

## NEWS CONDENSED.

## Concise Record of the Week.

## EASTERN.

Three boys at Rondout, N. Y., dared one another to venture upon thin ice. All were drowned.

The Pittsburgh base ball team for next season represents a cost of over \$31,000, which includes \$6,000 paid for the release of the Columbus players. This is said to be more money than was ever before paid for a base ball club in the United States.

Feignepaugh's brewery at Newark, N. J., was burned, the loss reaching \$100,000.

George W. Jones, of the New York Times, reiterates his statement that the Grant fund of \$250,000 in Wash bonds has not failed to pay interest; that the late Edwin D. Moran guaranteed the principal of the subscription, and that the large estate of the latter is in no way involved.

The entertainment for the actors' fund at New York netted \$10,000. President Cleveland, who came from Albany to attend the performance, was the chief magnet, and his reception by the vast audience was very enthusiastic. Mr. Cleveland's box was guarded by the police, for the purpose of excluding interviewers and politicians.

The Aldermen of New York have passed over the Mayor's veto a resolution permitting the construction of a surface railroad in Broadway.

A number of the pig-iron furnaces at Pittsburgh, Pa., will blow in during January, the stock on hand being lighter now than at any previous time for years.

During the progress of a party at the residence of Farmer Young, of Stafford's Corners, Conn., some one attempted to meddle with some dynamite cartridges that lay on the kitchen shelf. A terrific explosion followed. The house was blown to pieces. One of the guests was killed outright, and four more will die.

Francis Murphy, the temperance revivalist, exhibits twenty-five hundred signatures to the pledge as the result of a week's work at Pittsburgh.

During a terrible wind and rain storm at Trenton, N. J., fire broke out in the Home Rubber Company's Works, which were entirely consumed, involving a loss of \$50,000.

## WESTERN.

Orrin A. Carpenter, once charged with the murder of Zora Burns at Lincoln, Ill., a year ago, but subsequently tried and acquitted, was shot at the other day in Lincoln by William H. Burns, the father of the murdered girl. The bullet missed its mark.

The Federal Grand Jury at Omaha has indicted Register Parker, Col. W. H. Ashby, and three others for conspiracy to defraud the Government in connection with the sale of Otoc Indian lands.

Union Pacific's earnings for October were \$2,261,000, a decrease of \$286,000 from the corresponding month of 1883.

Three Mormons have been convicted at Prescott, Arizona, of bigamy. This is said to mean that Mormon rule in Arizona has petered out.

Miss Lizzie May Ulmer, a charming young actress, who has recently risen to a high position in the dramatic profession, is underlined for a brief engagement at McVicker's Theater, Chicago.

The Board of Agriculture, of Ohio, reports the condition of wheat at the present time as 93; rye, 89; and barley, 87. The area sown is figured at: Wheat, 74; rye, 98; and barley, 93.

The banking-house of Raymer, Seagrave & Co., of Toledo, has been compelled to suspend business, with liabilities of \$400,000. Its assets include the Erie street railway, a cotton-mill, and a large number of new buildings.

Two Bishops and threelaymen of the Mormon Church were sentenced at Prescott, Arizona, for bigamy. Three are fined \$5,500 each and must serve three years and a half in prison, and two others will be confined six months and fined \$500. One of the two men has two wives and twelve children in destitute circumstances.

The J. I. Case Plow Company, of Racine, Wis., has made an assignment for its creditors. The unsecured liabilities are for \$60,000 to \$70,000, and the assets nearly \$70,000. The heaviest creditor is J. I. Case, President of the company. Other large creditors are iron and steel dealers of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Nearly 100 deaths from small-pox have recently occurred in the village of Stoco, 100 miles east of Toronto, and other sufferers are dying for lack of attendance.

George Snyder, a farmer of Darrtown, near Hamilton, Ontario, is in jail, accused of the murder of his mother, aged 75 years, the object being to secure a certain mortgage which she held on his farm.

The death rate in Chicago for November was 16.8 to the 1,000—the lowest of any of the large cities of the world.

It is rumored that the London Telegraph has purchased a large tract of land in the Mojave desert, on the Pacific coast, to use the yucca plant in the manufacture of paper, the pulp to be shipped to New Orleans for Liverpool.

## SOUTHERN.

A negro named Perry was lynched at Sulphur Springs, Texas, for the murder of farmer Jones and his wife, robbery being his motive.

The Georgia Legislature passed a resolution empowering the Clerk of the House to employ women to perform clerical work. In the debate the opening of every avenue of labor to women was fully discussed.

Fourteen boys escaped from the House of Refuge at Louisville, Ky., by means of a rope made of sheets and blankets.

In a dispute about a small sum at Necksessville, Texas, L. V. Simpson and Dr. Calhoun Lawrence shot each other to death.

The Senate of Alabama last week adopted a resolution favoring large appropriations for the schools of the State, and

solemnly expressing the purpose of the white people to aid in the education of colored children.

Hill, Fontaine & Co., of Memphis, Tenn., estimate the cotton crop of this year at 5,683,000 bales. The frost of Oct. 24 resulted in a loss of fully 100,000 bales.

Masked robbers boarded a railroad train near Little Rock, Ark., and secured \$6,000 in cash and valuables. Bloodhounds were put on the trail of the robbers, and six men were soon captured in the city. Three of them were identified.

The plague in Wise County, Va., which swept off nearly three hundred persons, is decreasing in intensity.

Fire swept away the business portion of the village of West Randolph, Va. The loss is estimated at \$65,000, with \$45,000 insurance.

## WASHINGTON.

Congressman Cobb, of Indiana, says a Washington correspondent, will make an effort to pass some additional land-grant forfeiture bills during the present session. There will be an effort made to pass the bankruptcy bill. The canal men are preparing for a fight to get their bills through this session. The hardest work will be done by those interested in the Hennepin, the Erie, and the Maryland and Delaware Canals. The Nicaraguan Canal men will attempt to have some action taken by the House to the advancement of their interests. There will be an effort made also to pass the bill restricting the coinage of silver dollars.

The Committee on Public Lands has ten forfeiture bills yet to report, but these will be ready in a few weeks. The Northern Pacific Railroad bill, if enacted, will take from that corporation no less than 35,000,000 acres of land located west of Bismarck, in Dakota, Montana, Idaho, and Washington Territories. These lands are worth \$10 an acre upon an average, and their total value is all of \$350,000,000. An English syndicate has offered to buy the whole tract for \$350,000,000 if the title can be made good. The settlers upon these lands make bitter complaint that the railroad now demands \$20 and \$30 an acre for their homesteads, although it was understood when they first located that the price should be \$2.60 an acre. They have cultivated the lands and greatly improved them, and are now asking that Congress shall grant them relief from the extortion of the railroad. The Atlantic and Pacific has 4,000,000 acres at stake, and the Texas Pacific 15,000,000, and the other roads an aggregate of about 100,000,000. Several of these forfeiture bills passed the House at the last session, and now await action in the Senate.

The annual report of William E. Chandler, Secretary of the Navy, has been made public. In connection with the statement that three new ships had been successfully launched, the Secretary says it has been shown that American steel makers can readily furnish excellent material for ship-building in large quantities. The Secretary points out that comparisons of speed between the new cruisers and the great transatlantic racing steamers are unfair because the latter attain their high speed only by the sacrifice of qualities essential to a ship of war, and adds that the former could overtake 96 per cent. of the merchant steamers of the world. The report calls attention to the necessity for torpedo boats, and recommends the construction of seven modern cruisers annually for the next ten years. Commenting on the present condition of the navy, Secretary Chandler says that the disproportion between the expenditures therefor, and the results accomplished, is due to the policy of attempting at great cost to rehabilitate worn out structures under the name of repairs. The report recommends the discontinuance of several navy-yards and workshops and certain improvements in the management of the remainder, among these the exclusion of politics, recites the history of the recent Arctic expeditions, comments at length upon the frauds connected with the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, fixes the ordinary estimates at \$17,202,601, and those for increasing the navy at \$15,071,502, and, in conclusion, advocates Government encouragement for the development of our merchant marine, either in the shape of bounties upon construction or payment for carrying the mails.

The marble cap-stone and pyramidal apex of aluminum were set in place upon the Washington Monument on Saturday, the 6th of December, completing the tallest structure in the world created by human hands. The ceremonies were quite simple, the great celebration being reserved for Washington's birthday. As soon as the cap-stone was set the national flag was spread upon the breeze at a height of 600 feet, a battery of guns in the White House lot fired a salute, and the people on the platform 500 feet above the ground sang the "Star-Spangled Banner." The Washington Monument Society, perched on the platform adopted a resolution congratulating the American people "on the completion of an enduring monument to our Nation's gratitude to the Father of his Country."

## POLITICAL.

Senator Edmunds talks of retiring from public life at the end of his present term in the Senate, and expresses much annoyance at the criticism of Vermont Republican newspapers for his refusal to take part in the late campaign.

The New York Young Republican Club has voted to expunge from its rolls the names of persons who voted against Blaine and Logan.

The electoral colleges of the various States met at their respective capitals on Dec. 3, and went through the formality of voting for President and Vice President. The ballots used at Raleigh were miniature United States flags, made from silk grown in North Carolina. The Indiana electors marched in a body to the residence of Mr. Hendricks. In the Illinois college Andrew Shuman drew the slip which carried the privilege of delivering the returns at Washington. The ballot-box used in Connecticut was the silk hat of ex-Lieut. Gov. Loomis. Mark Hopkins presided over the Massachusetts college. The electors of New Jersey united in recommending John P. Stockton for a Cabinet position. Among the New York electors was Jacob Windmiller, 84 years of age, who marched with his associates to the Capitol to congratulate Mr. Cleveland. The President of the college sent his per diem and mileage to the Little Sisters of the Poor in Albany. Nearly every distinguished Democrat in West Virginia witnessed the proceedings of the college at Wheeling. At Lansing, George K. Steketee was chosen to carry the vote of Michigan to

## FOREIGN.

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Some excitement is caused in London by rumors to the effect that English merchant vessels are fitting out, and loading with cargoes, intending to run the French blockade of the Chinese ports. French papers

express great indignation at the scheme, and say that the humiliation that was visited on England for her course in breaking the American blockade during the rebellion may be repeated. It is said that the English Government will not do anything in the way of preventing the consummation of such a scheme unless there is a formal declaration of war between the two belligerents.

The Judges of the English Court of Appeals have decided that Capt. Dudley and killed of the wrecked yacht Mignonette, who mated a boy in order to keep themselves alive, were guilty of murder.

## LATER NEWS ITEMS.

In a gale off Holyhead the steamer Packard, on its way from Cork to Liverpool, foundered. Thirty people were drowned. Another steamer, supposed to be the Alliance, of Cardiff, sank with all hands off Boscawen, England.

George Opdyke & Co., New York bankers and brokers, have suspended.

An issue of \$10,000,000 of 5 per cent. bonds will shortly be made by the Lake Shore Road.

The railroad agencies in New York are now selling only continuous trip tickets to Western points, in order to check scalping.

Among the deaths in New York last week were 157 from consumption, 77 from pneumonia, and 42 from bronchitis, the largest week's record of deaths from such diseases in the history of the Health Department.

A pearl worth \$17,000, supposed to be the largest ever found, has been shipped to London from Guaymas, Mexico.

Clearing-house exchanges last week—\$868,773,139—were \$206,918,055 greater than the preceding week. As compared with the corresponding period in 1883, the falling off is \$202,162,240.

The United States Supreme Court has affirmed the constitutionality of the act of Congress levying upon vessels from foreign ports a tax of 50 cents for every passenger who is not a citizen, the money to be used in taking care of immigrants.

Senator John Sherman favors the stoppage of the coinage of the silver dollar, or else making it 470 grains, instead of 412½, which would raise it to a gold standard and make it passable throughout the world. If this change were made, Mr. Sherman states that he believes the effect on trade would be magical.

An assignment has been made at Racine, Wis., by the J. I. Case Plow Company to Charles H. Lee, attorney for the J. I. Case Threshing-Machine Works. The nominal value of the assets is \$668,000, and the liabilities are estimated at between \$750,000 and \$800,000. Apart from the indebtedness of the company to Mr. Case, its president, the debts amount to less than \$70,000. The firm owes Mr. Case individually \$675,000.

MR. BLAIR introduced a bill in the Senate, on the 8th inst., granting \$50,000 to aid the colored people's Exposition, to be held at Chicago in 1885. Mr. Dolph called up the bill providing for the incorporation of the Spokane Falls and Coast to Alaska Railway Company in Idaho and Washington Territories. Mr. Harrison objected to the bill on the ground that the company would probably occupy all the passes through the mountains and secure land enough to monopolize the public domain. Mr. Blair remarked that he did not really expect the company to build any railroads on paper. Certain amendments to the bill were agreed to depriving the company of the right to consolidate with other roads. Further consideration of the subject was postponed. A bill to refund to a Detroit firm \$475 alleged to have been illegally exacted on mail imported from Canada was defeated, for the reason that protest was not made at the time of paying the duties. Mr. Sherman read a letter from Gen. Grant declining to accept a pension, and requesting the withdrawal of the bill introduced in his behalf. A committee of conference was ordered on the bill for the forfeiture of the unlocated land of the Atlantic and Pacific Road. In the House of Representatives the Speaker read a communication from Mr. McMillan, General asking an appropriation of \$100,000 for railroad postal service for the remainder of the current year. This was referred, as well as the following bills: One by Mr. Townsend providing a constitutional amendment providing that treaties shall be made by and with the consent of the Senate; another by Mr. Ryan, to open portions of Indian Territory to homestead settlement; another by Mr. Buckner to suspend the coinage of standard silver dollars; and another by Mr. Robinson to restore the ceremonies attendant upon Presidential inaugurations to Jeffersonian simplicity. Mr. Sherman read a resolution asking the opinion of the Attorney General as to whether the eight-hour law should be considered as applicable to letter-carriers. A joint resolution was introduced by Mr. McMillan, proposing an appropriation of \$100,000 for the completion of the Bartholdi Statue of Liberty. The House voted to pass the bill to prevent the contraction of the currency, a \$500,000 appropriation was proposed by Mr. O'Neill for the improvement of the Philadelphia harbor, and Mr. Ellis introduced a bill to erect a monument to the victims of the Greely expedition at a cost of \$25,000. Some discussion of the interstate commerce bill followed, but no action was taken upon it.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

There were 296 failures in the United States reported to Bradstreet's during the week, against 237 in the preceding week, and 246, 247, and 109 in the corresponding weeks of 1883, 1882, and 1881, respectively. About 84 per cent. were those of small traders, whose capital was less than \$5,000. In the principal trades they were as follows: General stores 58, grocers 31, clothing 26, hardware and agricultural implements 18, drug goods 12, liquors 12, manufacturers 10, shoes 9, tobacco and cigars 8, papers, books, and stationery 7, men's furnishings goods 7, millinery 7, lumber and materials 7, grain and flour 7, furniture 7, fancy goods 7, drugs 7, hats 6, hotels and restaurants 6, markets and butchers 6, produce and provisions 6, jewelry 5, bakers and confectioners 4, harness 4, banks and bankers 3.

The New York Sun, in a significant double-leaded editorial, discusses the question of "Our Coming National Currency," and reaches the conclusion that the national bank currency must go, and give place to a Government currency of coin and paper money. The article notes carefully the rapid decrease of the national bank circulation, and the more rapid increase in coin and coin certificates, and says:

"This will give us, by 1891, a grand total of \$1,386,000,000 of government currency against not more than \$100,000,000 and probably less, supplied by the banks. Of course, much may happen to modify or prevent this result. The conduct of men cannot be predicted so confidently as that of inanimate things. The legal tenders may be redeemed and withdrawn, the coinage of silver dollars may be suspended and the supply of gold money diminished at the mines or be drained away to foreign countries. The decrease of national bank circulation may, on the other hand, be checked by favoring legislation, but the probabilities are greatly against these events, and, as we said at the outset, it is much more likely that national bank notes will be driven out of use altogether, and their place taken by an exclusively Government currency."

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## THE MARKET.

NEW YORK.	
BEVER—Choice to Prime Steers.	6.25 @ 6.75
Good Shipping.	6.25 @ 6.75
Common to Fair.	5.50 @ 6.00
Flour—Extra.	4.50 @ 5.00
WHEAT—No. 2 Spring.	.81 @ .82
WHEAT—No. 2 Red.	.82 @ .83
CORN—No. 2.	.37 @ .38
OATS—White.	.33 @ .34
LOAN—New Mess.	12.75 @ 13.25
BEVER—Choice to Prime Steers.	6.25 @ 6.75
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DETROIT.	
Flour—White.	5.00 @ 5.50
Mixed.	4.75 @ 5.25
OATS—No. 2 White.	.28 @ .29
POK—Family.	12.00 @ 12.50
ST. LOUIS.	
WHEAT—No. 2 Red.	.75 @ .76
CORN—Mixed.	.34 @ .35
OATS—Mixed.	.26 @ .27
POK—Mess.	11.50 @ 12.00
CHICAGO.	
WHEAT—No. 2 Red.	.74 @ .75
CORN—Mixed.	.33 @ .34
OATS—Mixed.	.25 @ .26
POK—Mess.	11.50 @ 12.00
CINCINNATI.	
WHEAT—No. 2 Red.	.74 @ .75
CORN—Mixed.	.33 @ .34
OATS—Mixed.	.25 @ .26
POK—Mess.	11.50 @ 12.00
INDIANAPOLIS.	
WHEAT—No. 2 Red.	.71 @ .72
CORN—Mixed.	.33 @ .34
OATS—Mixed.	.25 @ .26
EAST LIBERTY.	
CATTLE—Best.	6.00 @ 6.50
Fair.	5.00 @ 5.50
POK—Mess.	4.50 @ 5.00
SHEEP.	4.50 @ 5.00

## UP IN THE CLOUDS.

## Completion of the Great Washington National Monument

[Washington special.] The booming of cannon and shrieking of steam whistles this afternoon announced to the people of Washington that the capstone of the Washington monument had been successfully laid. Shortly afterward the aluminum block which forms the apex of the pyramidal roof of the highest structure raised by human hands was set in its place, and an American flag was seen floating from the head of the staff above it. The mortar in which the capstone rests was laid by Col. Casey and his assistants in the presence of a few spectators who had braved the storm of rain and wind to see the finishing touches given to the great obelisk which rears its head 555 feet above the earth. Col. Casey has been in charge of the work during the last six years, and no accident causing loss of life has happened during that period, owing to the great care exercised. It was suggested that the laying of the capstone be deferred until the 14th inst., the ninety-fifth anniversary of Washington's death, but as that day might be too inclement for work at such a height, and as it will fall on Sunday, and as well as for other reasons, it was thought best that there should be no delay. The official ceremonies to mark the completion of the obelisk will take place Feb. 22, the 153d anniversary of Washington's birth. They will be under the direction of a joint commission of the Senate and House of Representatives, consisting of Senators Sherman, Morrill, Allison, Bayard, and Lamar, and Representatives Dorsheimer, Tucker, Rangan, Collins, Eldridge, Bingham, Cannon, and Laird. The commission will hold a meeting next week to arrange a programme for the occasion.

When the corner-stone of the monument was laid, July 4, 1848, in the presence of President Polk, the Vice President, members of the Cabinet, Senators, Representatives, and a host of other distinguished persons, Robert C. Winthrop, then Speaker of the House of Representatives, delivered the oration. It is expected that he will deliver the inaugural address on the completion of the shaft next February. In 1854 the funds of the monument society were exhausted, the shaft having at that time reached the height of 175 feet, after an expenditure of \$230,000. Subsequent difficulties with a rival society defeated efforts to obtain an appropriation from Congress, and the disappearance of a stone contributed by the Pope during the Know-Nothing excitement shut off, to a great extent, contributions of money from private sources. It is expected that about two years more will be required for the final completion of the interior and base of the obelisk. The monument itself, with its total height of 555 feet, far overtops every structure by human hands. The aluminum apex monument is engraved with inscriptions.

## THE POSTAL SERVICE.

## List of States in Which It Returns a Profit to the Government.

[Washington Dispatch.] During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, the postal service paid expenses and yielded a surplus in seventeen States and Territories, including, singularly enough, Alaska, where one would expect to find the postal service unremunerative. The effect of reducing letter postage to 2 cents is that in the year ending June 30, 1884, the postal service paid for itself in only ten States and no Territories. The States in which the postal service paid for itself in 1883, and failed to do so in 1884 are Maine, Vermont, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Dakota Territory, and the district of Alaska. The following table shows by States where the postal service paid for itself in 1883-4, and where it did not, with the amount or the excess of expenditures of receipts, as the case may be:

States and Territories.	Excess of ex- penses over ex- receipts.	Excess of receipts over ex- p'ditures.
Maine.	\$48,328	\$180.8
New Hampshire.		
Vermont.	33,909	916,906
Massachusetts.		
Rhode Island.		124,638
Connecticut.		135,643
New York.		2,312,695
New Jersey.		143,517
Pennsylvania.		560,677
Delaware.		8,162
Maryland.	125,862	
Virginia.	404,972	
West Virginia.	76,920	
North Carolina.	207,191	
South Carolina.	359,693	
Georgia.	392,921	
Florida.	133,291	
Ohio.	845,404	
Michigan.		39,461
Indiana.	294,032	
Illinois.	347,400	
Wisconsin.	160,835	
Iowa.	371,071	
Missouri.	480,383	
Kentucky.	171,081	
Tennessee.	111,210	
Alabama.	288,404	
Mississippi.	186,032	
Arkansas.	268,092	
Louisiana.	277,415	
Texas.	431,334	
California.	471,188	
Oregon.	133,308	
Idaho.	392,921	
Kansas.	362,276	
Nebraska.	596,411	
Nevada.	113,108	
Colorado.	277,615	
Utah.	180,996	
New Mexico.	111,366	
Washington.	106,835	
Dakota.	39,007	
Arizona.	143,819	
Wyoming.	205,356	
Montana.	45,907	
Idaho.	62,553	
District of Columbia.	1,900	
Indian Territory.	109,141	
	42,086	