

The postage thereon amounted to \$1,871,257 25. The total weight of mails exchanged with European countries crossed eight hundred and twenty tons. The cost of the United States trans-Atlantic Mail Steamship service is \$220,301 70. The total cost of the United States Ocean Steamship service, including the amounts paid to subsidized lines of mail steamers was \$1,027,052 75. The following are the subsidized lines now receiving subsidies for mail service under special acts of Congress: The Pacific Mail S. S. Co. receives \$500,000 per annum for carrying a monthly mail between San Francisco, Japan and China, which will be increased to \$1,000,000 per annum for a semi-monthly mail on and after October 1st, 1873; the U. S. and Brazil S. S. Co. receives \$150,000 per annum for carrying a monthly mail between New York and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and the California, Oregon and Mexico S. S. Co. receives \$75,000 per annum for carrying a monthly mail between San Francisco and Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands, making the total amount of mail S. S. subsidies at present, \$725,000 per annum.

Our postal communications with all parts of the civilized world have been placed upon the most advantageous footing by improved postal conventions and arrangements recently concluded with the leading commercial countries in Europe and America, and the gratifying statement is made that with the conclusion of a satisfactory convention with France, the details of which have been definitely recommended to the French postal department, subject to the approval of the Minister of Finance, little remains to be accomplished by treaty for some time to come.

In respect to the reduction of the rate, or improved facilities of the postal service, your favorable consideration is respectfully invited to the recommendations of the Postmaster General for an increase of the service from a monthly to semi-monthly trip on the mail steamships to Brazil; for a subsidy in aid of the establishment of an American line of mail steamers between San Francisco, New Zealand and Australia; for the establishment of postoffice savings banks, and for the increase of the salaries of the heads of bureaus.

I have heretofore recommended the abolition of the franking privilege, and see no reason now for changing my views on that subject. It is not having been favorably regarded by Congress, however, I now suggest a modification of the privilege to correct its glaring and costly abuses.

I would suggest the appointment of a Committee or Commission to take into consideration the best method, equitable to private corporations, which have invested their time and capital in the establishment of telegraph lines, of acquiring the title to all telegraph lines, now in operation, and of connecting this service with the postal service of the nation. It is not probable that this subject could receive proper consideration during the limit of the next session of Congress, but it may be initiated so that the further action may be fair to the Government and to the private parties concerned.

There are but three lines of ocean steamers, namely: the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, between San Francisco, China and Japan, with provision made for a semi-monthly service after October 1st, 1873; the United States and Brazil Line, monthly, and the California and New Zealand and Australian Line, monthly, plying between the United States and foreign ports, owned and operated under our flag. I earnestly recommend that such liberal contracts for carrying the mails be authorized with those lines as will insure their continuance if the expediency of extending the aid of the Government to lines of steamers which hitherto have not received it should be deemed worthy of the consideration of Congress. Political and commercial objects make it advisable to bestow such aid on the line under our flag between Panama and the western South American ports. By this means much trade now turned to other countries might be brought to us to the mutual advantage of this country and those lying in that quarter of the continent of America.

The amount paid for pensions in the last fiscal year was \$30,469,340, an amount larger by \$3,708,538 than was paid the preceding year. Of the above amount, \$23,315,409 was paid under the act of Congress of 1871, to survivors of the war of 1812. The increase of pensions by legislation of Congress has more than kept pace with the natural yearly losses from the rolls. The act of Congress of June 8th 1872, has added an estimated amount of \$750,000 per annum to the rolls without increasing the number of pensions. We cannot therefore look for any substantial decrease in the expenditure of the Government on this account for some time to come, or as long as Congress continues to change the date of pensions. The whole number of soldiers enlisted in the war of the rebellion was 2,688,523. The total number of claims for invalid pensions is 176,500. The total number of claims on hand at the beginning of the year was 21,603, the number received during the year was 26,574; the number disposed of, 35,178, making a net gain of 1,294. The number of claims now on file is 79,085; on the 30th of June, 1872, there were on the rolls the names of 9,548 invalid military pensioners, 113,618 widows, orphans and dependent relatives, making an aggregate of 208,233 army pensioners. At the same time there were on the rolls the names of 1,443 navy pensioners, and 1,780 widows, orphans and dependent relatives, making the whole number of navy pensioners 3,173. There have been received since the passage of the act to provide pensions for survivors of the war of 1812, 36,551 applications prior to June 30, 1872. Of these there were allowed during the last fiscal year, 20,128 claims, and forty-five were remanded during the year, leaving 11,583 claims pending at that date. The number of claims of all claims granted during the last fiscal year was 3,328. During that period there dropped from the rolls for various causes, 214, leaving the grand total

of 232,229 pensioners on the rolls on the 30th of June, 1872. It is thought the claims for pensions on account of the war of 1812 will all be disposed of by the 1st of May, 1872. It is estimated that \$30,480,000 will be required for the pension service during the next year.

THE CENSUS.

The Ninth Census, about completed, is the subject of congratulation, inasmuch as the use to be made of the statistics therein contained depends very greatly on the promptitude of publication. The Secretary of the Interior recommends that a centenary census be taken in 1875, which recommendation should receive the ready attention of Congress. The interval at present established between the Federal censuses is so long that the information obtained at the periods of the material condition, wants and resources of the Nation, is of little value at the expiration of the first half of that period. It would probably obviate the constitutional provision regarding the centenary census, if a census of 1875 should be divided of all political character and an appointment of Congressional representation be made under it, such census, coming as it would, in the last year of the fiscal century of our national history, would furnish a most important monument of the progress of the United States during that century.

THE BUREAU OF EDUCATION.

The rapidly increasing interest in education is the most encouraging feature in the history of the country. It is no doubt true that this is due, in a great measure, to the efforts of the Bureau of Education. That office is continually receiving evidence which abundantly proves its efficiency from various institutions of learning and education of all kinds throughout the country. The report of the Commissioner contains vast amount of educational details of great interest. The bill now pending in Congress providing for an appropriation of a part of the proceeds of the sales of public lands for educational purposes to aid the States in the general education of the rising generation, is of such great importance to our real progress, and so unanimously approved by the leading friends of education, that I recommend it to the favorable attention of Congress.

THE TERRITORIES.

Affairs in the Territories are generally satisfactory. The capacity of the pioneers who are settling on the vast domains not yet incorporated into States, are keeping pace with internal improvements. In but one of them (Utah) is the condition of affairs unsatisfactory, except so far as the quiet of citizens may be disturbed by real or imaginary dangers of Indian hostilities. It has seemed to be the policy of the Legislature of Utah to create all responsibility to the Government of the United States, and even to hold a position of hostility to it. I recommend the careful revision of the present laws of that Territory by Congress, and the enactment of such a law as that one proposed in Congress at its last session for instance, or something similar to it, as will create peace and quietude in all citizens before the law, and the ultimate extinguishment of polygamy. Since the establishment of a Territorial government for the District of Columbia, the improvement of the condition of the City of Washington and surroundings and the increased prosperity of the citizens is observable to the most casual visitor. The Nation being a large owner of property in the city, should bear with the cost of the expenses of these improvements. I recommend, therefore, an appropriation to reimburse the citizens of the District for the work done by them along and in front of the public ground during the past year, and liberal appropriations, in order that the improvement and embellishment of the public buildings and grounds may keep pace with the improvement made by the Territorial authorities.

THE PUBLIC LANDS.

For the same period, during the last fiscal year, there were disposed of out of the public lands, 11,854,975 acres—a quantity greater by 1,099,270 acres than was disposed of the previous year. Of this amount, 1,370,320 acres were sold for cash; 389,460 acres located with military warrants; 4,671,332 acres taken for homesteads; 693,613 acres located with College scrip; 3,554,887 acres granted to railroads; 465,847 acres granted to wagon roads; 714,255 acres given to States as swamp land, and 5,760 acres located by Indian scrip.

The Democrat.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1872.
DEATH OF HON. N. H. CRANOR.
It becomes our painful duty to record the death of our distinguished fellow-citizen, HON. N. H. CRANOR, which occurred at his residence in this city, on last Monday morning, after a tedious and wasting illness of many months.

NELSON HARPER CRANOR was born in North Carolina, October 15, 1826, and losing his parents at an early age, was taken by relatives to Delaware county, Indiana, where he received a liberal education. Choosing the practice of the law for his profession, he entered upon his study at Muncie, Indiana, and in due time was admitted to practice in the several courts of that State. There he practiced for a short time with reasonable success, but, catching the Western fever he turned his face towards the Occident, and in autumn of 1853 he arrived in Oregon, a friendless and penniless young man, with nothing but his own energies to aid him in the stern battle of life. During the first year or two after arriving in Oregon he taught school in the southern portion of this country, where he yet has many warm friends who have not forgotten the young stranger's manly bearing and nobility of character. After entering upon a donation claim and cultivating it for a couple of years, Mr. Cranor began the practice of his profession in this city in 1856, where he has since remained and where he has arisen to distinction in his noble calling. Thrice was he chosen to represent the people of Linn county in the Legislature—once in the Territorial Council and twice in the House of Representatives of the State Legislative Assembly. His last election was in June of the current year, but when the Legislature convened in September last his failing health prevented him from taking that conspicuous part in its councils for which he was so eminently fitted both by experience and ability. His last sickness was marked by that fortitude and nobility of demeanor which had characterized his whole life; and when the grim messenger came to summon him from earth he found him prepared with a pure heart and a stainless conscience to meet the Great Judge of All. He leaves a sorrowing widow and two bright, beautiful children to mourn the loss of one who loved them wisely and well.

As a lawyer, Mr. Cranor stood the peer of the ablest legal minds in Oregon; indeed he had no ambition aside from his profession, in the practice of which he had ever maintained the strictest adherence to fairness, candor and justice. A close student, a ready thinker and a conscientious counselor, his legal advice was of the safest kind, always emanating, as it did, from the purest motives of right and justice. His motives were seldom questioned—his integrity never impeached.

Although a Democrat of the strictest sect, and many times literally pressed into positions of trust and honor by his fellow-citizens, Mr. Cranor was never a politician. Although combining in his nature many of the rarest elements of statesmanship he yet shrunk from employing the means usually resorted to by modern politicians for the furtherance of their ambitious longings, preferring rather to leave the political arena open to other contestants and devote his talents to purer and nobler pursuits.

As a citizen Mr. Cranor was universally esteemed. This is no idle language, emanating from a desire to eulogize the distinguished dead at the expense of a perhaps too often repeated sentence; but is as near the truth in his case as ever written of an individual. In this community where his best years have been passed and where he had arisen to distinction in the practice of his profession, we doubt if he leaves an ill-wisher, or one who entertains any but the sincerest feelings of sorrow at his loss. All feel that we have lost an ardent patriot, a bright intellect, an able champion of right, a true gentleman, a never-failing friend,—"the noblest work of God, AN HONEST MAN." Silently and sorrowfully did this entire community follow his remains to the scene of sepulture on last Tuesday, feeling that the great void left by his absence could never be filled by another. He was laid in the same earth which contains the sacred dust of the eloquent Smith and the warm-hearted Morris, and his memory will be embalmed with theirs in the hearts of his countrymen. Sweet be his sleep—sacred his rest.

In administration circles, at Washington, Senator Ferry of Connecticut, Alcorn, of Mississippi; Hamilton, of Texas, and Robertson, of South Carolina, are classified with Sumner, Schurz, Fenton, Tipton and Sprague, on the opposition; and by this calculation the opposition vote in the Senate, after the 4th of March, is increased to 30, against 44 sure to support any measure President Grant may demand, even San Domingo.

The election returns in Missouri show that Greeley's majority is 84,664. Woodson, Democratic candidate for Governor, has 31,083 majority, and the Legislature is largely Democratic.

Horrible—By the burning of the Fifth Avenue Hotel, in New York, on last Wednesday, 22 servants, mostly women, were consumed in the flames.

Reckless and lawless men, I regret to say, have combined themselves together in some localities to deprive others of the right guaranteed them by the constitution of the United States, and to that end have committed deeds of violence; but the detection and punishment of many of these persons have tended greatly to the repression of such disorders. I do not doubt that a great majority, however, are in favor of the full enjoyment by all classes of persons of those rights to which they are entitled under the constitution and laws, and all invoke the aid and influence of all good citizens to prevent organizations whose objects are by unlawful means interfering with those rights. I look with confidence to the time not far distant when the obvious advantages of the abandonment of all combinations prohibited by acts referred to, when it will be unnecessary to carry on prosecution or inflict punishments to protect citizens from the lawless doings of such combinations. Applications have been made to me to pardon persons convicted of violations of said acts, upon the ground that clemency in such cases would tend to test the virtue of such policy. I am disposed, so far as my sense of justice will permit, to give to these applications favorable considerations, but my action thereon is not to be construed as indicating any ceasing in my determination to enforce with vigor such acts so long as the conspiracies and combinations therein named disturb the peace of the country. It is much to be regretted, and I am regretted by no one more than myself, that the necessity has ever existed to execute the enforcement act. No one can desire more than I that the necessity for applying it may never again exist.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.
The Secretary of the Interior reported a satisfactory improvement and progress in each of the several bureaus under the control of the Interior Department. They are all in excellent condition. The work which, in some of them for some years past, has been broken down, has been brought down to a recent date, and in all a great country, but it need not be written hopefully. Time will cure all this. There is nothing so easily learned and taught as hatred. A small heart will learn it at one lesson, and the weakest heart is never so weak that it cannot hold it in remembrance and prate about it. But all this will pass away with time, and there will come a time when we shall, on both sides of the line, without reference to the war, or slavery, or sectional hatred, or anything else that we cannot elevate to the plane of reason—a time when we won't have to fish among the dregs of our hearts for motives for voting. And while remembering this doctrine for others, let us remember it for ourselves. There is no possible excuse for intolerance in politics any more than in other matters where reason has the decision of the matter. It is the crowning glory of the Republic, that thought and speech are free and we should take heed not to dim its lustre by an intolerance which fetters both. When hatred ceases to govern the votes of the American people, and reason again assumes sway, then we may expect the principles of the Old Democracy to be again triumphant. Until then, patriots can wait.

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