

The Independent

ZIMMERMAN & SMITH,
Publishers and Proprietors
PLYMOUTH, MINN.

MERCHANTS TO MOVE.

WOES OF THE BIG CHICAGO RETAILERS.

Greedy Landlords Drive Them Out of Business—Silver Bond Bill Favored by the Senate—Big Philadelphia Blaze—Suicide of a Bank Cashier.

Eaten Up by Rent.

Merchants on State street, Chicago, say they have grown tired of giving their entire profits to their landlords, and a movement is now on foot for a general exodus from that thoroughfare. Wabash avenue will profit most by the move, if it should be made, and Dearborn and Clark streets, Michigan avenue, and east and west streets will also come in for a share of the retail trade should it leave State street. More than 200 feet of frontage in State street which was occupied Friday by retail stores was vacant Saturday. There are at least a dozen important retail stores, the leases of which expire on May 1 or before, which may be moved from State street. There are some others which will move from one part of the street to another, leaving vacant property which has rented for large sums in the past. Rents have been as high as \$1,000 per front foot per annum.

Senate Passes Silver Bill.

The contest over the silver bond bill is at an end in the Senate, that body having passed the free silver coinage substitute to the House bill Saturday by the decisive vote of 42 to 35, a majority of seven for free silver. The bill was a substitute for the House bond bill and provides that from the date of the act the mints of the United States shall be open to the coinage of silver and the dollar shall be the present weight and fineness, and also provides for the certificates. It further provides for the coinage of the silver dollar, and authorizes immediate issue of certificates upon the same in advance of it being coined. One section of the bill provides that no bank note of less than \$10 shall hereafter be issued, and those outstanding of less amount shall be taken up and canceled as rapidly as possible. Section four provides that the greenbacks and treasury notes shall be redeemed in standard silver dollars or in gold coin at the option of the treasury, and the greenbacks, when so redeemed, shall be immediately resold.

Suicide Causes a Bank to Close.

Cashier George Barnard, of the Fort Stanwix National Bank, Rome, N. Y., has killed himself, and the bank is closed, pending an examination of its affairs, ordered by the Board of Directors. Mr. Barnard has been missing from his home since Wednesday. On that day the teller of the bank, Patrie, went into the private office of the cashier and said to him: "Mr. Barnard, I see the bank examiner, Mr. Van Vranken, is at the Farmers' National Bank, and I suppose he will be here in a day or so." Mr. Barnard immediately left his desk, walked out of the bank, and up to the fourth story of the building. He went into a store room, it now appears, and tying a rope to the door knob, fastened the other end around his neck, and the indications are that he then pressed his knees against the door and died by strangulation. Before committing the act he locked the door.

Dun & Co.'s Review.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: "Though business is still waiting, there are some signs of definite improvement. It is now believed that the first payment for bonds will cause no further pressure, and the money markets are easier as respects loans on collateral, though the difficulty of making commercial loans still checks operations, but large maturities at the end of January were met more satisfactorily than was expected, and merchants and bankers report that the signs promise a good spring trade. No increase appears as yet in the demand for the principal products, except iron and steel, and uncertainty as to congressional action still affects both industries and commerce, but the increase in inquiry and the reports of dealers are deemed assurance of large trade coming whenever the uncertainty is over."

Laid Waste by Fire.

Property with an estimated value of \$2,000,000 was burned early Sunday morning at Philadelphia. The big seven-story building of Charles H. Haseltine, Nos. 1416 and 1418 Chestnut street, and the adjoining five-story structure of the Baptist Publication Society and the American Baptist Historical Society, No. 1420, were destroyed. The buildings damaged by fire and water and falling walls were the four-story diamond house of Homer, Le Bonfiller & Co., Nos. 1412 and 1414, the dwelling house at 1422, owned by the Wistar estate, and the Hotel Lafayette, at Broad and Sanson streets.

BREVITIES.

Clarence Murphy, alias C. F. Clarke, was arrested at San Francisco. He is wanted at Salem, Mass., for the alleged embezzlement of \$80,000 two years ago from the Salem Savings Bank. He was taken to the detectives' room in the city hall to be questioned, and while there succeeded in making his escape. He was pursued by policemen, fired at and finally recaptured.

The old American miser who died in Paris recently, it now appears, was named Peters. Mr. Peters deprived himself even of the necessities of life and only spent a franc and a half (30 cents) daily on his meals. He is supposed to have been interested in a large concern in America and to have received from it checks for his portion of the profits.

The Governor of Kansas, called a meeting of the State Board of Railroad Commissioners and urged the importance of some action looking to the restoration of grain rates recently advanced and greatly affecting all shipments to Galveston and the South. The Governor urged that the Kansas board act in concert with the railroad boards of Texas and Nebraska.

The New York Stock Exchange governors have notified Edward L. Norton, of the exchange, that he must dissolve his business relations with L. C. Briggs and Asa P. Potter, two of his partners in the firm of Allen & Co.

EASTERN.

R. H. Pingree & Co., lumber dealers at Lewiston, Me., lost \$200,000 by fire.

According to a New York rumor, Yvette Guilbert is to marry Teddy Marks, her manager.

Word was received at Wilkesbarre, Pa., from Pittsfield Junction that a terrific explosion occurred in the Twin shaft Wednesday. Four miners are reported killed and a number injured.

Prominent residents of Hopewell, N. J., have organized the James W. Marshall National Monument Association of New Jersey, to erect a monument to the memory of James W. Marshall, who first discovered gold in California on Jan. 24, 1848. Marshall was born near Glenmore, in Mercer County, where it is proposed to erect the monument. An appeal for subscriptions will be made to California pioneers throughout the country.

Carleton Baldwin, a young farmer, living near Union City, Pa., met with his death in a peculiar manner. Baldwin had a high and uncontrollable temper, and while hitching up his horses had trouble with one of them. He rushed into the house for his gun and shot one of the horses and then it is supposed, accidentally discharged the weapon while beating the dying animal over the head with the butt of the gun. The butt of the gun was bent and badly broken.

The National Woman's Suffrage Association has elected these officers: Honorary president, Elizabeth Cady Stanton; president, Susan B. Anthony; Rochester, N. Y., vice-president at large, Rev. Anna H. Shaw, Philadelphia, Pa.; corresponding secretary, Rachel Foster Avery, Philadelphia, Pa.; recording secretary, Alice Stone Blackwell, Boston, Mass.; treasurer, Harriet Taylor Upton, Warren, Ohio; chairman committee on organization, Carrie Chapman, Catt, New York city.

Five persons were killed and nearly a score injured, some of them fatally, by the explosion of the large thirty-nine-inch cylinder boiler at the works of the Hollidaysburg, Pa., Iron and Nail Company Thursday morning. Only two employees escaped uninjured. The boiler was blown through the roof of the works, 200 feet in midair, and came sailing down like a spent rocket, crushing through the roof in another department of the works. The entire roof was precipitated to the floor below by the force of the explosion and the works were practically wrecked. The explosion was sufficient to rock the earth with the force of an earthquake and broke hundreds of windows a quarter of a mile from the mill. No explanation is offered as to the cause of the explosion. Some of the employees say they were short of steam before the accident occurred.

WESTERN.

James Gillespie was run over by a Panhandle train at Elwood, Ind., and instantly killed.

Ex-President George F. Magoun, of Iowa College, is very ill at his home in Grinnell, Iowa, and is not expected to live. He was the first president of Iowa College and served for twenty years. He is a member of the American board, and is well known in religious and college circles East and West.

Gov. Rich pardoned Bartholomew Sands, one of the oldest convicts in the prison at Jackson, Mich. He was convicted in the Circuit Court from Oakland County of criminal assault and sentenced Sept. 20, 1893, to life imprisonment. He has always maintained he was innocent of the charge.

At Colville, Wash., Judge Arthur sentenced Adolph Niese and his wife to twenty years in the penitentiary for beating their 10-year-old son to death. Shortly after the prisoners were placed in their cells both cut their throats with a razor. Niese is dead and his wife is in a critical condition.

At the corner's inquest on the bodies of Engineer Clark Trimble and Foreman George Waters, who were killed by the recent explosion of a locomotive boiler near South Charleston, Ohio, on the Pennsylvania Railroad, it was conclusively shown that the explosion was caused by their own neglect in letting the water in the boiler get too low.

St. Paul's chances for entertaining the veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic next September received a setback Tuesday by the action of the Western Passenger Association, and as a result of the arbitrary stand taken by that railroad octopus, the national encampment of 1896 may have to be abandoned entirely. The association insists upon a seven-day limit to all tickets.

In the trial at Wichita, Kan., of E. M. Williamson, charged with murdering Henry H. Leonard to secure the latter's life insurance, Michael Jordan, an old soldier, swore that Williamson approached him last October, a month before the crime was committed, and suggested that he knew where \$500 could easily be made. Williamson told him that he knew of a woman who held a \$5,000 insurance policy on the life of Leonard, and that she would give \$500 of the insurance to a man that would kill him. Williamson told Jordan all the details of the scheme, and Jordan repeated them in court. The theory of the State has always been that Williamson consented to a divorce from his wife that she might marry Leonard, under agreement that they would afterward kill Leonard to get the insurance on his life.

Two impecunious young men, said to be from New England and giving the names of Mason M. Totten and C. T. Holliday, have been arrested at Kansas City by postoffice inspectors from Denver and St. Louis. The prisoners are accused of having used the United States mails in swindling several mining stock brokers of Denver. Their plan, operating from Kansas City, was to send urgent requests by mail for certain mining stocks, enclosing checks on Kansas City banks covering the market value of the shares asked for. Neither of the men had a cent in bank. In this manner they secured 20,000 shares of stock from two Denver brokers in exchange for worthless checks for \$353. The stocks have all been recovered. The swindlers were prepping to visit Chicago, where they hoped to sell their shares on the mining exchange.

There has been a good deal of newspaper talk lately about fusion between the Democrats and Populists in Kansas this year, with George W. Glick as the candidate for Governor. While such a combination is possible, it is not probable, says a Topeka dispatch. Many of the Democratic leaders are opposed to any kind of a coalition with the Populists, claiming that it would result disastrously to their organization, as did the arrangement of 1892. The Populist leaders also are opposed to fusion. Those who are outspoken for fusion are Democrats and Populists who prefer anything to Republicanism. This faction is greatly in the minority, but it is growing. However, it is the opinion of conservative Democrats

SOUTHERN.

and Populists that there will not be any fusion on State officers this year, and that there will be three straight tickets in the field as in 1894.

Republican members of the Kentucky Legislature have a new scheme to break the deadlock and elect a United States Senator. Four Democratic members, it is said, have been found to be ineligible because they hold other offices, and it is proposed to unseat them.

At Swansea, Blount County, Ala., Frank Jones, superintendent of the Swansea Coal Company mines, shot and fatally wounded his wife, a beautiful young woman, 20 years of age. Jones was insanely jealous of his wife. He escaped, armed, and defied anyone to arrest him. Jones has heretofore stood high.

William Tront, a Mayfield, Ky., barber, has been fasting for fifty-one days, except that he drank buttermilk, refusing all other food. He has no appetite for anything else. About four years ago he used no food but buttermilk for thirty days. He has fallen off from 170 to 140 pounds. He piles his trade without interruption.

The new gunboat Helena, named after Montana's capital, was launched Thursday at Newport News, Va. The honored custom of breaking a bottle of wine across the bows and christening the vessel was performed by Miss Agnes Belle Steele, daughter of Mayor Steele, of Helena, Mont., who headed a delegation of leading residents of that State. The Helena, which is of 1,100 tons burthen, will be assigned to service on the Chinese waters. She is designed especially for river service, and is 250 feet long, with a maximum beam of forty feet, but the mean draft is only nine feet, while the speed is expected to be at least thirteen knots. A novel feature of the Helena is that she has a large military mast, with tops similar to those on the big battleships. Another peculiar equipment is that provision is made for carrying an unusually large force of men, and the ship's boats are much larger than ordinary. The new gunboat will be armed with eight four-inch breech-loading rapid-firing guns, divided between the upper and gun decks. In addition to these there are four six-pounders and one two-pounder rapid-fire and two Catlings.

WASHINGTON.

The name of Edwin P. Uhl, of Michigan, the Assistant Secretary of State, has been mentioned prominently in the Washington gossip in regard to the appointment to the Ambassadorship at Berlin. His intimate knowledge of all matters under diplomatic consideration with Germany would make his appointment eminently desirable.

Judges Field, Harlan, Brewer and Brown, of the Supreme Court, rendered their decision in the Northern Pacific receivership case, holding all the courts along the line of the road to be ancillary to Judge Jenkins' court at Milwaukee. This decision gives the Milwaukee court jurisdiction over the entire system in the matter of receiverships.

Louis Granetta, an artist, was found dead in bed at Washington. He had turned on the gas before retiring and was asphyxiated. Despondency was the probable cause for the act. Granetta had up to Saturday worked on the new congressional library building as a decorator, and was said to be an expert in his profession. He had been employed in Chicago and California. He had traveled the world over and had exercised his talent in the principal cities. The suicide was about forty years of age and a Swiss by birth.

Rev. Dr. Milburn, the blind chaplain of the House, prayed eloquently for bleeding Armenia Monday. "Hear the cry of our agony," he prayed, "in behalf of our people of Armenia, despoiled, tortured, their homes in ashes, their men and women and children slain at the edge of the sword, their women dishonored. Arouse and unite the powers of Christendom, the queen, the czar, the kaiser, kings and princes, their ministers and people, that the sultan shall be forced to sheathe his bloody sword and stay the frenzied rage of his fanatical soldiery and subjects."

FOREIGN.

A terrible explosion has taken place in a colliery at Tylorstown, near Cardiff, Wales. The shafts were shattered and the whole town was shaken by the tremendous concussion, causing a scene of wild excitement. Fifty-four miners were below the surface when the explosion took place. Twelve bodies were recovered from the colliery and twelve men are still missing. Rescue parties were hurried to the scene, but their work was very dangerous, owing to the fact that the pit is on fire.

Uncle Sam has brought the sultan to time, and there is now little likelihood that any of the American cruisers will have war practice in the Levant, with Mohammedan towns as targets. During the Armenian debate Monday in the House, Mr. Hitt of Illinois, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, announced that the Turkish Government had admitted the justice of claims for indemnity in the Kharpert and Marsh outrages, and would pay the sums demanded by Secretary Olney. These sums amounted to about \$200,000.

The annual report of the British Government Board of Trade on emigration for the year 1895, compiled by Sir Robert Giffen, shows that during the year 185,396 men and women left the United Kingdom to seek homes and a livelihood in other portions of the globe. Of these, 112,653 were English, 18,277 Scotch and 54,466 Irish. Of the English emigrants, 61,237 went to the United States and 14,176 to British North America. Of the Scotch, 13,231 were added to the population of the United States and 1,363 to that of Canada, while 52,178 Irish emigrants turned their faces toward "the land of the free and the home of the brave," and 1,119 sons and daughters of Erin's Isle turned toward Canada.

Late advices from China tell of the uttering by Chinese forgers, on the Island of Java, of \$2,000,000 of Java bank notes. In order to get notes accepted forged notary acceptances were placed on them. Already 600,000 of forged and discounted notes have been discovered, and many prominent Chinese merchants have been placed under arrest, including Captain China, one of the wealthiest Chinamen in Java. It is believed by the police that the forgeries were completed in Singapore. Kwee-Chie-Soo, a native of China, now a resident of Sourabaya, and a band of native etchers have been arrested. Soe has confessed to having committed the forgeries and implicated many others, all of whom insist they are innocent. Nearly all the leading Chinese merchants of

Java have been victimized. Soe is noted for his cunning. Most of the notes made under his instruction were for £1,000 each. On searching Soe's house not only were found the forged seals of the notary, but also a number of forged bank notes of £500 each which had recently been made. Soe confessed and offered to give the names of all the other culprits. One of the principals of the gang was Kong Koo, in whose house were found engraved plates and other tools used for the forgeries. Finished bank notes for £500 and some in course of being completed were also found.

IN GENERAL.

The steamer J. W. Hawkins, bound from New York to Cuba on a filibustering expedition, was abandoned at sea off Long Island Sunday night in a terrific gale, and of the 175 men on board only 113 are accounted for. Ten are known to have been drowned, and it is believed fifty-three others met a like fate.

A double murder was committed at Hoonah, Alaska, on account of the failure of Ich-Ka-Ish, a medicine man of the Hoonah tribe, to cure a young Indian. The medicine man blamed a young Indian, who immediately shot the doctor. Then the doctor's cousin shot the slayer of the doctor. A few blankets squared the deal.

A terrible fate is believed to have befallen five gold prospectors who left Hermosillo, Mexico, several weeks ago for the interior of Tiburon Island, which is inhabited by the Soris tribe of Indians. There were six members of the exploring party originally, but one of the men returned and reports that he and his companions came upon a village of Indians; that they were all taken captive and preparations were begun to butcher them, when he succeeded in making his escape. He believes all the other members of the party were killed and their flesh eaten by the Indians. He says the Indians all wear valuable gold ornaments and that there were many evidences of the existence of rich mines on the island.

As a result of the developments that extensive smuggling in phenacetin is going on at Philadelphia and other ports, under circumstances that baffle the customs officers, private instructions have been issued from the Treasury Department for a more than usually rigorous search of passengers and crews arriving from German ports, as well as of the vessels themselves. Information received from abroad furnishes conclusive proof that the smuggling operations in this drug—which is very expensive and upon which the duties are high—have been proceeding on a gigantic scale, and that for the purpose of evading duty the manufacturers have of late been wrapping the drug in tin foil paper in such a way that it can be carried in the lining of coats or overcoats, or otherwise concealed, so that detection is made extremely difficult. As much as fifty pounds can be concealed about a man's person without his appearance indicating to the customs inspector that anything is wrong.

The dignity of the American hen has been upheld. It was war between the cold storage combine of Chicago speculators and the Egg-layers' Union, and the barnyard fowl is victor. The cold storage people, as a result of an attempt to corner the egg market, are or will be not less than \$150,000 out of pocket. Some dealers say the loss in Chicago by the drop in egg prices will reach \$200,000. Score one for the hen. "Cold storage" eggs are down to 5 to 7 cents a dozen and are practically unsalable at that price. Car loads were being frantically offered Wednesday night to all points on the map at the above ridiculous prices, but the best bids received in return were \$1.25 a case of thirty dozen. Meanwhile fresh eggs started out at 11 to 14 cents, but offers to sell at 12 1/2 cents were fairly rolling in when business closed. The news had gone out into the country that the cold storage combine was seeking to control the Chicago market, and apparently every hen in the entire country made it a personal matter to crush the dangerous rival. From every barnyard went up the slogan, "Honest eggs at honest prices." The fight was on the weather was favorable, and the battle was soon won. In Chicago the holders of cold storage eggs have on hand 60,000 cases of eggs which cost them 14 to 15 cents a dozen, including the cost of carrying them from last spring. At the season of the year the stock should be practically exhausted, as Southern eggs begin to supply consumers. The fine weather has not only started the Southern eggs moving, but has brought out large offerings from Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas. Though the "icehouse" eggs are sold by grocers all over the city as fresh, they are not to be compared with the fresh arrivals, and cannot compete with them.

MARKET REPORTS.

Chicago—Cattle, common to prime, \$3.50 to \$5.00; hogs, shipping grades, \$3.00 to \$4.50; sheep, fair to choice, \$2.50 to \$4.00; wheat, No. 2 red, 61c to 62c; corn, No. 2, 27c to 28c; oats, No. 2, 18c to 19c; rye, No. 2, 30c to 40c; butter, choice creamery, 19c to 20c; eggs, fresh, 15c to 16c; potatoes, per bushel, 18c to 25c; broom corn, 2c to 4c per pound for poor to choice.

Indianapolis—Cattle, shipping, \$3.00 to \$4.75; hogs, choice light, \$3.00 to \$3.50; sheep, common to prime, \$2.00 to \$3.00; wheat, No. 2, 65c to 67c; corn, No. 1 white, 26c to 27c; oats, No. 2 white, 22c to 23c.

St. Louis—Cattle, \$3.00 to \$5.00; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.50; wheat, No. 2 red, 67c to 68c; corn, No. 2 yellow, 25c to 26c; oats, No. 2 white, 18c to 19c; rye, No. 2, 35c to 37c.

Cincinnati—Cattle, \$3.50 to \$4.50; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.50; sheep, \$2.50 to \$3.75; wheat, No. 2, 71c to 73c; corn, No. 2 mixed, 25c to 30c; oats, No. 2 mixed, 21c to 22c; rye, No. 2, 42c to 44c.

Baltimore—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$4.75; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.50; sheep, \$2.00 to \$3.50; wheat, No. 2 red, 71c to 72c; corn, No. 2 yellow, 28c to 29c; oats, No. 2 white, 22c to 23c; rye, 41c to 42c.

Toledo—Wheat, No. 2 red, 71c to 72c; corn, No. 2 yellow, 27c to 28c; oats, No. 2 white, 20c to 22c; rye, No. 2, 40c to 42c; clover seed, \$4.35 to \$4.45.

Milwaukee—Wheat, No. 2 spring, 61c to 62c; corn, No. 2, 26c to 27c; oats, No. 2 white, 19c to 21c; barley, No. 2, 33c to 35c; rye, No. 1, 40c to 41c; pork, mess, \$10.00 to \$10.50.

Buffalo—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$5.25; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.75; sheep, \$2.50 to \$4.00; wheat, No. 2 red, 74c to 76c; corn, No. 2 yellow, 31c to 32c; oats, No. 2 white, 24c to 26c.

New York—Cattle, \$3.00 to \$5.25; hogs, \$3.00 to \$5.00; sheep, \$2.00 to \$4.25; wheat, No. 2 red, 76c to 77c; corn, No. 2, 33c to 37c; oats, No. 2 white, 24c to 26c; butter, creamery, 18c to 22c; eggs, Western, 16c to 17c.

TAKES A NEW STAND.

SALISBURY NOW FAVORS MONROE DOCTRINE.

First and Unequivocal Statement by the Premier—Indiana's New Apportionment Is Invalid—New Ruling of Great Importance to Pensioners.

Salisbury's Surprising Speech. The banquet of the Nonconformist Unionist Association at the Hotel Metropole, in London, Friday night, was the occasion for an address by the Marquis of Salisbury, Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. In the course of his remarks he said, with reference to Venezuela: "I have been held up as the denouncer of the Monroe doctrine. As a matter of fact, although the Monroe doctrine is no part of international law, my dispatch to Mr. Olney, the Secretary of State of the United States, supported it as a rule of policy in the strongest and most distinct terms. But what I stated in that dispatch I reiterate now, that, as a rule now of policy, we are the entire advocates of the Monroe doctrine. We mean the Monroe doctrine as President Monroe understood it. (Cheers.) In that sense you will find no more convinced supporters than we are." Lord Salisbury then turned abruptly to the Armenian question, and he reproached the religious communities with laboring under a mistake when they supposed that England had bound herself in honor to succor the Armenians, which means to go to war with the sultan in order to force him to govern the Armenians well. The speaker reminded his hearers that the reforms which the sultan had recently accepted, although very good reforms, could not be expected to produce good government in two months.

Back to the Old Law.

By a unanimous decision of the Indiana Supreme Court that body has set aside the apportionment act of 1895, reaffirmed the decision of the same court setting aside the apportionment of 1891, and has brought into operation the apportionment of 1885, which it declares to be the only legal act since that date. The decision is far-reaching in its effects and emanates from a body composed of both Republicans and Democrats. The Democratic Legislature of 1891, following the constitutional requirements to enact an apportionment law every sixth year, passed an act which was attacked by the Republicans and set aside by the Supreme Court as unconstitutional, the latter body holding it was unfair in its provisions because it gave greater representation to some portions of the State than to others. The Democratic Legislature of 1893 passed another act and the Republican Legislature of 1895 repealed it and substituted an entirely new law. This in turn was attacked by the Democrats on the ground that it violated the provisions of the constitution in being enacted at a time before the sixth year since the apportionment of 1893 was passed. This contention was sustained by the Supreme Court, but it failed to concede the Democratic position that the law of 1893 was operative, holding that the same objections which obtained against the apportionment of 1895 existed to render void the apportionment of two years before; that the Legislature of 1891 was competent under the Constitution to enact an apportionment law, but the Court having set that act aside as unconstitutional, recourse must be had to the law of 1885 to find a valid enactment.

National Finances.

The statement of the Government receipts and expenditures for January show the aggregate receipts to have been approximately \$29,237,670, and the expenditures \$32,496,830, leaving the deficit for the month about \$3,159,160, and for the seven months of the present fiscal year about \$18,853,867. The receipts from customs during the month of January will amount to about \$16,380,796; from internal revenue, \$11,041,401, and from miscellaneous sources about \$1,815,472. This is a decrease of about \$1,000,000 in the receipts from customs as compared with January, 1895, and an increase of about \$2,000,000 in the receipts from internal revenue. As compared with last month, there is an increase of over \$4,000,000 in the receipts from customs and a decrease of nearly \$1,750,000 in the receipts from internal revenue. The pension payments last month amount to about \$9,890,000, a decrease from December of about \$1,386,000.

Time Limit for Death Proof.

A measure of the greatest interest to pensioners was put through the House of Representatives Thursday when that body adopted the report made by the Committee on Invalid Pensions. It was recommended by the committee that in all cases of pension claims the unexplained absence for seven years of the soldier would be all that was necessary to prove that he was dead. It was said this was in conformity with common law, and would answer all practical purposes and materially assist a great many applicants for pensions. Under the rule now in force at the Pension Bureau, although a soldier may not have been heard from since the war closed, this cannot be considered a proof of his death, and hundreds of cases are held up in the Pension Office awaiting such proofs.

NEWS NUGGETS.

Herman L. Mueller, charged with embezzling \$14,000 from the Schlitz Brewing Company while acting as its bookkeeper in Kansas City, has been acquitted after a three day's trial. He was arrested last June and the Grand Jury later found nine true bills against him.

The pap jacket of a blast furnace was blown out at the Arkansas Valley smelter at Leadville, Colo. Three workmen were injured.

The Farmers' Loan and Trust Company of New York filed a bill in the United States Court at Chicago Thursday to foreclose a mortgage for \$7,775,000 on the Lake Street Elevated Road.

President Cleveland has signed the joint resolution authorizing the employment of an architect to assist the Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department in drawing plans for the Chicago public building.

Three Boston hotels refused to entertain Bishop Arnett, of Wilberforce, Ohio, senior bishop of the African Methodist church.

Harry M. Fowle, a trusted clerk of the Shepard & Morse Lumber Company, of Boston, has been arrested, charged with embezzling \$50,000.

NATIONAL SOLONS.

REVIEW OF THEIR WORK AT WASHINGTON.

Detailed Proceedings of Senate and House—Bills Passed or Introduced in Either Branch—Questions of Moment to the Country at Large.

The Legislative Grind.

An animated debate over the question of taking a vote on the pending silver-bond bill closed the session of the Senate late Thursday afternoon. Mr. Stewart declared that it made no difference when a vote was taken, or whether any was taken. It was all "drifts parade" and "bumbo." He added the significant statement that the pending silver amendment would be germane as an amendment to the tariff bill, and that when the latter measure came before the Senate he would offer a silver amendment to test the Senators on their choice between tariff and silver. The Senate went into executive session and then took a recess without any exact understanding as to the time of taking the vote. The attendance in the House was slim. The report of the Elections Committee in favor of the sitting member, D. B. Culbertson, from the fourth Texas district, and against T. H. Davis, was adopted without division. On motion of Mr. Doolittle (Rep., Wash.), a resolution was adopted requesting the President to transmit to Congress the report of the Board of Engineers on the Nicaraguan canal. The bill to amend the pensioners act of 1890 so that in considering widows' claims seven years of unexplained absence should be deemed sufficient proof of the death of the soldier, was passed. The speaker announced the appointment of Mr. Wellington (Rep., Mo.) on the Committee on Labor, and Mr. Belknap (Rep., Ill.) on Railways and Canals.

The Senate Friday spent most of the time sparring over the free coinage measure. The House continued its routine business. Most of the session was devoted to the District of Columbia appropriation bill. The regular attempt was made to have all the expenses of the District government paid by the District, but the motion made by Mr. De Armand (Dem., Mo.) to effect this was ruled out on a point of order. The District bill carries \$5,417,960, \$353,423 less than the sum appropriated for the current fiscal year.

How He Scheduled.

A Detroit jobber last week got an order from a small interior town, and replied that, as the customer was unknown to him, a check would be necessary before he sent the goods. The check came and the goods were shipped. The jobber also sent a blank form for a rating, so that in case of future orders he would have something to go by, as the customer's commercial rating could not be learned through the regular channels of information. The blank has been returned, filled out as follows:

Q. What amount of stock do you carry? A. All we can get trusted for.
Q. What is due on your books and accounts? A. All we want these times.
Q. What value have you in real estate? A. Less than three years ago on some property.
Q. What do you owe on book accounts? A. All bills that are due.
Q. What do you owe on notes? A. All notes that are not outlawed.
Q. What other debts are you owing? A. Gratitude to the Lord.
Q. Is any of above owing to relatives? A. One-sixth goes to the Lord.
Q. Is there a chattel mortgage against your stock? A. Not that we know of.
Q. For what amount are you insured? A. All we can afford to pay 3 per cent. for.
Name references. A. St. Peter.

Shot by His Dog.

Louis Lezotte was shot by his own dog while squirrel hunting in the woods near Rehobeth, Mass. He had a double-barreled gun with him, and sighting a squirrel high up in an oak, Lezotte let go one barrel, badly wounding the squirrel. Standing the gun against the tree Lezotte began to climb to secure his quarry.

The dog, which from the time of the discharge of the gun had been running excitedly around the tree, began to jump against the trunk as if trying to follow his master. His paw struck the trigger of the unloaded barrel, sending a charge of shot up past Lezotte's side and lodging in the muscles of the right arm near the shoulder. Lezotte fell, but managed to make his way to a doctor in Rehobeth, who sent for an ambulance to take the wounded man to the Rhode Island Hospital.

What Did He Mean?

Two young gentlemen met in one of the Pittsburg parks, according to the Chronicle-Telegraph. One of them was wheeling his first-born son. "Ah, good morning, Mr. Bellefield," said the proud father. "Now, isn't that a pretty baby?" "It is, indeed," said Mr. Bellefield. "I have never seen your wife, but I fancy the child must take after his mother."

Out of His Line.

The Boston Transcript reports that two gentlemen fell into a talk about books.

"What do you think of the 'Origin of Species'?" asked one man. "I have never read it," was the other's reply. "In fact," he added, "I am not interested in financial subjects."

In 1890 the United States produced \$32,845,000 of gold. Of this total a little over two-fifths came from California, which is still the principal gold-producing State.

At Algona, Kosciusko County, Iowa, there is a "roaring" well, forty-five feet deep, which has boiling hot water at the bottom of it.

The teeth of fish, like teeth of most animals, are not fastened to the bone, but are held in sockets.