

The Thirteen Towns.

FOSSTON, (Polk Co.) MINNESOTA.

Maude Adams has a new play upon which the New York dramatic critics are unable to agree. She is a fortunate woman.

The reason for the advance in prices is by no means complicated. The Chicago packers simply feel that they need the money.

After being out 102 hours and failing to reach a decision a jury in Scranton, Pa., was discharged. Later empty whisky bottles were discovered in the jury room.

Absolute amnesty has been granted by the Peruvian legislature to all persons who may have been concerned in any political transgression or offenses, with the right to fill public offices. All political prisoners confined at Lima have been set at liberty.

When a new postoffice is to be named the people of the neighborhood have the right to choose its name. There are Schleys, Roosevelts and Funstons all over the country. Now some Virginians have named their postoffice Tuan, in honor of the anti-foreign Chinese prince, and the name has to stand.

Clark of Montana is going to make another effort to obtain a seat in the United States senate. As far as the legislature of Montana is concerned, Clark's case is already won. A majority of the members of that body are of Clark's choosing, and they will undoubtedly give him a set of credentials to carry to Washington.

There is one comfort in the coming on of cold weather. Statistics indicate that outbreaks of insanity are most frequent in the hot season, and that suicides in the summer months as compared with the winter months are as three to two. Whence it would appear that even our reason and our love of life are best kept on ice.

Christmas trees are already being cut down in Washington county, Me., and the season's output from that section will amount to 400 car loads, with 360 bunches to a car. Each bunch consists of from two to six trees. The trees are sent to New York and Boston, where they will retail for about ten times as much as they are worth on board the cars in Maine.

A street in Chicago, not far from the "Archer road," immortalized by Dooley, has been known for twenty years as "Fake" street, in honor of a certain business man bearing that name. The word has come to have so injurious a significance of late years that the residents and property owners in that neighborhood have prayed the city authorities to give the street a new name.

Twenty-one persons died in Massachusetts last year aged 100 years or more. Sixteen of the twenty-one were women—three of the sixteen never having been married. Eight of the twenty-one were born in Ireland, three in Canada and three in other foreign countries—leaving seven native-born, six of whom were of Massachusetts nativity. The oldest was two months over 106 years.

The perfunctory manner in which witnesses are sworn in English courts was illustrated recently in a London court after some twenty witnesses had given their evidence. It was then discovered that all had solemnly sworn on and had kissed a guide to the law of landlord and tenant. The mistake came to light only when a court official saw that the supposed Bible was much more clean than usual, and, as a consequence, looked closely at the book.

Miss Alice Sinclair of Cincinnati, O., who acted as bridesmaid at the wedding of a friend, found a thimble in the piece of bride's cake which she ate. This was regarded as proof that she would be an old maid. To prove that the sign was false she agreed to marry William Keeler, to whom she was engaged, at once, and invited all the wedding guests to be present at her marriage. A minister was found within three hours of the time when she was acting as bridesmaid.

The falling of the elevators is perhaps not the only danger associated with life in the modern skyscraper. Some physicians, in making physical examinations for life insurance companies, think they have discovered that elevator boys and others who make many trips a day are peculiarly liable to heart-disease and premature degeneration of the arteries. They do not know whether this is due to change in atmospheric pressure in passing from basement to roof and down again, to the disturbances caused by the sudden starts and stops and the rapid descent, or to some as yet unsuspected cause.

Telephones are being fitted on the electric cars of one of the suburban lines in St. Louis. The instrument is placed in the rear of each car, the negative connection being through the wheels to the rail, and the positive connection being secured through a simple device, like a jointed fishpole, and an overhead wire, paralleling the trolley. Thus the motorman is able at all times to communicate with the office, the sheds and the wrecking crew. Later it is intended to connect this line with the public service and to permit its use by passengers.

M'KINLEY TO CONGRESS

THE PRESIDENT REVIEWS THE NATION'S AFFAIRS.

Annual Message is Read in Both Houses of Congress—Various Important Questions Are Discussed—Attitude of the Government in the Chinese Difficulty is Explained—Financial Condition of the Government is Said to be Most Satisfactory—Policy Regarding the Philippines is Set Forth—Porto Rican Affairs Considered—Business of the Various Departments Reviewed.

The following is a synopsis covering the most important points contained in the president's message:

In opening, the president says: "At the outgoing of the old and the incoming of the new century you begin the last session of the Fifty-sixth congress with evidences on every hand of individual prosperity and with proof of the growing strength and increasing power for good of republican institutions. Your countrymen will join you in felicitating that American liberty is more firmly established than ever before, and that love for it, and the determination to preserve it are more universal than at any former period of our history."

The president then refers to the wonderful growth and development of the country during the century just closing. The population in 1800 was 5,308,483. To-day it is 76,304,709.

In our foreign relations, says the president, the dominant question has been the treatment of the Chinese problem. Our relations with all other countries have been happy.

The president goes into the Chinese question at great length. The history of the outbreak, familiar to all readers, is narrated in detail. The subsequent landing of the troops of the allied powers are the events which succeeded are fully set forth.

The president then continues: "The policy of the United States through all this trying period was clearly announced and scrupulously carried out. A circular note to the powers, dated July 5, proclaimed our attitude. Treating the condition in the north as one of virtual anarchy, in which the great provinces of the south and southwest had no share, we regarded the local authorities in the latter quarters as representing the Chinese people with whom we sought to remain in peace and friendship. Our declared aims involved no war with the Chinese nation. We adhered to the legitimate office of rescuing the imperial legation, obtaining redress for wrongs already suffered, securing, wherever possible, the safety of American life and property in China, and preventing a spread of the disorders or their recurrence. As was then said, 'the policy of the government of the United States is to seek a solution which may bring about permanent safety and peace to China, preserve Chinese territorial and administrative integrity, protect all rights guaranteed by friendly powers by treaty and international law, and safeguard for the world the principle of equal and impartial trade with all parts of the Chinese empire.' Faithful to these protestations, which, as it proved, reflect the views and purposes of the other cooperating governments, all our efforts have been directed towards ending the anomalous situation in China by negotiations for a settlement at the earliest possible moment. As soon as the sacred duty of relieving our legation and its dependents was accomplished we withdrew from active hostilities, leaving our legation under an adequate guard at Peking, as a channel of negotiation and settlement—a course adopted by others of the interested parties. Overtures of the empowered representatives of the Chinese emperor have been considered with interest. The Russian proposition looking to the restoration of the imperial power in Peking has been accepted as in full consonance with our own desires, for we have held and hold that effective reparation for wrongs suffered, and an enduring settlement that will make their recurrence impossible can best be brought about under an authority which the Chinese nation reverence and obey. While so doing we forego no jot of our undoubted right to exact reparation and deterrent punishment of the responsible authors and abettors of the criminal acts through which we and other nations have suffered grievous injury. The general basis of negotiations formulated by the government of the French republic have been accepted with certain reservations as to details, made necessary by our own circumstances, but, like similar reservations by other powers, open to discussion in the progress of the negotiations. The matter of indemnity for our wronged citizens is a question of grave concern. Measured in money alone, a sufficient reparation may prove beyond the ability of China to meet. All the powers concur in emphatic disclaimers of any purpose of aggrandizement through the dismemberment of the empire. I am disposed to take due compensation that may be made in part by increased guarantees of security of foreign rights and immunities, and, most important of all, by the opening of China to the equal commerce of all the world. These views have been and will be earnestly advocated by our representatives. The government of Russia has put forward a suggestion that, in the event of protracted divergence of views in relation to indemnities, the matter be relegated to the court of arbitration at The Hague. I favorably incline to this, believing that high tribunal of arbitration could not fail to reach a solution no less conducive to the stability and enlarged prosperity of China itself than immediately beneficial to the powers.

The message states that the relations with the various nations are cordial. Minor diplomatic negotiations with several European and Central and South American countries are progressing satisfactorily or have been happily concluded. Good will prevails in our relations with the German emperor.

Our friendly relations with Great Britain continue. The important questions arising out of the war in South Africa and our policy in relation thereto are fully explained.

Our claims upon the government of the sultan for reparation for injuries suffered by American citizens in Armenia and elsewhere give promise of early and satisfactory settlement. His majesty's good disposition in this regard has been evinced by the issuance of an order for rebuilding the American college at Harpoot.

The president announces that formal ratifications of the convention for the pacific settlement of international disputes have been received at The Hague from sixteen powers. In accordance with Article xxiii. of the convention the president announces the appointment as arbitrators of ex-President Harrison, Chief Justice Melville W. Fuller, Hon. J. W. Griggs and Hon. George Gray.

On the subject of reciprocity treaties the president says: "Since my last communication to the congress on this subject special commercial agreements under the third section of the tariff act have been proclaimed with Portugal, Italy and with Germany. Commercial conventions under the general limitations of the fourth section of the same act have been concluded with Nicaragua, with Ecuador, with the Dominican republic, with Great Britain on behalf of the Island of Trinidad and with Denmark on behalf of the Island of St. Croix. These will be early communicated to the senate. Negotiations with other governments are in progress for the improvement and security of our commercial relations." Continuing on this subject, the president says: "The policy of reciprocity so manifestly rests upon the principles of international equity and has been so repeatedly approved by the people of the United States, that there ought to be no hesitation in either branch of the congress in giving it full effect."

Touching on the subject of an interoceanic canal the president says that this important matter has assumed a new phase. He refers to the forfeit of the contract of the Maritime Canal company, and explains the reason therefor. Continuing, the president says:

"Overtures for a convention to effect the building of a canal under the auspices of the United States are under consideration. In the meantime the views of the congress upon the general subject in the light of the report of the commission appointed to examine the comparative merits of the various trans-isthmian ship canal projects may be awaited."

Taking up the question of finances, the president says: "It is gratifying to be able to state that the surplus revenues for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1900, were \$79,527,060.18. For the six preceding years we had only deficits, the aggregate of which from 1894 to 1899, inclusive, amounted to \$233,022,991.14. The receipts for the year from all sources, exclusive of postal revenues, aggregated \$667,240,851.89, and exports for all purposes except for the administration of the postal department, aggregated \$487,713,791.71. The receipts from customs were \$233,164,871.16, an increase over the preceding years of \$27,026,389.41. The receipts from internal revenue were \$295,237,926.76, an increase of \$21,800,765.25 over 1899. The receipts from miscellaneous sources were \$38,748,053.97, as against \$26,394,976.92 for the previous year. It is gratifying also to note that during the year a considerable reduction is shown in the expenditures of the government. The war department expenditures for the fiscal year 1900 were \$134,774,767.78, a reduction of \$95,064,486.69 over those of 1899. In the navy department the expenditures were \$55,953,677.72 for the year 1900, as against \$63,942,104.25 for the preceding year, a decrease of \$7,983,026.53. In the expenditures on account of Indians there was a decrease in 1900 over 1899 of \$2,350,604.38, and in the civil and miscellaneous expenses for 1900 there was a reduction of \$13,418,055.74. Because of the excess of revenues over expenditures the secretary of the treasury was enabled to apply bonds and other securities to the sinking fund to the amount of \$56,544,556.03. The details of the sinking fund are set forth in the report of the secretary of the treasury, to which I invite attention. The total receipts for the current fiscal year will aggregate \$330,000,000, and the expenditures \$290,000,000, leaving an excess of revenues over expenditures of \$40,000,000. The present condition of the treasury is one of undoubted strength. It will be the duty, as I am sure it will be the disposition of the congress, to provide whatever further legislation is needed to insure the continued parity under all conditions between our two forms of metallic money, silver and gold. Our surplus revenues have permitted the secretary of the treasury since the close of the fiscal year to call in the funded loan of 1891 in the sum of \$25,364,500. To and including Nov. 30, \$23,468,100 of these bonds have been paid. This sum, together with the amount which may accrue from further redemptions under the call will be applied to the sinking fund."

The president says that the beneficial effect of the new financial act, so far as it relates to the modification of the national banking act, is already apparent. In concluding this subject, he says:

"A large increase in national bank note circulation has resulted from the act, which permits national banks to issue circulation notes to the par value of the United States bonds deposited as security instead of only 90 per cent thereof, as heretofore. The increase in circulating notes from March 14 to Nov. 30 is \$77,889,570. The parity in power is committed to such legislation as will better make the currency responsive to the varying needs of business at all seasons and in all sections."

"Our foreign trade," says the president, "shows a remarkable record of commercial and industrial progress. The total of imports and exports, for the first time in the history of the country, exceeded \$2,000,000,000. These exports are greater than they have ever been before, the total for the fiscal year 1900 being \$1,394,483,082, an increase over 1899 of \$167,459,780. The imports for the year amounted to \$949,941,181, an increase over 1899 of \$152,792,695. The increase is largely in materials for manufacture, and is in response to the rapid development of manufacturing in the United States."

The president recommends that congress, at its present session, reduce the internal revenue taxes imposed to meet the expenses of the war with Spain in the sum of \$30,000,000. This reduction should be secured by the remission of those taxes which experience has shown to be the most burdensome to the industries of the people. He especially urges that there be included, in whatever reduction is made, the legacy tax and bequests for public uses of a literary, educational or charitable character.

In again urging immediate action by the congress on measures to promote American shipping and foreign trade, the president directs attention to the recommendations on the subject in previous messages.

On the subject of trusts, the president says: "Restraint upon such combinations as are injurious and which are within federal jurisdiction should be promptly applied by the congress."

Touching the Philippine question, the president adverts to his former declaration to use the authority vested in him to uphold the sovereignty of the United States in those distant lands, as in all other lands where our flag rightfully floats. He has steadily pursued the purpose thus declared. Our forces have successfully controlled the greater part of the islands, overcoming the organized forces of the insurgents and carrying order and administrative regularity to all quarters. What remains remains, for the most part, scattered. Desiring to bring about a stable administration of affairs as early as possible, the president says he appointed for that purpose the commission headed by Judge Taft. "This commission," says the president, "is composed of eminent citizens, representing the diverse geographical and political interests of the country and bringing to its task the ripe fruits of long and intelligent service in educational, administrative and judicial careers, has made great progress for the outset. As early as Aug. 21, 1900, it submitted a preliminary report, which will be laid before congress, and from which it appears that already the good effects of returning order are felt; that business, interrupted by hostilities, is improving as peace extends; that a larger area is under sugar cultivation than ever before; that the customs receipts are greater than at any time during Spanish rule; that economy and efficiency in the military administration have created a surplus fund of \$6,000,000, available for needed public improvements; that a stringent civil service law is in preparation; that railroad communications are expanding, opening up rich districts, and that a comprehensive system of education is being evolved. Later reports from the commission show a yet more encouraging advance toward insuring the benefits of liberty and good government to the Filipinos, in the interests of humanity and with the aim of building up an enduring, self-supporting and self-administering community in those Far Eastern seas."

"I have, upon another occasion," continues the president, "called the Filipinos 'the wards of the nation.' Our obligation as guardian was not lightly assumed; it must not be otherwise than honestly fulfilled, aiming, first of all, to benefit those who have come under our fostering care. It is our duty so to treat them that our flag may be no less beloved in the mountains of Luzon and the fertile zones of Mindanao and Negros than it is at home; that here, as here, it shall be the revered symbol of liberty, enlightenment and progress in every avenue of development."

"The civil government for Porto Rico, provided for by the act of congress approved April 12, 1900, is in successful operation, according to the president. The courts have been established. The governor and his associates, working intelligently and harmoniously, are meeting with commendable success. On the 6th of November a general election was held in the island for members of the legislature, and the body elected has been called to convene on the first Monday in December. He recommends that legislation be enacted by the congress conferring upon the secretary of the interior supervision over the public lands in Porto Rico."

"The president renews his recommendation as to the necessity for cable communication with Hawaii, with an extension to Manila. The territorial government of Hawaii is in full operation, and conditions on the island are highly satisfactory.

On the 25th day of July, 1900, the president says, he directed that a call be issued for an election in Cuba for members of a constitutional convention to frame a constitution, as a basis for a stable and independent government in the island. The election was held on the 15th of September, and the convention assembled on the 15th of November, 1900, and is now in session. When the session concludes its labors the president says he will transmit to the congress the constitution as framed by the convention, for its consideration and for such action as it may deem advisable.

The president next takes up the question of an increase in the army. On this subject he says: "The present strength of the army is 100,000 men—65,000 regulars and 35,000 volunteers. Under the act of March 2, 1899, on the 20th of June next, the present volunteer force will be discharged, and the regular army will be reduced to 2,447 officers and 20,025 enlisted men. In Porto Rico we have reduced the garrisons to 1,636, which includes 896 native troops. There is no room for further reduction there. We will be required to keep a considerable force in the Philippine islands for some time to come. From the best information obtainable we shall need there for the immediate future from 50,000 to 60,000 men. I am confident that the number may be reduced as the sure the number may be reduced as the insurgents shall come to acknowledge the authority of the United States, of which there are assurances. It must be apparent that of about 60,000, and that during the present conditions in Cuba and the Philippines the president should have authority to increase the force to the present number of 100,000."

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"Is a sure index of the great and increasing business activity of the country. Its most striking new development is in the extension of rural free delivery. This service ameliorates the isolation of farm life, conduces to good roads and quickens and extends the dissemination of general information. Experience thus far has tended to ally the apprehension that it would be so expensive as to forbid its general adoption or make it a serious burden."

The president recommends the recommendations of the secretary of the navy for new vessels, and for additional officers and men, which the required increase in the navy makes necessary. He commends the establishment of a national naval reserve and of the grade of vice admiral.

Pension matters were touched on briefly. The president says: The act of May, 1900, among other things, provides for an extension of income to widows pensioned under said act to \$250 per annum. The secretary of the interior believes that by the operations of this act the number of persons pensioned under it will increase, and the increased annual payment for pensions will be between \$3,000,000 and \$4,000,000. In conclusion, the president says: "In our great prosperity we must guard against the danger it invites of extravagance in government expenditures and appropriations; and the chosen representatives of the people will, I doubt not, furnish an example in their legislation of that wise economy which in a season of plenty husbands for the future. In this era of great business activity and opportunity caution is not untimely. It will not abate, but strengthen confidence. It will not retard but promote legitimate industrial and commercial expansion. Our growing power brings with it temptations and perils requiring constant vigilance to avoid. It must not be used to invite conflicts, nor for oppression, but for the more effective maintenance of those principles of equality and justice upon which our institutions and happiness depend. Let us keep always in mind that the foundation of our government is liberty; its superstructure, peace."

Washington, Dec. 7.—Chairman Payne of the house ways and means committee introduced the bill to reduce the war revenue. The bill provides for a total reduction of \$40,000,000. The reduction on beer is \$9,822,712.25, and on cigars \$3,189,764.14. The reduction in special taxes, section 2, is \$287,598.12, divided as follows: Commercial brokers, \$133,281.12; custom house brokers, \$3,167; circusmen, \$11,744; theaters, \$47,178; exhibitions, \$84,218.

The total reduction on schedule A is \$22,242,000, divided as follows: Bank checks, \$7,000,000; certificates of deposit, \$200,000; drafts in hand, \$500,000; promissory notes, \$3,500,000; postal orders, \$602,000; foreign bills of exchange, \$100,000; export bills of lading, \$100,000; express receipts, \$1,200,000; telephone messages, \$315,000; bonds of indemnity, \$250,000; certificates other than those of profit, \$200,000; charter parties, \$100,000; brokers' contracts, \$100,000; conveyances, \$3,000,000; telegraph dispatches, \$300,000; insurance, \$3,000,000; leases, \$300,000; mortgages, \$500,000; passing tickets, \$300,000; power of attorney, etc., \$100,000; protests, \$25,000; warehouse receipts, \$25,000.

The reduction on schedule B is \$3,945,285, leaving the tax on wines at about \$600,000 untouched. The removal of the tax on legacies, charitable bequests, etc., reduces the revenue \$500,000.

It is the intention of the committee to push the bill through the house before Christmas.

THE MARKETS.

Latest Quotations From Grain and Live Stock Centers.

St. Paul, Dec. 7.—Wheat—No. 1 Northern, 72 1/2 @ 73c; No. 2 Northern, 70 @ 70 3/4c. Corn—No. 2 yellow, 28 5/8c; No. 3, 37 1/4-49 3/4c. Oats—No. 2 white, 25 1/2-25 3/4c; No. 3, 24 1/4-24 3/4c. Seeds—Timothy, \$1.75; clover, \$5.20 @ 6; flax, No. 1, \$1.57 @ 1.59.

Minneapolis, Dec. 7.—Wheat—No. 1 hard, 75c; No. 1 Northern, 73c; No. 2 Northern, 71c. Corn—New No. 3 yellow, 33 1/2 @ 33 3/4c; No. 3, 32 1/2-32 3/4c. Oats—No. 3 white, 23 @ 23 1/4c; No. 3, 22 1/2c. Rye—No. 2, 45 1/2c. Barley—No. 5, 42 1/2c; no grade, 40c; feed grades, 38 1/2c; malting grades, 42 1/2c.

Duluth, Dec. 7.—Wheat—No. 1 hard, 74 1/2c; No. 1 Northern, 72 1/2c; No. 2 Northern, 69 1/2c; to arrive, No. 1 hard, 75 1/2c; No. 1 Northern, 73 1/2c; December, No. 1 Northern, 72 1/2c; May, No. 1 Northern, 76 1/2c; oats, 23 1/4-23 1/2c; rye, 47 1/2c; barley, 40 1/2c; flax, to arrive, \$1.68 1/2-2; cash, \$1.68 1/2-2; December, \$1.68 1/2-2; May, \$1.68 1/2-2; corn, 24 1/2c.

Chicago, Dec. 7.—Cosh Wheat—No. 2 red, 72 3/4-74 3/4c; No. 3 red, 70 1/2-72 3/4c; No. 2 hard winter, 70 3/4-71 3/4c; No. 3 hard winter, 68 3/4-70 1/2c; No. 1 Northern spring, 71 1/4-74 3/4c; No. 3 spring, 67 1/2-70 3/4c. Corn—No. 2, 35 1/2-36 1/4c; No. 3, 26 1/4 @ 26 3/4c. Oats—No. 2, 22 1/4-22 3/4c; No. 3, 22 1/4c.

Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 7.—Flour is steady. Wheat steady; No. 1 Northern, 74 1/2-75 1/2c; No. 2 Northern, 71 1/2-72 1/2c. Rye steady; No. 1, 50c. Barley steady; No. 2, 50c; sample, 49 1/2c. Oats steady; No. 2 white, 24 3/4-25c.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 7.—Cattle—Frees, \$4.50 @ 5.20; cows, bulls and mixed, \$2.50-3.50; stockers and feeders, \$3.25-4.25; calves and yearlings, \$3 @ 3.70. Hogs, \$4.65 @ 4.90; bulk, \$4.70 @ 4.75.

Chicago, Dec. 7.—Cattle—Good to prime steers, \$5.25 @ 6.25; poor to medium, \$4 @ 5.25; stockers and feeders, \$2.25 @ 4.25; cows and heifers, \$2.50 @ 4.50; Texas steers, \$3.35 @ 5; Hogs—Mixed and butchers, \$4.55 @ 4.55; good to choice heavy, \$4.60 @ 4.92 1/2; rough heavy, \$4.45 @ 4.55; light, \$4.45 @ 4.92 1/2; bulk of sales, \$4.75 @ 4.55. Sheep, \$2.75 @ 4.35; lambs, \$4 1/2 @ 5.

South St. Paul, Dec. 7.—Cattle—Good to choice butcher steers, \$4 1/2 @ 5; fair to good, \$4 @ 4.50; common to fair, \$2.40 @ 4; good to choice butcher cows and heifers, \$3.50 @ 4; fair to good, \$2.50 @ 3.50; thin cows and calves, \$3.94; fair to good butcher bulls, \$2.75 @ 3; bologna hogs, \$2.92 1/2; good to choice veals, \$5.65 1/2; fair to good, \$4 @ 5; good to choice feeders, \$3.93 1/2; good to choice stock steers, \$3.93 @ 4; fair to good, \$2.70 @ 3; common, \$2.62 @ 3; good to choice good cows and heifers, \$2.60 @ 2.75; fair to good, \$2.52 @ 2.50; common, \$1.75 @ 2.25; good to choice steer calves, \$3.25 @ 3; fair to good, \$2.70 @ 3; good to choice heifer calves, \$2.50 @ 2.75; fair to good, \$2.25 @ 2.50; stock and feeding bulls, \$2 @ 2.40; good to choice cows, \$2 @ 2.40; good to choice, \$25 @ 25. Hogs—Good to choice light, \$4.55 @ 4.65; mixed and butchers, \$4.50 @ 4.65; good to prime heavy, \$4.50 @ 4.60; common to fair, \$4.40 @ 4.45; rough packers, \$4.50 @ 4.55; boars, \$1.75 @ 2.50; pigs and skips, \$3.75 @ 3.75. Sheep—Good to choice butcher lambs, \$4.40 @ 4.60; fair to good, \$4.25 @ 4.40; good to choice fat wethers, \$3.50 @ 3.65; fair to good, \$3.25 @ 3.50; fat ewes, \$3.25 @ 3.50; good to choice stock and feeding lambs, \$3.75 @ 4.25; fair to good, \$3.25 @ 3.75; feeding ewes, \$2.75 @ 3; thin sheep, \$2.92 1/2; buck lambs, \$2.75 @ 3; killing bucks, \$2 @ 2.50.

DEATH AFTER CAPTURE.

Blackwell, Mo., Dec. 7.—Two men one about fifty, the other about twenty-five years of age, probably tramps were permitted to sleep in a boiler room. Later the younger one was found dead on the railroad track. He apparently had been murdered and robbed. A posse captured the dead man's companion and he was taken to the room where the dead man lay and accused of murder. The old man drew a knife, stabbed himself through the heart and fell dead.

Temporary Incognito.

"What are the names of that newly-married couple in the next flat?" "Oh, we can't find out for a few weeks; each now calls the other 'Birdie.'"—Indianapolis Journal.

CUT DOWN THE TAX

WAR REVENUE PARIED BY THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE.

Chairman Payne Introduces a Bill in the House Which Provides for a Total Reduction of \$40,000,000—348,700—Reduction on Beer is \$9,822,712.25, and on Cigars \$3,189,764.14—Committee Will Attempt to Secure the Passage of the Bill Before Christmas.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Chairman Payne of the house ways and means committee introduced the bill to reduce the war revenue. The bill provides for a total reduction of \$40,000,000. The reduction on beer is \$9,822,712.25, and on cigars \$3,189,764.14.

The entire reduction in special taxes, section 2, is \$287,598.12, divided as follows: Commercial brokers, \$133,281.12; custom house brokers, \$3,167; circusmen, \$11,744; theaters, \$47,178; exhibitions, \$84,218.

The total reduction on schedule A is \$22,242,000, divided as follows: Bank checks, \$7,000,000; certificates of deposit, \$200,000; drafts in hand, \$500,000; promissory notes, \$3,500,000; postal orders, \$602,000; foreign bills of exchange, \$100,000