REVOKED BY THE PRESIDENT.

Special Rule for Regulation and Improvement of the Civil Service.

The president has issued the following special rule for the regulation and improvement of the civil service: "Special rule No. 2, approved July 18, 1884, is hereby revoked. All applicants on any register for the postal or customs service who, on the first day of November next, shall have been thereon one year or more, shall, in conformity with rule 16, be no longer eligible for appointment from such register." The special rule which is now revoked provided that the names of those persons on the registers of the commission, eligible for appointment prior to July 16, 1884, should not be taken off at the end of the year of being entered thereon, but should remain on the registers as eligible for appointment for two years from that date, without further nomination or examination.

A reporter for the associated press called upon commissioner Lyman, in regard to the new special rule. "Was the rule," asked the reporter, "made on the recommendation of the commissioners?"

"Has the board had this subject been under consideration?"

"Then you personally, I have drafts of a special rule which I have had under consideration for two months, but which I have not submitted to the commissioners."

"Then you will not say whether the rule was or was not made on the recommendation of the commissioners?"

"You have had this subject been under consideration?"

"Then you personally, I have drafts of a special rule which I have had under consideration for two months, but which I have not submitted to the commissioners."

"Then you will not say whether the rule was or was not made on the recommendation of the commissioners?"

"My dear sir, there are three kinds of social sin. The first and the worst one is synonymous with communism. Its advocates hold that the common wealth should be distributed and divided among all, share and share alike; that all restraints in regard to school, marriage, and the state should be abolished, such being the logical consequences of the *laissez-faire* principle, and that to gain these ends all means are permissible.

"The advocates of the second kind of socialism—disciples of Karl Marx, Lassalle, Rodbertus, and Engels—have exchanged the French notions of the communists for a belief that the state should appropriate all the means of production. In this way they hope to do away with wage labor altogether and make every individual an official with salary and pension in case of disability. They point to state railroads and state monopolies as models for every industry. Just as the postoffice is controlled by the nation, so they maintain that all other industries should be controlled. By doing away with the incentive to accumulate wealth they hope to gain the greatest possible amount of human liberty for the poor and at the same time to destroy in the human heart a desire for riches, such being considered by them the most criminal of all desires. This kind of socialism, therefore, is not only an equitable industrial arrangement, but a means for elevating the human race.

"The advocates of this system confess indeed that it can not be easily carried out. True, the very idea that the human race can be bettered by the abolition of the institution of private property in the means of production and the removal of the necessity for seeking a livelihood has stirred up feelings of fanaticism in many better informed workingmen, who, despairing of Christianity as presented by the churches, hope by means of this very idea to realize true Christianity in its pristine form. But it is in this very fact that the danger lies. The battle cry is not, as is usually stated, for an increase of wages, but for the formation of a new society, every member of which must be spiritually born again. Now, sober minded citizens will not believe in changing the entire nature of men, but will forever hold that half the nation should be appointed officials for the purpose of seeing that the other half works hard for its salary, and that laws of Draconian severity will always be necessary to overcome the slovenliness of mankind.

"Although this objection is self-evident, it is wonderful how few doctors can see it. Doctors, divines, and all who see the sorrows and degradation of the poor and hear the arguments of the *laissez-faire* school in regard to the survival of the fittest feel their hearts bleed at the woful sights and sounds, and, naturally enough, their sympathy overpowers their reason. While they favor the socialistic doctrine of the distribution of the world's commodities, they altogether lose sight of the problem how to produce that which is to be distributed. In this respect they are no better than their antagonists, the *laissez-faire* antagonist, who altogether forget the problem how to distribute properly what is produced.

"In the hope of getting round this difficulty the idea of state socialism has been suggested. Now, state socialism proposes to hold inviolate the idea of liberty and equality in business and state, and, by proper legislation in all the branches of human life, to abolish the privileges which are now connected with the possessions of wealth. For example, in this country the incorporation laws would have to be changed; the factory laws for the protection of the young would have to be made more thorough; the means of communication would have to be owned by the state, so that the comfort of the people might be increased at the expense of the whole people, and all other monopolies would have to be abolished. Again, one of the most important doctrines of state socialism is the official recognition of industrial unions. Only in this way, it is maintained, can the real people ever be fully represented in the national councils.

"Socialism forgets human nature. State socialism takes the individual as he is and endeavors to frame the institutions of society accordingly. The present individualism puts up certain theories and tries to make human nature act in accordance with them.

"Communism aspires to a general license. Socialism demands an increase of individual liberty. State socialism seeks to decrease the liberty of the strong and unscrupulous by suitable legislation.

"In Europe state socialism means a greater participation of the people in the affairs of government, whereas in America it is the carrying out of the original intention of the framers of the constitution that the people shall rule in all things. While the public in general look upon the word state socialism as meaning concentrated despotism, it is really the most perfect distribution of the power of the state among all the classes of the people. If it can be carried into effect it will give rise to an ideal democracy.

"Such, in effect, are the opinions, hopes, and aims of the leading socialists of this city and of America. Among them are numbered many prominent men of all callings. How widely their influence is spreading is proved by the simple fact that within the past few weeks societies have been formed in New York, Boston, and Baltimore for the promulgation of the doctrines of state socialism.—*New York Herald.*

SOCIALISM IN AMERICA.

Modes by Which Its Apostles Hope to Regenerate Mankind—Disciples Among All Classes.

Ask a well-fed, well-appareled, airly-cultivated American to define socialism, and the chances are that he will reply: "Oh, there's no such thing in the world; it's all bosh." Ask the same question of a hungry-eyed, savage-looking tramp and his answer will doubtless be: "Socialism means that by hook or crook, by fair means or foul, the poorest man will some day have as big a share of God's earth as the richest man on it." Finally, turn to a divine, a doctor, or any sympathetic man whose duties or inclinations bring him in contact with the poor, and ask him the same question, and it is not unlikely that his answer will be: "My friend, socialism is the death-blow to human covetousness and cruelty, and the only safe guide to an earthly paradise."

Considerably puzzled at hearing such contradictory replies to a simple question, a *Herald* reporter went in quest of men who have studied socialism in all its ramifications, who know its good points and its bad points, who favor it in all that is lawful and shrink from that which they believe to be bad, and who are doing much in a quiet way to spread their doctrines throughout the length and breadth of this continent. And from them as far as the reporter succeeded in getting to know them did he obtain a definition of socialism and a strange account of the manner in which the apostles of this new creed propose to regenerate the hearts of Americans. Leaning back in an arm-chair, the oldest and gravest of them said:

"My dear sir, there are three kinds of social sin. The first and the worst one is synonymous with communism. Its advocates hold that the common wealth should be distributed and divided among all, share and share alike; that all restraints in regard to school, marriage, and the state should be abolished, such being the logical consequences of the *laissez-faire* principle, and that to gain these ends all means are permissible.

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THE PASHA'S REFORM EYES.

Sensational Discovery in the Management of the Turkish War Funds.

London dispatch: A dispatch from Constantinople was received this afternoon saying that considerable consternation prevails in official circles over the important discovery just made by Alib Sahib Pasha, the new minister of war, immediately on being installed in his new position. Alib Sahib Pasha ordered all the department commanders to report the strength of their respective commands, and their present condition, and detailed several officers to inspect the various posts. Their reports show that under the late minister of war, who was dismissed Sept. 25, the army was almost entirely neglected, and the large sums of money voted for military purposes were used in other ways than those for which they were designated. The inquiry has revealed that the Adrianople army, supposed to be 15,000 strong, contains not half that number. Soldiers have no uniforms and are shoeless. The cavalry is unable to march owing to a lack of horses and necessary accoutrements. About 400 horses and 2,000 men have been fully equipped and are under orders to march at an hour's notice.

Four ironclads are actively preparing for sea, but there are only 600 tons of coal available, and their departure may be delayed on that account.

Yesterday Turkish troops fired on the Roumelian outposts at Mustapha Pasha, a town in Roumelia, twenty miles north of Adrianople. The outposts were immediately reinforced and a skirmish ensued, in which the Turks were defeated and forced to retreat, carrying with them a number of wounded.

During the last two days heavy artillery firing has been heard in the direction of Pristina and Djakora. It is believed a desperate fight has been raging between Turks and Arnants. Bashi-Bazouks have sacked and burned several villages in eastern Roumania.

A TINY TRAGEDY.

SPASM I.

He rose up in the morning—then
He broke her lovely head;
He was the very worst of men,
That patient lady said.

SPASM II.

She bought a pound of arsenic, and
She put it in his beer,
He said he could not understand
What made him feel so queer.

SPASM III.

He died that night; his awful curse
Upon her head was heard;
But she declared she felt no worse—
And married Major Third!

He Preferred the Gout.

In the following written prescription, addressed by a medical man, resident at Roemershausen, in the district of Cassel, to one of his patients, will be found a new and somewhat remarkable cure for gout: "I have measured your baptismal name, and assured myself quite exactly that it exhibits fully an inch-length of gout. This is deplorable; but, if you have faith in my treatment, I propose, with God's help, to cure your malady for as long as you shall live. This I shall do on the 15th, 16th and 17th of the month. But, ere those days arrive, I shall have mitigated your sufferings. This is what you will have to do upon the days in question. You must not drink too much milk in your coffee nor eat pork; upon no account must you step across water, nor, indeed, meddle in any way with that liquid. Keep yourself nice and warm, preferably in bed; the more rapidly will you get better. You may drink a little water, but it must be drawn by somebody else. But, whatever may be promised to you in the meantime, have nothing to do with it. Nothing will do you any good but my treatment." The recipient of this extraordinary prescription, like a late distinguished nobleman, who had tried a certain novel wine recommended to him as an effectual means of warding off his hereditary disease, replied, in effect, "I prefer the gout."—*London Telegraph.*

A chemical analysis of Alpine air shows that an entirely pure condition is not found until an altitude is reached of from 6,000 to 13,000 feet above the level of the sea—a result by no means to accord with common opinion.

THE ALABAMA COURT.

Interesting Interview With Judge Harlan Concerning the Recent Decision—What the Court Has Done Since It Was Organized.

A reporter of *The Burlington Hawkeye* has invaded the seclusion of Judge James Harlan, presiding judge of the court of Alabama claims, and secured the judge's views on the recent treasury decision. Judge Harlan says: "I have not seen the decision and have no official information on the subject. I have, however, seen several newspaper articles which purport to state its substance, with the usual newsy comments, some of them suggesting possible improper conduct on the part of the court, such as extravagance, favoritism, and the like supposed offenses. I infer from the statements made in these articles that the first comptroller has rejected the vouchers of the disbursing officer appointed by the secretary of state for the court covering the payment of the compensation of all of the officers of the court specifically named, in that act, and of such other officers, messengers, and employés as the court, or a majority of the justices thereof, should certify to the secretary of the treasury as necessary, or as were appointed by the court with the approval of the attorney-general, and all of the necessary expenses of the court, including the compensation of the bailiffs, criers, and other officials or helpers named in the act of congress, and the rent of rooms, and all other necessary expenses authorized by the general provisions of the statute defining the court what it should do, which it could not do without such assistance, and their compensation was supposed to be provided for in the general appropriation for all necessary contingent expenses. Within six months after the court convened, July 15, 1882, more than 5,700 cases were docketed. It was of course, literally impossible for the clerk with his own hands to do all the necessary clerical work incident to his office, to superintend the necessary printing, to stand guard over this accumulation of public property day and night, to build fires, sweep and scrub, and do the necessary messenger-running for the court. It was equally impossible for the government counsel in person to take care of the government side of all of these cases within the time limited by law for their decision; or as fast as the court could dispose of them when properly prepared. The court therefore authorized what seemed to it to be only the necessary assistance to enable it and its officers to dispose of the business efficiently, promptly, and justly as congress appeared to have intended, and has succeeded within the first three years in disposing of more than 4,100 cases, when if the court had adopted the first comptroller's view of the meaning of the law it could not possibly have disposed of more than two or three hundred per annum, and consequently could not have closed its work in less than twenty years from the date of its organization."

"Are these vouchers which have been disallowed by the first comptroller different from those which have heretofore been allowed and paid by the treasury department?"

"Certainly not in their legal aspect, or in any essential particular. Just such vouchers for the compensation paid for the same service, performed in large part by the same persons, during the preceding three years have been examined and allowed and paid by the treasury department without an adverse suggestion, as far as I know and believe from any quarter."

"Is this court sustained by any precedents in its action in this respect?"

"Certainly it is by all the courts of the United States in a greater or less degree, and especially by all courts and commissions of a temporary character, and by the action of all the departments in the execution of laws directing work outside of regular routine department business. In providing for the expenses of the permanent courts congress can be more specific, because in the course of years it can be known more certainly just what helps are needed. Congress has come to know almost exactly what number of clerks, messengers, watchmen, etc., are needed, and provides for their payment specifically. But when this can not be known in advance, and consequently is not specifically provided for in the terms of the law, the court commission or executive officer is compelled to let the work come to a stand still or to employ the necessary persons to perform it and pay them out of the general appropriation under the head of 'necessary contingent expenses.' The principle of interpretation of such laws may be tersely stated thus: If congress by law directs an officer or a court to do some specific work within a given time, and appropriates a gross sum of money for the purpose, and omits to designate specifically the subordinate official machinery for its execution, the general authority thus conferred to do the work has always been so, and must continue to be so to the end of time."

"Can you mention a specific precedent covering this precise case?"

"Certainly. I could mention parallel cases almost without limit from my personal recollection. But the former court of Alabama claims is exactly in point. It was organized under the act of June, 1874. This act provided for the appointment of five judges, a clerk, a government attorney, and for the service of a marshal, and possibly a short-hand reporter, and nothing more by way of employes. That court was directed by the act to hear and decide claims for losses caused by the confederate cruisers Alabama, Florida, and Shenandoah after it left Melbourne, and their tenders. That court under the act appointed watchmen, messengers, clerks, assistant counsel, and a printer, and all other assistance licensed by it necessary to enable it to perform promptly and efficiently the judicial work indicated. It sat about two and one-half years, disposed of a little less than twenty-one hundred cases—all that were docketed within the time limited by law, and adjourned sine die. The accounts for payment of all this extra help were audited, allowed, and paid by the treasury department."

"In what respect as to these employes did that court differ from this court?"

"In no essential particular. The act of June, 1882, under which this court was organized, revived and continued in force the act of 1874, under which the former court was organized, leaving all of its essential features in full force. The act of 1882 diminished the number of judges to three instead of five, and directed the appointment of a clerk, a government attorney, short-hand reporter, and the detail of a deputy marshal, and specifically mentioned no other helpers as in the former act. It directed this court to hear and decide claims for the destruction of property by any confederate cruiser, and also for payment of war premiums. The presiding judge of the former court was appointed presiding judge of this court. The governor appointed the former court, which was reappointed, and this court succeeded precisely the same corps of helpers as the former court, soldier only as regards examination of marine and commercial books and records, who, when such examinations, presented as witnesses, both by claimants and by the government, have been paid by the government out of this fund. At first one only was so called by the government, but he not being able to keep up with the court in his examination of the books, papers, and insurance records, others have been added from time to time. They hold no offices. They are simply government witnesses. They are paid in the form of salaries, instead of a per diem and mileage, etc., in each case in which they are called, from considerations of convenience and economy of money and time. The former court did not employ insurance experts because it is presumed that court had no insurance cases to adjudicate."

"Then, judge, how do you account for this decision of the first comptroller? Is it for political effect, and from a desire to break up the court with a view to its reorganization with democratic judges and other officers?"

"I have not tried to account for it, and have no sufficient reason to justify me in ascribing improper motives to that high official. On the other hand, I entertain a high respect and regard for him. We were boys together as students at the same college, and I have, of course, followed his career ever since, and as far as I know he has been a worthy, capable, and upright man in all the relations of life. I do not believe he would be influenced consciously in the discharge of his official duties by a political or any unworthy motive. I do not doubt that he has done what he conceived to be his duty in the premises. But he is new in his office, and of course unfamiliar with the settled ministerial method of interpreting the statutes, and he may have been, and probably was, misinformed as to the actual facts of the case."

"What does the court propose to do about it?"

"I suppose nothing whatever. The members of the court have had no consultation over the matter, and I can only state my own impressions. The department officers have no jurisdiction over the court as to its judgments, decisions, rulings, and orders, and the court has no jurisdiction over the accounting officers of the treasury. Their official functions are separate and distinct, and ought to remain so. The court will do its duty as it understands it. The first comptroller will doubtless within his legitimate sphere do the same. If he has erred in this matter no doubt he will modify or change his ruling. And if he shall not become so convinced he will, I suppose, adhere to it, and the matter will have to wait until congress shall in its discretion find and apply a remedy. In the meantime, I suppose the court will proceed, with such help as it can legally employ, with the performance of its judicial duties."

"But in that case will not the court be greatly crippled and retarded, and can it dispose of insurance cases without experts?"

"It will not be exactly crippled, but greatly retarded. Yes, it can try and decide insurance cases without the aid of experts, if that should become necessary. The individual judges can personally examine insurance books and papers and compel by subpœna the attendance of experts as witnesses. In this method the court would be reduced to the necessity of proceeding slowly."

"But if the first comptroller should adhere to his decision and congress fail to enact remedial legislation, what would the court do?"

"I suppose it would go right along as well as it could under the existing conditions, and on the 31st of next December, when the law expires, quit work, and each of its judges and officers respectively go about his own business and let the responsibility of the failure of claimants to get their legal dues rest with the first comptroller or with congress.

A Nation of Dikes.

The total annual revenue of Holland is, writes a *Louisville Courier-Journal* correspondent, about $50,000,000, and her total annual expenditures for the last few years, owing to the extraordinary cost of building new dikes and repairing of old ones, has been about $55,000,000. She pays $303,750 annually to her king and his household, and an annual interest of $13,151,160 on her public dept. She has about 1,600 miles of dikes on her seacoasts and water-courses and the annual cost of keeping these dikes in repair is about $2,500,000. These dikes are immense embankments, from ten to twenty-five feet high and as many feet broad, thrown up on the seacoasts and water-courses to prevent the inundation of the entire country. On the water side they are protected by stone or timber lining, and on the top of the land side they are covered with beautiful green sod, bushes, mostly willows, largely used in their construction—and frequently by trees, and in many instances there are fine, shady roadways on the tops of these dikes. When you stand on the land side of some of these dikes, you can hear the waves of the sea beating against the other side from five to fifteen feet above your head. The entire kingdom of Holland is also interlaced and intersected by thousands of miles of canals.

As to Children

Treat them kindly.

Don't preach politeness and propriety to them, and vollate their laws yourself. In other words, let the example you set them be a good one.

Never quarrel in their presence. If you want to quarrel, wait until the children are gone to bed. Then they will not see you, and perhaps by that time you may not want to quarrel.

Never talk "old folks" talk in the presence of children.

Never speak flippantly of neighbors before children. They may meet the neighbors' children, and have a talk about it.

Teach them to think that the little boy in rags has a heart in him in spite of the rags—and a stomach, too.

Teach them as they grow older, that a respectful demeanor to others, a gentle tone of voice, a kind disposition, a generous nature, an honest purpose and an industrious mind, are better than anything else on earth. Teach them these things, and self reliance and intelligence and capability will come of themselves. Teach them these things, and your boys and girls will grow up to be noble men and women.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

A newspaper is preferable to a brush for polishing a stove.

If salt is strewn over carpets before they are swept it will tend to freshen the colors.

Water in which prunes have been soaked over night makes a very acceptable acid drink.

A dish of cold water placed in an oven that is too hot for baking will speedily reduce the temperature.

An effective design for a wall pocket is conventionalized yellow jessamine worked in Kensington stitch on "dead leaf" sateen or serge.

Eating a few pieces of common starch will sometimes settle a weak stomach. Gum arabic is also a good remedy, and it will relieve tickling in the throat.

The white of an egg is the best application for scalding burns and scalds. It may be spread over the wound, and forms at once a varnish which excludes the air.

Brass, copper or tin vessels should never be used in making pickles, as the action of the acid frequently produces a poison. A porcelain, or granite ware vessel is better for pickle making.

To prevent mould forming on fruit jellies, pour a little melted paraffine over the top. It will harden into a solid cake when it cools, and it can be easily removed. It can be saved and used again next season.

Spreads made of tissue paper to represent roses of chrysanthemums are very convenient. They save the constant washing of the glass ones, and may be changed whenever a spot of candle grease appears.

One who knows from experience says that if people will drink buttermilk "crow's feet" and wrinkles will be kept in abeyance. Buttermilk is a refreshing drink, and as its beautifying qualities are vouched for it ought to become popular.

Unique and curious panels are made by inking etched plates and then taking the impression by covering them with liquid plaster of Paris. The ink is transferred to the plaster as perfectly as if it were carefully printed. These panels may be framed.

It is to be hoped that no one will do as a fashion journal says, and keep the pillows in a closet through the day. Keep the pillows on the bed, whether it be fashionable or not, unless a closet with a window which permits the free access of pure air be available.

An excellent method of administering castor oil to children is arrived at by pouring the oil into a pan over a moderate fire, then breaking an egg into it and stirring well. Flavored with a little sugar or current jelly, the mixture will not be disagreeable.

For polishing stained floors use a weighted brush with long handle. Beeswax gives a very much better polish than varnish, as the latter will show every scratch of the boots or chairs upon it, and will soon look like an old floor. Do not begin with varnish, but use the wax polish from the first.

An omelet pan and pancake griddle, says an old cook, ought never to be washed. Thoroughly rub the pan and griddle after and before using, with a clean, dry cloth. Of course these dishes, if so handled, are never to be used for any other purpose than omelets and pancakes, and there will be no trouble with either sticking to the pan or griddle.

From ten to twenty drops of bromine dissolved in an ounce of olive oil is claimed to be an effectual remedy for the eruption caused by contact with poison oak, ivy, etc. It is used by rubbing gently on the affected part three or four times a day, and especially on going to bed at night. The bromine is so volatile that the solution should be renewed within twenty-four hours.

Remember that one of the very nicest, if not the nicest, way to prepare pumpkin for pies is as follows: Cut the pumpkin in half, put it in a dripping pan, skin side down, (after the seeds are removed) in a slow oven; bake until all the good can be easily scraped from the rind with a spoon; if it is as brown as nicely baked bread, all the better; mash finely, and to one quart add a quarter of a pound of butter, while hot. Then make up after your usual formula.

Rusked bread and milk is a new dish, very fashionable at city lunch tables, and a great help to the housekeeper in disposing of stale bread. But perhaps you do not know what rusked bread is. It is simply bread dried quickly in the oven till it is a light brown, then pounded till about as fine as rice. It is "just delicious" with milk and berries, better than bread or crackers; and we suspect might serve as foundation for a delicious pudding to replace the usual "bread pudding."

Few cooks appreciate as they should the necessity of draining and airing all canned vegetables. For canned peas (in tin), beans, tomatoes, or any other, always open them three hours before they are wanted. Drain off all the liquor and throw it away. Turn out the vegetables to evaporate and air upon a flat dish. Stir them up so that the air may reach them all through. A little trouble, to be sure; but it makes this kind of food much wholesomer; it gets rid of any gases that may have been formed in the can, as well as any of the corroded solder that may have dissolved out with the liquor.

Stuffed green peppers are prepared in this way. Take large green peppers, wash them and cut two-thirds around the stem, so that it remains attached to the pepper, and remove all the seeds. Make a stuffing of two quarts of finely chopped cabbage, half a cupful of grated horseradish, three tablespoonfuls of celery seed, one cupful of mustard seed, and two tablespoonfuls of salt. Fill the peppers with the mixture, putting into each pepper one tiny cucumber and small onion; replace the stem and fasten it with a string. Put the peppers in a large unglazed jar, cover them with cold vinegar and place a muslin bag with a thin layer of mustard seed over the top; cover the jar and keep in a cool dry place.

An Unreasonable Man.

About the most unreasonable man I have heard of this year is a resident of Terre Haute, Indiana. The *Mail* of that city says: "A business man of this city kicks because an attorney charged him $30 for collecting a bill of $43. Have attorneys no rights that business men are bound to respect?" In the name of all reason, what did the Hoosier merchant expect? He should consider himself in great luck not to be charged $45 by the attorney for collecting a bill of $43. That would have been a little hard, especially if the attorney sued him for the $10 instance. The rule of Illinois attorneys is to take the bill at face value as their fee for collecting.—*Elgin Every Saturday*

The spider would not make a good base ball player because it so frequently goes out on the fly.—*Texas Siftings*