

JANUARY—1896.

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	....

GREAT BRITAIN has now turned the 8,000 mark in its number of Christian Endeavor societies.

NEARLY every army has now a cavalry corps. In Germany six men of every regiment are mounted on wheels to act as scouts.

REV. JOHN JASPER, of Richmond, Va., still insists that it is the earth that stands, still and that the sun revolves around it.

Fon Christmas, California had an ice palace in one end of the state and a flower show in the other. Wonderful land is this of ours.

It is computed that there is £800,000 worth of gold and jewels at the bottom of the sea on the route between England and India.

JIM CASH-CASH, one of the richest and most influential of the civilized Umatilla Indians of Oregon, brought suit in the Pendleton court last week for a divorce from his wife on the ground that she paints her face.

## Epitome of the Week.

INTERESTING NEWS COMPILATION.

### FIFTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

The Proceedings of the First Session. Washington, Dec. 31.—In the senate yesterday the republicans carried their resolution for reorganization by a vote of 30 to 28, the six populists, who held the balance of power, declining to vote, and the list of committee was announced. A bill was introduced prohibiting the issuance of bonds by the United States unless congress shall by resolution declare the necessity for them. Senator Lodge (Mass.) spoke at length upon the Monroe doctrine, and closed by predicting that the Venezuelan question between England and the United States would be peaceably settled. The house was not in session.

Washington, Jan. 2.—In the senate on Tuesday Senator Sherman (O.) offered a resolution for the restoration of the gold reserve, which thereafter should be held sacred for the redemption of the greenbacks and treasury notes, the former to be reissued only in exchange for gold coin and bullion. No action was taken. Adjourned to the 3d. In the house bills were introduced to repeal the law allowing a rebate on the tax on alcohol, and to repeal the ten per cent. tax on the circulation of banks other than national banks. Adjourned to the 3d.

Washington, Jan. 4.—In the senate yesterday Senator Sherman (O.) spoke at length on the bond question, saying that additional revenue is needed; that the gold reserve should be kept intact, and that free coinage was the most dangerous of policies. Senator Elkins (W. Va.) resolution directing that all bond issues be advertised and the bonds offered to the public caused a vigorous debate, but no action was taken. Adjourned to the 7th. In the house a resolution was offered to impeach Comptroller Bowler, of the treasury, for refusing to execute the laws of congress in paying the sugar bounty. Adjourned to the 6th.

### FROM WASHINGTON.

In 1893 the losses by fire in the United States aggregated \$131,578,206, as compared with \$115,590,842 in 1894, an increase of \$15,987,364.

In the United States the number of legal executions in 1895 was 132, the same as in 1894, as compared with 126 in 1893 and 107 in 1892.

As nearly as can be estimated 4,102 lives were lost in 1895 upon the ocean, 184 upon inland waters, 3,600 by railroad accidents, 22,364 by disasters abroad and 7,730 by disasters at home. Adding to these 157,965 by battle and 79,461 by epidemics, the total sacrifice of life was 275,391.

The statement of the public debt issued on the 2d showed that the debt decreased \$1,179,349 during the month of December. The cash balance of the treasury was \$178,027,200. The total debt, less the cash balance in the treasury, amounts to \$947,298,262.

The collapse executed at the mints of the United States during December, 1895, was as follows: Gold, \$8,097,145; silver, \$75,592; minor coins, \$17,836; total, \$8,280,573.

President Cleveland gave his first state dinner of the season, thus inaugurating the social gayeties of the winter.

The receipts of the United States during the month of December aggregated \$26,288,937 and the expenditures amounted to \$25,814,317, leaving a surplus for the month of \$474,620.

Exchanges at the leading clearing houses in the United States during the week ended on the 3d aggregated \$1,620,042,400, against \$1,144,928,262 the previous week. The increase, compared with the corresponding week in 1895, was 74.

In the United States there were 403 business failures in the seven days ended on the 3d, against 316 the week previous and 373 in the corresponding period of 1895.

### THE EAST.

The failure was announced of the H. W. Ladd company, one of the largest dry goods firms in Providence, R. I., for \$227,500.

In the year 1895 immigrants to the number of 229,607 arrived in New York, an increase of 61,944 over the year 1894.

At the age of 70 years Alfred Ely Beach, editor of the *Scientific American*, died at his home in New York of pneumonia.

The New York and Massachusetts legislatures convened in their respective capitals.

By an explosion of gas in the Girard mine at Shamokin, Pa., five men were burned, three of them fatally.

Along the New England coast scores of vessels were driven ashore by gales and the damage to shipping would exceed \$500,000.

The death of Mrs. Richardson, the oldest of the eight widow pensioners of the revolution, occurred at her home in East Bethel, Vt., aged 95 years.

There was considerable business in gold in New York at 1 1/4 per cent. premium in anticipation of the expected bond issue.

At Pittsburgh Albert Woolley, who murdered his intended wife, Jessie Buchanan, on May 7, 1894, was hanged in the yard of the county jail.

### WEST AND SOUTH.

Through California heavy frosts prevailed, seriously damaging the orange crop.

Hundreds of cattle and horses were drowned in the swollen streams of the Osage reservation in Oklahoma, entailing ruinous losses to many stockmen.

At the age of 56 years James A. Boyd, whose name is known wherever pressed bricks are made, died at his home in Chicago.

Advices from Havana say that the whole island of Cuba was practically in the hands of the insurgents, who were within a few miles of the capital city. The insurgents had burned Quivicán, San Felipe, Durán, Meléno, Delsur and Guara. These places are 20 miles from Havanna.

The two children of Abraham Leonard were burned to death at Dallas, Tex., while the parents were at church.

During a fire at the residence of Mrs. L. E. Harvey at Wheaton, Ill., A. S. Grant and Arthur Vernon were killed by a falling chimney.

McMahon, Bishop & Co., importers of wines and liquors in New York, failed for \$100,000.

Secretary Carlisle issued a circular for a popular loan, saying that the government would sell \$100,000,000 30 year four per cent. coupon or registered bonds, dated February 1, 1895, for which purchasers will be required to pay in gold coin or gold certificates.

BRADSTREET's gives the total number of business failures in the United States for the full term of 12 months ending a few days ago as 13,013; which is an increase of 2.3 per cent. over the 12,721 reported for the corresponding time one year earlier. This is the largest number of failures ever reported since the record was begun, with the single exception of 1893. The aggregate was 15,500, compared with which the decrease in 1895 was 16 per cent. The total number of firms, corporations and individuals having a recognized place of business is about 1,15,000, against 1,047,000 a year ago.

The Illinois Steel company to prevent a strike closed their shops near Chicago, throwing 4,000 men out of work. Thomas R. Webb's two baby boys were burned to death at Palmyra, O., and the mother lost her reason in consequence.

Near Akron, O., Mrs. John Brumer and her two girls went down an embankment in a wagon and were fatally injured.

John H. Hibbard and his wife and two children and Miss Fay Hibbard and Mrs. Grace Hibbard Lee, his two sisters, were burned to death in a fire at Columbus, O.

William Penn, Anthony Huber and John Strong were fatally crushed while working in a box car near Cincinnati.

During 1895 the flour output at Minneapolis was 10,551,000 barrels, the largest ever made by 900,000 barrels.

St. Louis four persons were killed, one fatally injured, four more were missing and 31 received injuries more or less serious as the result of an explosion in a building. The money loss

flames swept over ten square miles of valuable territory in Boulder County, Col., causing a loss of over \$300,000.

In the United States district court at San Francisco Judge Morton decided that every Chinese born in the United States is a citizen thereof.

In Chicago fire destroyed the hammer shop of the American bridge works, the loss being \$100,000. Two men were fatally burned.

In the northwest intensely cold weather prevailed, the thermometer ranging from 12 degrees below zero in Illinois and Iowa to 24 below in Wisconsin.

Advices reached Knoxville, Tenn., that seven men were killed in a battle between moonshiners and officers near the Tennessee and North Carolina line.

The governor appointed Charles G. Bilton, of Chicago, to succeed Alfred Orendorff as adjutant general of Illinois.

A boy named Walters, while playing at Millidgeville, Ky., secured a revolver and fatally shot his two little cousins, aged four and eight, and then sent a ball through his own head.

In St. Louis the bodies of two men were found in the ruins of the recent explosion, making a total of six lives lost.

Flames that originated in the basement of Horton Bonilson's furniture store in Creston, Ia., caused a loss of \$150,000.

The firm of Singer & Wheeler, wholesale dealers in drugs at Peoria, Ill., failed for \$130,000.

Fire destroyed the Thornton Buggy company's house at Des Moines, Ia., the loss being \$100,000.

THE YEAR IN TRADE.

R. G. Dun & Co.—Present an Interesting Review.

New York, Jan. 4.—R. G. Dun & Co. in their trade review for a year say:

"The commercial failure during the year 1895 was 13 per cent. against 13.85 in 1894, but the aggregate of liabilities is slightly greater—\$173,156,000, against \$172,992,000. The bright promise offered by a large decrease in the first quarter was followed by a small increase in the second, and a still further increase in the third quarter, making a large increase in the last quarter of the year. In that quarter, also, the deferred liabilities to each firm in business increased, and also the proportion of deferred liabilities to payment.

"The effects of unreasonable speculation

in materials creating an advance in prices of goods, heavy purchases ahead of distribution and enormous increase in production clearly appear in the returns. Prices have been the theater of surprising fluctuations, and have influenced all business. The acreage in cotton was wisely restricted, in order to give producers a better chance for fair returns, and the crop was further reduced to some extent by injury, and in the last quarter of the year a large increase in the acreage of cotton was made, and the price of cotton was again advanced.

"Congress," Senator Sherman continued, "neglected to cure the defects pointed out by me as secretary of the treasury in December, 1880, but I hope will correct them now at the request of the people. Notes on the subject should be reissued for gold coin and such reissues should be mandatory when coin is deposited in the treasury."

The resumption fund should be segregated from other moneys of the United States and paid out only in redemption of United States notes. With such provisions in law the resumption fund could not be invaded to meet deficiencies of the treasury. The notes should be paid out by the bank or its agents of redemption of such denominations at a low rate of interest which would be readily taken by the people through national banks, sub-treasuries and post offices.

Further in his speech Senator Sherman speaks of the president's complaint that notes were presented and paid, released and paid again, and again, making a continuous circuit. When he asked, had that circuit commenced? It had commenced, he said, in the administration of President Hayes, by the passage of a bill in 1878, which created a deficiency, and continued because the

"free coinage" silver he regarded as the most dangerous policy of all. There was scarcely a doubt but that in all probable conditions of trade or finance (except the contingency of war), the whole mass of United States notes and treasury notes now in circulation could be maintained at par, and that they were supported by a reserve of gold or bullion, or silver in circulation, equal to one-third or one-fourth of the amount of such notes.

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