coasts of the United States and Canada amount to 5,495,000 bushels, or double those in this week a year ago, and 700,000 bushels larger than last week. Corn exports are slightly smaller, aggregating 4,088,000 bushels, against 4,879,000 bushels last week and 2,742,000 bushels last year.

Business failures for the Dominion of Canada and Newfoundland for the calendar year 1897 amounted to 1,927, with total liabilities of $13,219,000, a falling off of 13 per cent in number, and of 19 per cent in liabilities from a year ago.

REVIEW OF THE STOCK MARKET.

Fear of the Money Market Restricts Trading.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—Bradstreet's Financial Review tomorrow will say:

Aside from the activity of some of the local stocks, there has been little in the market entitled to description. A holiday feeling prevailed throughout and in the early portion of the week the continuance of slightly higher rates for call loans and the fear that a flurry might occur in the money market before New Year's day tended to still further restrict trading. London has sold a little stock, but the market there was mainly inactive, owing to the firmness of money and the possibility of foreign complications in connection with the Chinese situation.

Our own public has been indifferent to the stock market and commission houses were at no time prominent in the transactions. Professional operators were to some extent influenced by the extreme dullness and selling of long stock by such interests caused some concessions in prices. On such occasions, however, the belief that a better market is liable to develop with the new year asserted itself and the undertone of speculation is unquestionably strong. If the market was apparently insensible to favorable developments, such as the generally good returns of net railroad earnings for November, it was also quite unmoved by disturbing rumors like that of Secretary Gage's alleged resignation, or the stories pointing to war involving the European powers and Japan.

The bond market has been less active, but prices for investment issues hold firm and dealers in municipal and other high-grade securities generally reach a scarcity of supply to meet the demand. Toward the end of the week the market was, if anything, duller.

The absence of any disturbance in the money market had a good effect on the speculative tone, but failed to encourage any activity.

Taking a Thief to New York.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 31.—Deputy Sheriff Whiting of Springwater, N. Y., left for that state today with Tyler M. Gibbs, the Midland hotel thief, who about three weeks ago was caught under the bed of another patron of the house. Gibbs is wanted for highway robbery, he and another having gagged and robbed a farmer near Atlanta, N. Y.

Aldermen Indicted for Gambling.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—The grand jury today returned indictments against Aldermen John Powers and William O'Brien for running a gambling house. The case against Alderman Michael McKenna, more widely known as "Hinky Dink," was continued for hearing until next Tuesday.

For Family Use

Perhaps in your family you use but little whisky, but you want that little good—of the best. The United States Government guarantees the Age and Purity of every bottle of

OLD CROW and HERMITAGE WHISKIES.

through its Internal Revenue officers at the distilleries, at Frankfort, Ky.

Every bottle of Old Crow and Hermitage is tested. Be sure the Internal Revenue Stamp over the Cork and Capsule is not broken and that it bears the name W. A. GAINES & CO.

It is a Government Guarantee that goes with this bottling.

ALL DEALERS SELL IT

YOU

WILL READ THIS BECAUSE you feel that you are puny. Why stay so? HUDYAN cures cases like yours. It makes vigor. And when the vigor is in you, you are again a man. Get the notion out of your head that you cannot be cured. You have suffered, perhaps, as badly as a man can suffer. If you had taken the grand remedio-treatment that the Hudsonian doctors offer, and have offered for years, you would not be premature today. You would be a man—yes, and a good one. HUDYAN will make a man of you. It will do it in a week if you will give it a chance. How much longer

ARE

you going to act the fool? You have fear of losses. HUDYAN stops them in a week. If you are weak-kneed HUDYAN braces you up and makes a man out of you. By the help of HUDYAN you are able to do all your work and to put on the face of manhood. That is the face you want to wear. Manhood is what all people love. No spots before the eyes when you have that. No gloom. No bother. No worry. And the one thing that produces it is HUDYAN. And you can get HUDYAN only from the doctors of the great and grand Hudsonian Institute. They make cures.

PUNY

When you find that you have some trouble that you do not know the nature of, that is the time when you will find the advice of the Hudsonian doctors priceless. Just sit down and write a plain statement to them. They will send you the best medical advice that there is to be had in the whole country. Have you got lumps in your throat or any sign of blood taint at all? If so get advice. It is free.

Hudson Medical Institute

Stockton, Market & Ellis Streets.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

Take Time by the Forelock—

And have your eyes examined before it is too late. Many a sufferer from a diseased optic nerve or a less serious affection of the vision have lapsed into total blindness by neglect of the eyes. Have your eyes attended to at the least indication of weakness, and it will save you much annoyance.

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Prepared in anticipation of the Centennial demonstrations to occur throughout Ireland during next year. This work will be welcomed by all who contemplate a visit to the Emerald Isle during 1898, and by tourists who have visited the island or who anticipate a journey to its beautiful and picturesque sections. To those who are familiar with the scenes embraced in this splendid series of photographs the views will possess particular interest. . .

MORE THAN

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The descriptive sketches accompanying these views were prepared by . . . . . .

Hon. John F. Finerty

OF CHICAGO.

These illustrations are not confined to any one locality in Ireland, but include every section of the Emerald Isle from **Lifford** to **Bantry** and from **Dublin** to **Galway.**

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PART XIII

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