

exceptional faithfulness and efficiency in the performance of duty.

Education.

The interest of the General Government in the education of the people found an early expression, not only in the thoughtful and sometimes warning utterances of our ablest statesmen, but in liberal appropriations from the common resources for the support of education in the new States. National aid to education has heretofore taken the form of land grants, and in that form the constitutional power of Congress to promote the education of the people is reasonably questioned. I do not think it can be reasonably questioned that the form is changed to that of a direct grant of money from the Treasury.

Such aid should be, as it always has been, suggested by some exceptional conditions. The sudden emancipation of the slaves of the South, the bestowal of the suffrage, which soon followed, and the impairment of the ability of the States where these new citizens were chiefly found to adequately provide educational facilities, presented not only exceptional but unexampled conditions.

That the situation has been much ameliorated, there is no doubt. The ability of the States has been greatly increased. Much work remains to be done, and I think the general Government should lend its aid by legislation of a national grant in aid of education. As this demand for aid grows chiefly out of the condition and needs of the emancipated slaves and their descendants, the relief should, as near as possible, while necessarily proceeding upon some general lines, be applied to the need that suggested it. It is essential, if much good is to be accomplished, that the sympathy and active interest of the people of the States should be enlisted and that the methods adopted should be such as to stimulate and not to subplant local taxation for school purposes.

The Colored Race.

The colored people did not intrude themselves upon us; they were brought here in chains and held in the communities where they are now shily found to be a cruel slave code. Happily for both races, they are now free. They have, from a standpoint of ignorance and poverty, which was our shame, not the made spontaneous advances in education, and in the acquisition of property. They have, as a people, shown themselves to be friendly and faithful toward the white race under temptations of tremendous strength. They have their representatives in the national cemeteries, where a grateful government has gathered the ashes of those who died in its defense. They have furnished to our regular army regiments that have won high praise from their commanding officers for courage, soldierly qualities, and for fidelity to the enlisted men. The civil life they are now the toilers of their communities, making their full contribution to the widening streams of prosperity which these communities are receiving. Their sudden withdrawal would stop production and bring disorder into the household as well as the shop. Generally they do not desire to quit their homes, and their employers resent the interference of the emigration agents who seek to stimulate such a desire. But, notwithstanding all this, in many parts of our country, where the colored population is large, the people of that race are, by various devices, deprived of any effective exercise of their political rights and of many of their civil rights. The wrong does not expand itself only in the states where they are suppressed. Every constituency in the Union is affected. It has been the hope of every patriot that a sense of justice and respect for the law would work a gradual cure for these flagrant evils. Surely, no one supposes that the present can be accepted as a permanent condition. If it is said that these communities must work out this problem for themselves, we have a right to ask whether they are at work upon it. Do they suggest any solution? When and under what conditions is the black man to have a free ballot? When is he, in fact, to have those full civil rights which have so long been his in law? When is the equality of interests which our form of government was intended to secure to the electors to be restored? This generation should courageously face these great questions, and not leave them as a heritage of woe to the next. The consultation should proceed with candor, calmness, and great patience, upon the lines of justice and humanity, not of prejudice and cruelty. No question in our country can be at rest except upon the firm basis of justice and of the law.

I earnestly invoke the attention of Congress to the consideration of such measures within its well defined constitutional powers as will secure to all our people a free exercise of the right of suffrage and every other civil right under the Constitution and laws of the United States.

Supervision of National Elections.

Evil, however deplorable, can not justify the assertion either on the part of the Executive or of Congress of powers not granted; but both will be highly blamable if all the powers granted are not wisely but firmly used to correct these evils. The power to take the whole direction and control of the election of members of the House of Representatives is clearly shown by the General Government. A partial and qualified supervision of these elections is now provided for by law, and in my opinion this law may be so strengthened and extended as to secure on the whole better results than can be attained by a law taking all the processes of such election into Federal control. The colored man should be protected in all of his relations to the Federal Government, whether a litigant, juror, or witness in our courts, as an elector for members of Congress, or as a peaceful traveler upon our interstate railroads.

Our Merchant Marine.

There is nothing more justly humiliating to the national pride and nothing more hurtful to the national prosperity than the inferiority of our merchant marine compared with that of other nations. It was not always so, and our people are agreed, I think, that it shall not continue to be so. That the great steamship lines sailing under the flags of England, France, Germany, Spain, and Italy, and engaged in foreign commerce, were well promoted and have since been and now are liberally aided, by grants of public money, in one form or another, is generally known. That the American lines of steamships have been abandoned by us to an unequal contest with the aided lines of other nations until they have been withdrawn, or, in the few cases where they are still maintained, are subject to serious disadvantages, is a matter of common knowledge.

The present situation is such that travelers and merchandises find Liverpool often a necessary intermediate port between New York and some of the South American capitals. The fact that most of the delegates from South American states to the conference of American nations now in session at Washington reached our shores by reversing the line of travel, is very conclusive of the need of such a conference and very suggestive as to the first and most necessary step in the direction of fuller and more beneficial intercourse with nations that are now our neighbors upon the lines of latitude, but not upon the lines of established commercial intercourse.

Our Foreign Commerce.

I am an advocate of economy in our national expenditures, but it is a misuse of terms to make this word describe a policy that withdraws an expenditure for the purpose of extending our foreign commerce. The enlargement and improvement of our merchant marine, the development of a sufficient body of trained American seamen, the promotion of rapid and regular mail communication between the ports of other countries and our own and the adoption of large and swift American merchant steamships to naval uses, in time of war, are public purposes of the highest concern. The enlarged participation of our people in the carrying trade, the more and increased markets that will be opened for the products of our farms and factories and the fuller and better employment of our mechanics, which will result from a liberal promotion of our foreign commerce, insure the widest possible diffusion of benefit to all the States and to our people. Everything is most propitious for the present inauguration of a liberal and progressive policy upon this subject, and we should enter upon it with promptness and decision.

The legislation which I have suggested, it is sincerely believed, will promote the peace and honor of our country and the prosperity and security of the people. I invoke the diligent and serious attention of Congress to the consideration of these and such other measures as may be presented, having the same end in view.

BENJAMIN HARRISON.

Executive Mansion, Washington, D. C., December 3, 1889.

THE latest society fad is said to be the "lemon party." Probably the chief attraction will be the squeezing, and we predict a great popularity for it. — *American Commercial Traveller.*

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION FOR THE PAST YEAR.

The Merit System of Appointment and Promotion Praised—Sundry Recommendations—The Public-Debt Statement Shows a Decrease of Nearly \$5,000,000 in Our Obligations.

The annual report of the Civil Service Commission is a vigorously written document, considerable of it being devoted to the laudation of the "merit" system, and, by implication a denunciation of the patronage system. The Commissioners claim that the advantages of the former have now been demonstrated beyond any dispute. They declare that the criticism of the politicians that the examinations are not practical are very far from the truth, and show that the questions are invariably framed with due regard to the particular class of work upon which the applicants for position are to enter. It is further claimed that the examinations are conducted with strict impartiality and that every effort has been made by the commissioners to prevent violations and evasions of the law.

The commission recommends that they be given power to administer oaths, as they are now directed by law to make examinations touching the enforcement and effect of civil service rules; that local boards of examiners be made up of persons not in the government employ, so that they may be independent of the appointing officers, or, better still, that a central board of twenty examiners be established at Washington, who shall mark all papers, and, finally, that the appropriations for the support of the commission be increased. In this connection it is stated that the clerical force employed during the year has been overworked, and that, notwithstanding this fact, the marking of examination papers was fully two months in arrears at the end of the year. The present force in the employ of the commission numbers fourteen, and an increase of eight is asked. The estimate of the expenditures for the coming year is \$53,000, provided there be no extension of the system, but this the commission think is advisable.

The following is a statement of the interest-bearing debt of the United States:

Bonds at 4 per cent. \$124,413,000

Bonds at 4 per cent. 639,531,100

Refunding certificates at 4 per cent. 111,650

Navy pension fund at 3 per cent. 14,000,000

Pacific railroad bonds at 6 per cent. 64,023,512

Principal. \$842,679,262

Interest. 8,624,798

Total. \$851,304,000

DEBT OF WHICH INTEREST HAS CEASED SINCE MATURITY.

Principal. \$1,847,225

Interest. 152,037

Total. \$1,999,262

DEBT BEARING NO INTEREST.

Old demand and legal tender notes. \$346,737,458

Certificates of deposit. 13,140,000

Gold certificates. 123,483,119

Silver certificates. 276,794,386

Fractional currency, less \$8,375.

924, estimated as lost or destroyed.

Principal. 6,914,132

TOTAL DEBT. \$764,069,095

Principal. \$1,608,503,583

Interest. 8,778,836

Total. \$1,617,372,419

Less cash items available for reduction of debt. \$421,042,227

Less reserve held for redemption of U. S. notes. 100,000,000

notes. 521,042,227

Total debt less available cash items. \$1,006,330,192

Net cash in the treasury. 40,349,187

Debt less cash in the treasury. Dec. 1, 1889. \$1,056,081,005

Debt less cash in the treasury. Nov. 1, 1889. 1,060,050,677

Decrease of debt during month. \$ 4,620,672

Decrease of debt since June 30, 1889. 20,565,616

CASH IN THE TREASURY AVAILABLE FOR REDUCTION OF THE PUBLIC DEBT.

Gold held for gold securities actually outstanding. \$ 123,483,119

Silver held for silver certificates actually outstanding. 276,904,386

United States notes held for certificates of deposit actually outstanding. 10,140,000

Cash held for matured debt and interest unpaid. 10,624,061

Fractional currency. 661

Total available for reduction of the debt. \$ 421,042,227

RESERVE FUND.

Held for redemption of United States notes, acts Jan. 14, 1875,

and July 12, 1882. \$ 100,000,000

UNAVAILABLE FOR REDUCTION OF THE DEBT.

Fractional silver coin. \$ 23,133,430

Minor coin. 102,396

Total. \$ 22,235,826

Certificates held as cash. 33,697,264

Net cash balance on hand. 40,249,187

Total cash in the treasury as shown by treasurer's general account. \$ 617,224,504

ON A PAYING ERRAND.

Three Minnesotans and an Iowan Going to Europe for Large Legacies.

A Faribault (Minn.) dispatch says: Mr. Joseph Thompson, Mr. J. W. Thompson, and Mrs. Keough, of Faribault, and Mrs. Warhurst, of Iowa, are heirs to millions. The Messrs. Thompson have left for Birmingham, England, to settle the estate of John W. Jackson, their uncle, who left them a fortune of \$4,000,000. While there they will look up the estate of their grandfather, who was very wealthy, and one or two other estates running into the millions. They are the only living relatives.

MORMONISM IN MANITOBA.

The Settlement There in a Flourishing Condition.

Ottawa (Ont.) dispatch: Mr. Parmalee, assistant minister of agriculture, who has just returned from visiting the Mormon settlement in the Northwest, says they have turned the wilderness into a garden in two years, and are far ahead of their neighbors. He saw no objection to their colonizing in large numbers the big block of land they had just purchased, provided they obeyed the laws. He did not think they would attempt to practice polygamy.

Hibbard's Rheumatic Syrup.

There is certainly something remarkable in this preparation, as it is meeting with a success never attained by any other medicine. It never fails if used as directed.

For over twenty years I have been a great sufferer from the effects of a diseased stomach, and for three years past have been unable to do business. Two years ago my case was pronounced incurable. I visited different water cures and climates, all to no purpose. Last June I began taking Hibbard's Rheumatic Syrup (prepared by Rheumatic Syrup Co., Jackson, Mich.), and at once began to feel better. I have used thirteen bottles and am a well man.

EDWARD BAKER,
Master Mechanic and Blacksmith, 202
Jackson street, Jackson, Mich.

No Escape for Them.

A good story is told about a young Rockland, Me., couple recently married. They were plentifully besotted with rice as they left for the noon train after the wedding, but on the ears they assumed the airs of an old married couple, hoping to escape detection. They got out at the Union station, Portland, and as it was raining the groom spread the protecting folds of his new umbrella over his bride. As the umbrellas went up, two quarts of rice which had been carefully stowed within came down. The hurrying throng saw the rice, the blushing couple, and cought on."

A Puzzle.

Why grown men and women with matured reflective powers should neglect their small ailments is really a puzzle. Hosts of otherwise sensible people thus bewilder conjecture. It is one of the things which, as the late lamented Lord Dundreary exclaimed, "no fellow can find out." Diseases grow faster than weeds, and, moreover, beget one another. Incipient indigestion, a touch of biliousness, slight irregularity in the habit of body—what complex and serious bodily disturbance, not local, but general, do they beget, if disregarded. Baffie and drive off the foe at the first onset with Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, sovereign among preventives. A constitution invigorated, a circulation enriched, a brain and stomach tranquilized by this national medicine, becomes well nigh invulnerable. The Bitters counteract malaria, rheumatism, and kidney complaints.

Stick-to-it-iveness Won.

Edith—I promised to marry Fred last night.

Edith—It was only last week that you told me that you really hated him.

Edith—So I did; and I meant it, too.

Edith—Then you have changed your mind. What caused you to do it?

Edith—No, I have not changed my mind; but, you see, Fred used to be a life insurance solicitor, and so he would not take "no" for an answer.—*Detroit Free Press.*

Man's Deceitfulness.

Mrs. Verdantgreen—Do you know, when Charles is away from home and writes to me, he never puts any date or place on his letters? Isn't it strange?

Mrs. Beenthane—Don't you let him fool you. He will come, and find those letters, take them away with him the next time he goes, and then send them again. I advise you to destroy all letters from him.—*Lawrence American.*

\$100 Reward—\$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucus surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundations of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

421 Sold by Druggists, 75c.

Price 25cts.

ASTHMA.

Popham's Asthma Specific.

Dr. PARKER D. SWOFFORD, M. D., Fritztown, Pa., writes: "I have had Asthma for 20 years; found no relief until I tried your Specific, which relieved me immediately." Sold by all Druggists. \$1.00 per box, by mail, post paid.

TRIAL PACKAGE FREE.

Address T. POPHAM, Philadelphia, Penn.