

INTERIOR AND NAVAL REPORTS

As Submitted by Secretaries Francis and Herbert.

INTERIOR IN GOOD CONDITION.

Herbert Deals With the Subject of the Militia at Some Length—Number of Vessels 3,339.

David B. Francis, Secretary of the Interior, and Hilliard A. Herbert, Secretary of the Navy, have submitted their reports to the President. Below are extracts from the official reports.

The appropriations under Francis' department for the last fiscal year amounted to \$157,179,656. The estimates for the present fiscal year amount to \$1,000,000 more than was appropriated last year. The actual public domain is now 1,849,072,537 acres. The public lands still vacant amount to over 600,000,000 acres, not including Alaska. About 53,729,751 acres have been patented to railroad—there are yet due railroads and wagon roads under their grants an aggregate of 114,736,639 acres. The total acreage segregated from the public domain was 946,219,160 acres. The Secretary deems it desirable that our waste acreage should be taken up by actual settlers and given every encouragement.

The rate of settlement continues in the future as in the past but little vacant land will be left in 13 years' time. He gives a table which shows that the total amount paid by the government in pensions and the cost of disbursing the same during the last 31 years was \$2,034,917,765 which lacks only \$345,712,525 of being equal to the high water mark of the interest-bearing public debt. He suggests a number of amendments to the pension law which would save the government \$100,000,000 per annum in pensions and the branch of the service should be conducted with great care and discretion. He gives a table which shows that the total amount paid by the government in pensions and the cost of disbursing the same during the last 31 years was \$2,034,917,765 which lacks only \$345,712,525 of being equal to the high water mark of the interest-bearing public debt.

Secretary Francis is of the opinion that the free use of timber on public lands for commercial purposes should be discontinued. He says that the pension question, which is now about \$70,673 persons are now drawing about \$140,000,000 per annum in pensions and the branch of the service should be conducted with great care and discretion. He gives a table which shows that the total amount paid by the government in pensions and the cost of disbursing the same during the last 31 years was \$2,034,917,765 which lacks only \$345,712,525 of being equal to the high water mark of the interest-bearing public debt.

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WEEKLY NEWS BUDGET.

Southern Pencil Pointers.

At Morganton N. C. A. C. Avery, Jr., son of Justice A. C. Avery of the North Carolina Supreme Court, was assaulted by negroes and established in five places. The negroes had been captured and placed in the Charlotte jail for sale keeping.

A Swedish sailor was plucked up clinging to a small hatch floating in the Gulf stream, off the coast of North Carolina, last Friday. He was the last of his crew.

The Western Quarry Company, owning large quarries and dressing sheds in Chesapeake, Va., has made an assignment for the benefit of their creditors. Liabilities are \$33,000. It is believed that the assets will pay the company out.

The losses, amounting to \$30,000, sustained by the Germania bank and the National bank of Savannah, Ga., through forged southwestern railroad certificates, said to have been given by C. A. L. Hartidge, have been settled in full.

At Dallas, Texas, County Treasurer, W. N. Coo has been arrested on a grand jury indictment charging him with embezzling \$5,635 of the county funds.

Miss Emma Monroe, the 15-year-old child of Shortport, Ala., known as the "Herald" girl, was captured and placed in the streets and crowded him.

At Benardot, Milan county, Texas, convicts escaped while at work by the guard being shot by a mounted desperado.

Frying Pan Schools, near Charleston, S. C., have been closed for their meetings during last week's storm.

The State Baptist Convention, of South Carolina, is in session at Charleston. Distinguished Baptists from all over the United States are in attendance.

The Louisville baseball club has disposed of Shortport and Night Fielder McFarland to the Indianapolis club. The consideration is said to have been \$300.

Chas. A. Collier, the president of Southern States Cotton Exposition, has been elected Mayor of Atlanta, Ga. He had no opposition.

Governor Johnston has been sworn in by the Legislature of Alabama, as Governor of that State.

The last census shows that in North Carolina there are 115,000 farms, land 11,352 mortgage, aggregating \$9,060,351.

At Richmond, Va., Mrs. Mary Sinclair, charged with shooting her husband with intent to kill, was acquitted on the charge of her husband, who said the shooting was accidental.

Private advices from Havana received at Jacksonville, Fla., are to the effect that Weyler will soon issue an order, forbidding the exportation of Remedios tobacco from the island of Cuba. This was not included in his other order, and a manufacturer has petitioned Weyler to close the Cuban ports to this tobacco as Northern and Eastern manufacturers were buying it all for their houses, sites, expenses of county boards, furniture, fuel, etc.

A remarkable crop year. The first report of the new arrangement of the climate and crop service has just been issued. Instead of being called the North Carolina Service, it is now called the "North Carolina Section" of the climate and crop service. This number contains a review of the crop season of 1896. It says:

"The crop season of the past year in North Carolina was a remarkable one in several respects. There probably never was a year with a larger number of warm periods. Unusually favorable weather prevailed early in the year, resulting in a splendid condition of crops; but the severe drought at the end of the season disappointed all hopes. The winter was favorable for farm work."

Ought to be impeached. The Biblical Recorder speaks about Judge Norwood's intemperance and says: "This is not the first time such disgraceful conduct has been reported of Judge Norwood. He seems to be a hopeless subject of strong drink. He ought to resign for his own sake. If he does not, he ought to be impeached. The bench should be kept above reproach, above all other parts of the government."

Found to Work Admirably. The Charlotte Observer's Raleigh correspondent says: "His license on high authority that a number of counties will ask the Legislature to allow them to adopt the dispensary law. It is asserted that in Haywood county it is found to work admirably."

Spencer, the new railroad town near Salisbury, will have electric lights by Christmas.

Had No Power. The electoral college met in Raleigh last week, ten of its eleven members being present. A telegram from Tyrone, the absent one announced his sickness. An opinion of the Attorney General was read, that the college at the session under the State law had no power to declare or fill a vacancy. The college after an hour's session, adjourned on January 11th.

Conditions of the Treasury. The balance in the State Treasury at the end of the year, November 30, according to the books of the State Auditor, was:

General fund \$107,552.95  
Educational fund 35,058.31  
Total \$142,611.26

The Durham aldermen refused to pay water rent, saying that the company has not kept the contract.

It is said that Sheriff Ellington, of Johnston, has the honor of being the first sheriff to settle his taxes for 1896. He made a complete settlement.

Washington Echoes. By far the most elaborate work on forestry topics yet issued by the Department of Agriculture has just made its appearance. It is a monograph on the timber pine of the Southern States by Dr. Charles Mohr, with a discussion of the structure of their wood by Philbert Robt. The whole prepared under the direction of Dr. E. E. Fern, chief of the division of forestry.

A. J. Jackson has been appointed postmaster, vice W. H. Osmond, resigned, at Bath, Beaufort county, N. C. Those commissioned are Alfred Dockery, at Dockery, N. C.; Charles Bond, Quitman, N. C.; John B. Council, Blaine, N. C. A new office has been established at Adisi Union county, N. C., with William N. Lees as postmaster.

The executive committee having in charge the arrangements for the National conference of commercial bodies at Indianapolis, Ind., have changed the date for the conference from January 5th to January 12th.

The principal offices of the Southern Railway supply department, it is understood, will be removed from Richmond, Va., to Atlanta, Ga.

The statement of the public debt issued the first of the month shows that on November 30, the debt, less cash in the Treasury, amounted to \$95,799,159, an increase for the month of \$2,770,233. This increase is accounted for by a corresponding decrease in the amount of cash on hand.

The Supreme Court has decided that goats come under the head of cattle. The opinion in this case is written by Judge Clark.

NORTH STATE COLLINGS.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Figures From the Next Report of Superintendent Scarborough.

The following figures in regard to the public schools of North Carolina, are published by the Biblical Recorder, from the advance sheet of the annual report of Hon. J. C. Scarborough, Superintendent of Public Instruction:

There are 635,452 children of school age (between 6 and 21 years) in North Carolina, Ninety-five per cent. of these, which is 603,673, are dependent on the public schools to teach them to read and write. If she does not provide schools 603,673 of the children in her borders have no hope, no opportunity but to grow up illiterate, ignorant, and wretched. If she provides poor schools, sorry teachers and keeps them only a few weeks in each year, the chances for these 603,673 children are but slightly improved. And it is no reflection on the teachers to say that this is the condition of the average public school; the reflection is upon the General Assemblies which have met without making better provision; it is a shame upon the people who are intelligent enough to recognize these conditions and to deplore them, but who have indifferently tolerated them. No patriot can stand by and see 603,673 children out of the total of 635,452 in the State, coming to manhood in ignorance because they have no schools, or because such as they have are so meagerly supported that they are not even kept open long enough to teach a pupil to read or write or figure. There are 17,171 public schools in North Carolina. The amount expended upon the teachers is \$690,161.54, which is an average of \$95 for each school a year.

The total number of school districts in North Carolina is 7,807, that is to say (bearing in mind that the number of schools reported is 17,171) that in 616 districts there were no schools at all. The total amount of money expended on the public schools for the year is \$835,265. That is to say (bearing in mind the amount paid to teachers) that \$145,104 was expended for school houses, sites, expenses of county boards, furniture, fuel, etc.

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WEEKLY COMMERCIAL REPORT.

The Stormy Weather Has Had Its Impression on Trade Conditions.

Bradstreet says general trade continues in moderate volume, jobbers and wholesale dealers being agreed that there will be no business revival this year. There is activity in holiday goods. Rain and stormy weather South and cold, severe weather West and Northwest, have checked traffic on interior country roads and otherwise interfered with the distribution of merchandise, except at some Northwestern centres where more seasonable weather has stimulated the demand for heavy textiles, clothing, hats and shoes. Throughout the central Mississippi valley there has been no increase in the demand in wholesale lines, and at the South trade is characterized as dull.

Nails have again re-acted on the dissolution of the pool; tin plate prices have been out and Bessemer pig-iron has sold down 15 cents to 70 cents. The market in hides continues and prices are lower, though thus far without effect on quotations for leather. Petroleum prices have re-acted and quotations are higher. The market in hides continues and prices are lower, though thus far without effect on quotations for leather. Petroleum prices have re-acted and quotations are higher.

November bank clearings reflect the speculative activity following the election. Compared with months immediately preceding, the showing is a good one, only once before in 13 years has the November total exceeded that for October, and with the exception of January the November total is the heaviest for any month this year. But in spite of this the total November clearings were smaller than a year ago and, with New York excepted, quite a heavy falling off is reported. The total clearings for the November aggregate \$4,664,307,804, a decrease from a year ago of 3.8 per cent. Outside of New York the clearings for the month fell off nearly 11 per cent. from a year ago. Only two large cities in the country show increases—New York with 3.6 per cent. and Baltimore with 4.8 per cent.

There are 359 business failures reported throughout the United States for this week, which is an increase of 63 compared with the corresponding week with the corresponding week one year ago.

CHIPPewa FALLS IS SAFE.

People Becoming Reconciled and Business Men Are Moving Back.

The situation is more hopeful. The water has receded one foot and it is gradually going down. The river has forced a channel for itself under the gorge. The weather is moderating and unless all signs fail, the water will continue to recede. It will probably be two weeks before the river returns to its normal state, and the people are less excited and all feel very hopeful. Col. Jones, a United States civil engineer, says: "I think the ice in the gorge will remain until spring and that the river will force a channel plenty of feet below the spring level. The ice will gradually melt and will cause no flood." Many of the merchants have commenced to move back to their places of business, Lyman's was not used to break the gorge.

Contemplating Coming South.

The Popper and Leacon Mills, of Biddford, Me., have petitioned the Legislature of that State for the privilege of increasing their capital stock, the former to \$1,500,000, and the latter to \$2,200,000. It is believed that the company contemplates operating branch plants in the South. The corporation has a large amount of business elsewhere than in Biddford or Saco.

Old-Time Kentucky Killing.

A special from Lexington, Ky., says a fight between old man Harrison and two sons, Tom and Caleb, occurred in one of the mountain counties. As a result the elder Morgan is dead and both sons are dying. Both of the Harrison boys are also dead. The fight was fought with revolvers. The Morgan family were strong supporters of D. G. Colson and the Harrison family supporters of John D. White in the recent election for Congress—man in Leitcher county.

Hanna Favors "The Ball."

Concerning the report going the rounds to the effect that the inaugural ball may possibly be omitted at the coming inauguration of President-elect McKinley in March, Chairman M. A. Hanna, who has charge of the arrangements pertaining to such matters, says: "I think the inaugural ball will be held as usual. It has become a time-honored custom in connection with the inaugural ceremonies and there is no reason why it should be omitted now."

London's Total Debt.

The total debt of London is now £37,941,701. This involves a charge on the rates of £2,233,447, of which £1,217,437 is interest and £1,016,010 repayment, equal to a rate of 1s. 5d. in the pound, and equivalent to nearly 1 1/2 per cent. of the ratable value.

Will Not Pay Sharkey.

A special from San Francisco says the Anglo-California bank, on which the prize fight check for \$10,000 was drawn by the National Club, has refused payment. The check was presented by Lynch, Sharkey's banker. The bank officials told Lynch they would decline to pay the check until Sharkey had declared that Sharkey was entitled to the money. The bank officials say they are acting on legal advice.

The South's Population.

Within the last twenty years the population of the South has increased about 54 per cent, while the school enrollment has made a gain of 130 per cent. A very large part of this gain is in the education of the negro race. While the latter paid only 5 per cent of the taxes, they received one-fourth of the expenditures for public school purposes.

Cigarette Law in Iowa.

The Iowa Prohibitory cigarette law seems to have been knocked out. The tobacco trust has discovered that the State law cannot be forced, because it interferes with interstate commerce, and large shipments of cigarettes were received from New York sold in the original 5-cent packages, and no attempt was made to prevent it.

An Illinois Earthquake.

A special from Cairo, Ill., says that a severe shock of earthquake was felt in that city at 1:27 Tuesday afternoon, the vibrations lasting several seconds. Buildings swayed so perceptibly that the inmates became alarmed and rushed into the streets. No serious damage was done.

An Extra Session of Congress.

The Washington Post says: A Republican United States Senator, who has been in the city for the past two weeks, and who has made it a point to call upon and talk with every Senator of his party, who was either here before him or has come since, states that he is positive that there will be no tariff legislation at this coming session, and that an extra session will be called by the 15th of March. This he feels well satisfied, will be the result of action, or rather inaction, decided upon by the party caucus. He is also convinced that, at the extra session, the tariff bill would be framed, and the tariff put through, provided there is no Democratic filibuster in three months time, and that the extra session will be adjourned before the 1st of July.

VICTORY IS CERTAIN.

Gen. Bradley T. Johnson Reviews the Cuban Situation.

THE SPANISH ARE WHIPPED.

Patriots Belong to Every Class—Cubans Cannot be Starved—Their Arms and Equipments.

In discussing the situation in Cuba, General Bradley T. Johnson, who recently returned from there, says that it is impossible to get reliable or accurate information as to the Cuban army. "I investigated carefully," said he, "and was never satisfied. Consider the state of mind in Baltimore and among Southern sympathizers during the civil war, and recall the exaggerations of their enthusiasms and the dreams of their hopes. Then intensely that a thousand fold and you have a faint idea of the condition of things in Havana to-day. All the Spaniards are for the government—all the Cubans are for the rebellion."

"What sort of people are supporting the rebellion?" the general was asked. "The bankers, the planters, the writers, the lawyers, the doctors, the professors and the people. The University of Havana is a hotbed of patriotism. The boys run off by the score to join Gomez and Masco, and some of the professors are not only sympathetic to the South American countries and to France. I think the property, the culture and the courage of the island is on the side of the rebellion."

"The insurrection is supported by wealth, directed by intelligence and conducted with genius and courage. I think the rebels outnumbered the Spaniards, and that they will wear them out."

"There is no chance of the rebels being driven out of the Pinar del Rio district for the woods are full of cattle, hogs and wild potatoes. They will always have plenty to eat. They are armed with Remingtons, Spencer, Mausers and every variety of carbine and revolver."

"Cuba's area is equal to that of Pennsylvania; its population is 1,102,899 white, 485,187 negro and 48,000 Chinese. Negroes include all mixed blood, white means pure blooded. You perceive the population is about equal to that of Virginia and is similarly mixed—about two whites to one of all the other races."

"With peace and order restored there, how long would it take for two million American soldiers to take possession of the island?" "Such an immigration of skill, energy and industry would flow into Cuba the world has never seen. The United States would be the Dominio Americano—a new republic."

"Maceo is the genius of the war. He is a quadrum. His mother was the daughter of a Spaniard of rank. He is well educated, bright, alert, dashing and daring. He will wear the Spaniards out by guerilla warfare—constant surprises, ambushes, attacks and retreats. Mosby, with 800 men, kept 40,000 men constantly employed for two years in the mountains of Fauquier and Loudoun in Virginia, chasing him up and down hills and dale, but they never captured him, and he cost them thousands of men and millions of money."

"It is a condition and not a theory that Mr. Cleveland and the Congress are bound to meet, and a condition cannot be dodged. It grips men and nations and makes them act on the subject."

THE MONETARY CONFERENCE.

Fifty Delegates Present—Addresses By Prominent Men.

The monetary conference called by the Indianapolis board of trade met at the Edison House, in Indianapolis, on Monday, December 8, 1896. It was presided over by Justice C. Adams, president of the board of trade. About fifty delegates were present at the opening session, among the more prominent being M. E. Ingalls, of Cincinnati, and J. C. W. Cowles, of Cleveland.

Each commercial organization present was allowed three votes, and upon motion of E. B. Macdonald, of this city, ex-Governor Stannard, of Missouri, was made permanent chairman. Ex-Attorney General Miller and Mr. Wilson, both of Indianapolis, addressed the convention at some length.

A resolution was adopted declaring it to be the sense of the conference that a general conference of commercial bodies be called at Indianapolis about January 13, for the purpose of suggesting such legislation as may be necessary to place the currency system of the country upon a sound and permanent basis.

It was found, however, that the hall could not be secured on January 5, and the date was left to a local sub-committee. It probably will be fixed at January 12.

Cleveland's Private Fortune.

The New York World says President Cleveland's private fortune is estimated at \$1,000,000. He paid \$40,000 for his new house in Princeton, N. J. There is talk that he will be dean of Princeton College at the expiration of his term.

A Boy of 20 Kills a Man of 35.

A special to the Atlanta Constitution from Thomasville says as the climax of his persistent persecution, J. C. Carlin, a white man, the father from the children, as John, Johnson, Will, Wilson, Tom, Tomson. The word Fitz was a prefix to Norman names and came from Fitz or Finn, a son. Vitch in the Russian language has the same meaning, and so has von or van in German, and Mac in Scotch and Irish, as MacDonal, the son of Donald. O is an Irish prefix, and means grandson, as O'Conner, O'Bar, O'Halloran, etc. De or Du is the French prefix for son and Ap means the same in Welsh. These affixes and prefixes will classify a great number of names, from John came Johnson, Johnson, Johnston and Johnstone. The Smith family name had a peculiar origin. The old Anglo-Saxons were ever on the lookout for invasions of the island, and hence they kept a large force of men on the hills near the coast to look out for the invaders and to smite them when they came. These men had but a single name, as John or Jack or Will, but they were known as John the Smiter or Jack the Smiter, or Will the Smiter, which was soon abbreviated to John Smiter and then to John Smith, and finally to John Smith. A smith is a smiter—a goldsmith smites gold, a blacksmith smites iron. And so all these soider on the highlands became Smiths by name, and were good patriotic fighting stock. Hurrah for the Smiths—including John. The Jones family are of Welsh extraction, and no doubt had a similar origin for the original name was Jones, and the S was added for a plural.

As People Multiplied, new methods had to be devised to distinguish them. Prefixes and suffixes were resorted to. The word son was added to distinguish his father from the children, as John, Johnson, Will, Wilson, Tom, Tomson. The word Fitz was a prefix to Norman names and came from Fitz or Finn, a son. Vitch in the Russian language has the same meaning, and so has von or van in German, and Mac in Scotch and Irish, as MacDonal, the son of Donald. O is an Irish prefix, and means grandson, as O'Conner, O'Bar, O'Halloran, etc. De or Du is the French prefix for son and Ap means the same in Welsh. These affixes and prefixes will classify a great number of names, from John came Johnson, Johnson, Johnston and Johnstone. The Smith family name had a peculiar origin. The old Anglo-S