THE NATION'S BIG BANK. Synopsis of Secretary Manning's Report on Public Finances.

The Practice of Issuing Legal Tender Notes and Gold Certificates.

The Law as to Minor Coins.

The annual report of the United States treasurer shows that the net annual revenue of the government during the last fiscal year was \$323,690,706, or \$24,829,163 ess than that of the preceding year. The surplus available for the reduction of the public debt at the close of the fiscal year was therefore \$49,929.854 less than was available July 1, 1884. The assets according to the new form of statement September 30, 1885, were \$574,708,256, or an increase of \$55,018,007 over 1884. The liabilities were \$380.318,777, an increase of \$10,216,591 over 1884; the balance is \$194,326,478, an increase of \$44,801,416

During the same period there has been an increase of \$33,463,633 in the gold assets; of \$22,095,016 in silver assets, \$6,776,423 in legal tender notes; of \$171,284 in tional bank assets and national bank de-posits. The issue of United States notes during the fiscal years in place of such as were returned in a worn and mutilated condition amounted to \$84, 493, 153; silver certificates to the amount of \$40,000,000 were issued and \$20,990,045 were redeemed during the year. Gold certificates of the old issue amounting to \$52,420 were redeemed. Of the new issue \$6,300,000 were issued and \$21,017,100 redeemed. Called bonds of the United States, amounting to \$45,968,600 were redeemed, of which amount \$45,588,150, was for the sinking fund. National banks have withdrawn \$53,303,350 of bonds held to secure their circulating notes and \$213,000,000 of

bonds were deposited for that purpose.

Notice is given of the suspension of the ssuance of the \$1 and \$2 notes, economy being effected thereby, the saving for one quarter being the cost of printing \$15,000. 000 worth of notes and the paper used in their manufacture. At this rate the reduc-tion in the small note issue, as indicated, will be about \$28,000,000, during the cur rent year. The treasurer recommends the establishment of an issue department, in order to obtain greater security than now prevails in the treatment of legal tender notes and other government securities. The treasurer recommends that the practice of issuing legal tender gold and silver certificates be discontinued as expensive and dangerous, on the ground that it has proved to be a positive hindrance to a more extended circulation of silver dollars, It is apparent, he says, that the execution of the coinage law is gradually converting the funds of the treasury into standard dollars. The circulation of these are short lived, and coin find its way back immediately to the subtreasuries, the return movement costing the individual holders more for transportation than the original issue cost to the government. He re mends that the treasury be permitted to seek some more economical method than now employed in order to distribute then and other moneys from the treasury. He also recommends the repeal of the demption law as to minor coins, and the issue of new coins of greater weight and greater beauty.

DEATH OF VANDERBILT.

The Great Operator Suddenly Dies from Paralysis of the Brain.

Hurried to the Other Shore Without a Single Word of Warning.

Financial Circles Severely Shocked.

New York dispatch of the 8th: William H. Vanderbilt is dead. Without a moment's warning the message came for him and he was no more. The gilt iron cross over the gate that leads to the grounds of the Roman Catholic Orphan asylum on Fifth avenue gleamed brightly under the electric lamp to-night. Seen from the grand entrance of the Vanderbilt mansion directly opposite, against the sombre gray of the grand cathedral, it was the only cheerful thing on the wide descried avenue that seemed also stricken as with sudden death. Rays of its brightness were reflected in the windows of the huge brown stone pile be-hind whose closed curtains one of the richest men in the world lay dead, stricken suddenly and without warning. The busy hum of traffic and the noises of the street were hushed in the block. Carriages turned out and passers by stopped to inquire if it was true the millionnire was dead. they had heard aright they went their way sobered and sileat, tarrying maybap a min ute to gaze pityingly on the huge stone pile. Inside servants and friends tip-toed about with grave faces. 'The door bell was rong almost every minute and the wide portais swung open to admit other friends, who came to mourn with the mourners up stairs. Behind the drawn curtains of the millionaire's bedroom were sobs and tears. The children of the dead were gathered there about his coreses. None of them had been with him in the hour of his death; to none had he had time to speak a word of farewell.

As he lay upon the carved bed in the large square room, the windows of which overlook the avenue from the northeast corner, from the south wing of the building to the left of the main entrance, Vanderbilt looked as if he had fallen into a gentle sleep. His features were peaceful and as natural as if he had just ceased talking and laid down. His death had been as painless us it was sudden. Vanderbilt was always an early riser. When in his young days he worked his Staten Island farm it was his custom to rise with the sun, and he used to say in later life that he had often arisen at 4 o'clock to go to New York and returned to breakfast and his plow at 7. Of late years he had made it a practice to leave his bed at 7 or not much later, and throughout his increasing ill health of last two winters, he had adhered to this practice.

After arising to-day he had held his usual morning conference with his sons, Cornelius and William K., who were active managers of his railroad properties, and afterward with Mr. E. V. Rossiter, his private secre tary and treasurer of the New York Central railway, to whom he entrusted a large share of the management of his private business affairs. These conferences were held in Vanderbilt's study, on the ground-These conferences were foor of the mansion, in the corner to the left of the main entrance from the avenue. It was his favorite room, where he wrote and transacted all his business. During the morning conference to-day he had been more than ordinarily active and alert, so much so as to excite comment, to which he replied in good bumored, jocular vein. He ok banch at 12:30 with his wife, his son George, and Mr. Twombley. At the table he was noticably bright. Subsequently Mr. Garrett, of the B. & O., railroad called, and while Mr. Vanderbilt was pleasantly chatting with him he suddenly pitched forward from the sofa to the floor, and was dead. This was 2:30 o'clock. His disease was paralysis of the brain.

HEAR THE MORMON SIDE. As Detailed in a Letter to the Nation's Chief Executive.

The Intquities Heaped Upon the Saints by Evil and Designing Men.

Features of the Edmunds Measure.

Following is a copy of a letter addressed to President Cleveland by John F. Caine, which thoroughly explains the Mormon side, as understood by one of their most ntelligent representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WASHING-TON, D. C.—Sir: Since our conversation this norning additional sensational statements have been sent from Omaha and Washing ton, and published throughout the east which are so false and such outrageous mis-representations of the facts in regard to the actual situation in Utah that I am con-

strained to lay before you the truth.

The adjutant-general of the army appar ently authorizes the statement that the secretary of the interior and the attorneyneral received reports from the governor United States marshal, and other officials there, to the effect that the disposition of the Mormons is quite offensive, that de monstrations are being made of a threatening character, and that the slightest acci dent is likely to cause a riot in which the residences and offices of the United States udges, district attorney and other officials may be mobbed and perbaps personal vio-lence attempted, etc., etc.

You, sir, and your constitutional advisers have been deceived by designing men who seek to create in the east the impression that the Mormon people are unruly and turbulent. The ordering of additional troops to Utah is the result of a deliberate attempt on the part of the republican United States officials here to create the impression that there is danger of a Mormon outbreak. The object of this is, first to make it difficult for a democratic administration to remove the officials, and econd, to influence congress to enact legis lation in the interest of a desperate ring of adventurers who seek to control the government of the territory in spite of the fact that they constitute an infinitesimal portion of the population and have no interest in the material welfare of the great bulk of the people.

The Mormons have been subjected to a systematic attempt to good them to a hostile act. The federal judiciary has persistently ruled so as to shield disreputable non-Mormons from punishment for "lewd and lascivious conduct," while Mormons have been prosecuted with the utmost rigor unlawful cohabitation under the so called Edmunds act, which makes it a crime for men to collabit with more than one woman. The chief justice of the terri-tory and a majority of the court have held hat the Edmunds law applies only to the Mormons, and a man who was arrested on a charge of debauching his sister in-law was discharged by Chief Justice Zane on the ground that the Edmunds law was not in tended to be a general corrective of mor When a deputy marshal a married , was arrested by the police a charge of "lewd and lastivious munn. conduct" with a woman not his wife Judge Zane on habeas corpus proceedings prompt ly dismissed the accused on the ground that adultery and fornication was not level and acivious conduct unless it was practiced it public. On the other hand, prominent Mormons, who had separated themselves from their plural wives immediately on the passage of the Edmunds law, and had endeavored to honestly obey that law, were indicted for unlawful cohabitation, and when they asked the right to prove that they had not had sexual intercourse with their plural wives, Chief Justice Zane ruled that such evidence was immaterial and irrelevant; that unless they had publicly abandoned their plural wives they were guilty of "holding them out" as their wives, which constituted the offense of unlawful cohabitation under the Edmunds law. nattered not that in the entire history of civil and criminal indicature, no English or American court had ever held that collabi tation meant other than sexual intercourse, the Mormons had to go to jail, because they did not publicly renounce their plural

In the execution of the Edmunds act the utmost latitude has been given to the mar-shal and his deputies. Domicillary visits and been common, and spics and informers had been encouraged to ply their infamous trade. When a reputable Moraron resent ed a gratuitous insult by a deputy marshal on the street, he was fined by Judge Zane und sent to jail for five days on the un truthful charge of attempting to intimidate an officer of his court. The stories about ttempts to lynch Collin, and the gather ing of Mormons for that purpose, and the necessity for placing Collin in the hands of he military for protection, are altogether The sensational reports telegraphed com Omaha about a mob going to Ft Douglas and demanding Collin are manufactured for a purpose. There is no necesfor the presence of additional troops in Utah. You, sir, as well as your advisers, have been imposed upon by Gov. Murray and Marshal Ireland. These representations are maliciously false. The Mormons inderstand perfectly that every effort has been made, and is being made, by character-less federal officials to provoke an outbreak. The Mormons know that they would be do-ing themselves an irreparable injury by attempting any violence or unlawful act. They have not, under the most intolerable and anjustifiable conduct of federal officials, disturbed the peace or in any way resisted the execution of the laws. The Marmons as only for an impartial administration of the laws, and just treatment. They have appealed to the supreme court of the United States and are patiently awaiting a decision by that high tribunal on the rulings of Judge Zane. They believe that his extraorlinary interpretation of the law will be rebuked. The Mormons do not object to the presence of the troops in their midst. They to object, however, to the sending of troops defiant, turbulent, and given to mob vio-lence, when all their history proves to the

The Thirty Days of Mourning.

A Washington special says: Although since the departure of their sister, Mrs. Hoyt, the president and Miss Cleveland have been living alone in the white house, they racely take their meals alone, as they like to have their friends lunch or dine with them informally. Miss Cleveland has seen but very few friends since the death of the vice president-those only whom she had known previously, and has seen them in the most informal manner. She says she will observe this rule throughout the thirty days of mourning, as she feels a keen sym-pathy with Mrs. Hendricks in her affliction, and therefore des res to keep the white house as quiet as possible until after the holidays. She says after the mourning period she expects to begin to see her vis itors and neighbors.

Money Order Rates Reduced.

The postmaster general has made an order fixing fees on international money orders from January 1 as follows: For sums not exceeding \$10, 10 cents; over \$10 at this season of the year. The cattlemen and not exceeding \$20, 20 cents; over \$20 and not exceeding \$30, 30 cents; over \$30 tion and order, obeyed to this extent-and not exceeding \$40, 40 cents; over \$40 they removed from the reservation their and not exceeding \$50, 50 cents. This is a reduction of one third from the present Their young cattle and cows still remain

DESTRUCTION OF FORESTS. Prompt Action Urged for Suppression of the Evil.

Sentiments Set Forth in the Agricultural Commissioner's Report.

Cultivation of Medicinal Plants.

The commissioner of agriculture in his eport says there is, perhaps, no direction which the department can be used to greater benefit than in its attention to forestry interests; and, considering the vast importance to the nation of a proper investigation of the subject, no branch has been more poorly endowed by congress. Efforts should be made at once to arouse and enlighten the people as to the dangers which are threatened through the destruction of forests, "Arbor days" should be instituted in all the states, the science of forestry should be taught in schools, and the organization of local and stated forestry societies should be encouraged. The report continues: "It is already apparent that efforts for promotion of forest tree plant-ing, through liberal laws on the part of the United States, and through various prem-iums and exemptions on the part of certain states are not to meet with abundant suc cess. Inducement having failed, education should now be attempted. Such an effort to be successful, ought to be inaugurated by the general government itself. Adequate means should be forthcoming to deal with this national necessity in a national way. I have submitted an estimate for \$10,000 to continue these investigations in the man ner in which they have been prosecuted in previous years; but should congress deem it se to increase the scope of the investiga tions to proportions somewhat commer surate with its importance, possibly to un dertake the line of work to which I have aliuded, and perhaps to establish experi-mental plots for foresty upon the public domain, an intelligent and comprehensive discharge of the duty would require a great-

ly increased appropriation.

Among the reports from the division of forestry, to which he makes reference, is that in regard to the construction of forests or the purpose of furnishing railroad This shows that it requires nearly 17,000, 000 acres of woodland, or 4 per cent. of the woodland area of the country, exclu-

ive of Alaska, to supply ties. He says it has become a question whether railroad companies might not be made to see it is to be a feasible thing for their interests to plant trees along their roadways or on tracts of their land adapted to the purposes, and thus benefit themselves while a the same time relieving the existing forests to the same extent from an onorous de mand which is now made upon them. land grant companies have an abundance. In view of the continued destruction of the timber on the government lands, and the importance of preserving for permanent cultivators and using such portions of for-ests as are adjacent to the head springs of the rivers, or which may be needed for matic or other reasons, he urges that the further sale of timber lands belonging to the government ought to be suspended until such time as a careful survey shall ascertain what portion of them may be sold without involving injury to the coun try, and what ought to be permanently held in the forest condition.

The commissioner, referring to the request of the American Pharmaceutical asociation that the commissioner of agriculture take measures for the introduction into cultivation in this country of such of the important foreign medicinal plants as would be adapted to our climate, in order that they might be readily attainable fresh state, and that another industry might be added to our country's resources, "There is no doubt that many of the most important medicinal plants are perfectly adapted to our climate and could cultivated in perfection, and it would seem well that means should be taken to give them a proper trial."

Fears are expressed, he adds, that some of these plants are becoming exterminated native stations, and in respect to some of them, as, for instance, the ginseng plant, the time has come when they may probably be made the objects of profitable cultivation.

GENERAL NEWS AND NOTES.

Five negroes, three men and two women, returning home from a frolic on D. J. Smith's plantation in York county, S. C., attempted to cross a broad river near the Air-Line railroad bridge in a cance. The boat filled and sunk. Both women and two of the men were drowned. The third than was rescued by persons on the bank.

Private dispatches from Raugoon, British Burmah, announce the death there, on November 16 last, of Rev. Cephus Bennett, an American Baptist missionary. Mr. Bennett had been in Burmah since 1828, and was in his eighty-third year.

The street car companies and other owners of horses in Chicago are alarmed over the appearance of epizootic there. Some fifty horses belonging to the North Division street-car company have the disease and six have died of it.

Huron (Dake) special: Ex-Judge Smith, of this circuit, received from the departs ment of justice at Washington the leading reasons for his removal, vin Removing ees, partiality and physical weakness. All of these the ex-judge denies in a circular to be issued to morrow.

Delegate Caine, of Utah, now in Washington, received a dispatch from Salt Lake stating that Chief Justice Zane, in the case of Deputy United States Marshal Vander cook arrested on the 8th inst. charged under a territorial law with lewdness, and sustained the territorial law which makes on false pretenses. They object to being the offense named a misdemeanor. The misrepresented and set before the world as decision has a direct bearing upon a large

Hon. B. Gratz Brown died at his restdence in Kirkwood, a suburb of St. Louis, on the 12th, of pneumonia, complicated with heart discuse, aged 59 years. He was a prominent figure in the politics of Missouri for a number of years, and also earned a national reputation. He made the first emancipation speech ever delivered in the Missouri legislature, and in connection with Frank H. Blair became an active promoter of that cause.

At a meeting of representative citizens held in Indianapolis an association to be known as the Hendricks Monument association was organized, the object of which is explained by its title. A committee of over 5,000 citizens representing every county and town in the state, was appointed, and the work of canvassing for subscriptions will be immediately began.

In answer to an inquiry, Captain Couch, the Oklahoma boomer, who recently returned from the Indian territory, says the cattlemen are not all driven off the Cheyenne and Arapahoe reservations by any There are thousands of cattle in the Oklahoma country, and senators are besieging the department to allow the cattlemen to remain with their herds, owing to the losses and inconveniences in moving m obedience to the president's proclamaTHERE'S MILLIONS IN IT.

Bequests of the Richest Man that America Has Ever Produced.

How Vanderbilt, the Millionaire, Disposed of His Immense Fortune.

His Relatives Liberally Provided For. The will of Commodore W. H. Vander-

ilt, filed for probate in the Surrogate ourt. New York, on the 12th, provides: I, William H. Vanderbilt, of the city of ew York, do make and publish my last will and testament as follows: First, I de vise unto my beloved wife, Maria Louisa or and during her natural life, the dwellin ouse in which I now reside and the lot o which it stands. After describing the projecty the will continues: "I also give an devise to my said wife, for and during he atural life, the three lots of land on the ortheast corner of Madison avenue and ity-second street, in the city of New York, gother with the stables and improve ents thereon erected.

I also give and bequeath to her, for and uring her natural life, all paintings, pic-ures, stationery and books of art which I may own at the time of my decease, except be portrait and marble bust of my father. high I have bequeathed to my son Corne

I also give and bequeath to her, for and foring her natural life, all furniture of very description, including plate, silver forary, ornaments, musical instruments and other articles of household use which ay at the time of my death be in or ap ertain to my residence, and also rouses, carriages, vehicles, harness, stable farniture and implements which I may have on hand at the time of my decease and usually keep in my said stables on Madison avenue and Fifty-second street, and I empower my wife during her life to xchange or dispose of any of my sai pictures, statuary and works of art.

I also give and bequeath to my said wif a annuity of \$200,000 per annum durin r natural life, to be computed from th late of my decease, and paid to her in qual quarterly or yearly payments there iter, and I direct that a sum sufficient t reduce such annuity be set apart and at litimes safely invested by my executors or that purpose during the life of my wile. d I empower her to dispose by will o \$500,000 of the principal of the same s freeted to be set apart in any manner sh ay desire, and which shall be legal. ixes, necessments and charges which may improved on real estate devised to m ife for life shall be payable by her during same period, and I declare that the wises and bequeaths to her ar be in lien of dower.

The second to sixth clauses are devoted o the four married daughters of the d ased, who are given respectively the es they now occupy, or those in cour construction, and the lands upon which cy are built. The will continues: "I give i bequeath to my trustees hereafte nted 825,000,000 of bonds of the Unit ates of America, bearing interest at th ate of 4 per cent per annum, the principa illing due 1907; \$5,000 of second mort bonds of the Lake Shore & Mich n Southern railway company, due o3, bearing interest at the rate of 7 per ent per annum. This clause of the wil hen includes other securities to the amount of \$40,000,000 to divide in eight equal parts to be held in trust for his eight children. The trustees are to collect the income o ich of these trust funds and turn the sam over to each beneficiary. None of the fund-can be alienated or transferred during the life time of the child entitled to the inc The principals, however, can be willed away y the beneficiary at death provided the have lawful issue. If any daughters die without issue the amount goes to the remaining daughters; if any of the sons die without leaving lawful issue a portion goes to the sons still living, in equal propor-

The eighth clause allows the trustees to purchase certain other securities when the others muture. The ninth clause divides between his eight

children \$40,660,000. The ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth clauses provide that the portion for his daughter Eliza shall not be given her until she reaches the age of 30, and if she dies without issue her portion goes to the other brothers and sisters.

The diffreenth clause bequeaths to Cornelius \$2,000,000 in addition to all other

The fourteenth clause declares that upo the decease of his widow, George W. Van derbilt is to receive the homestead and ap purtenances, and at his death he can be queath it to one of his sons in absolute fee It also provides that in case of the death of George without issue the homestead shall revert to William H. Vanderbilt, sor of Cornelius, the purpose being to keep the residence in the family.

He also gives to his grandson, William H. \$1,000,000, to be paid to him when he is thirty years old, and the interest to go to him in the meantime. In the event of the death of William H., the next to fall heir is Cornelius, a brother of the latter. Sections 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19, provide

or annulities ranging from \$1,000 to 3,000 to various distant relatives. The twentieth clause bequenths \$200,000 o Vanderbilt university, at Nashville,

The twenty-fifth clause bequeats the fol-

To the Demestic and Foreign Missionar, society of the Primitive Episcopul church of the United States, \$100,000 for domestic

Fo St. Luke's hospital, \$100,000. To the Young Men's Christian association of New York, \$100,000.

To the general theological seminary of th Primitive Müscopal church, \$50,000. To the New York Bible and Common

Prayer Pook society, \$50,000. To the Home of the Incurables, \$50,000 To the Protestant Episcopal church mis conary society for seamen in the city of New York, \$50,000.

To the New York home for intemperate nen. \$50,000; To the New York Protestant Ep'scopal sion Society of New York, \$100,000. To the Metropolitan Museum of Art

To the American Museum of Natural His tory, \$50,000. To the Moravian church at New York Staten Island, \$100,000. The twenty-second clause reads as fol

All the rest, residue and remainder of al the property and estate, real, personal an mixed of every description and wheresoeve situated of which I may be possessed or to which I may be entitled at the time of my heirs and assigns for their use forever. e will finally provides that the widow

d four sons shall be the executors and trustees of the estate. Chauncey M. Depew says the family were well pleased with the disposition of the property, and there will be no contest of will.

The Pension Estimate Reduced. Commissioner Black states that the

amount asked for the pension bureau for the coming fiscal year is less by \$1,549,040

NATIONAL CAPITAL NOTES.

United States Consul Frisbie, at Lyons, France, reports a phenomenal increase in he shipments of champague to the United States. During October, 1885, the ship ments aggregated \$343,556, an increase of \$142,997 over the same month of 1884, and an increase of \$138,094 over October, 1885. 1883. Frisbiesays the sales of champagns are by many persons regarded as a barom stor for the measure of commercial property and October is generally taken as the test month. The sales to European countries show no such indications of business activity.

The federation of the labor unions of the United States and Canada passed a resolution providing that the eight-hour rule shall take effect May 1, and such organizations as are not capable of enforcing the rule at that time shall lend their assistance to those who do undertake to carry out the resolution.

At the session of the American Public Health association, Dr. John H. Ranch, secretary of the state board of health of of Illinois, read a paper on "Martime Quarantine from the Mouth of the St. Lawcence to the Rio Grande.

The senate committee on privileges and dections held a second meeting and instructed Chairman Honr to report the presidential succession bill. A number of verbal changes have been made in the bill, out in all important features this measure is similar to that which passed the last congress, known as the Hoar bill. It will probably be taken up early in the week, and will give rise to considerable discussion and will likely be passed at an early day.

A special to the Omaha Bee says: Credit in army circles is given to Senator Manderson and Representative Dorsey for securing the retention of Fort Robinson as a military post. They went over the ground and saw the necessity of keeping up the fort as a military post bordering on a large reser vation of Sioux Indians, after which Mr. Dorsey came to Washington and received a promise from Gen. Sheridan—that the post should not be abandoned, but that it would, as soon as possible, be enlarged. In his an nual report Gen. Howard recommended the abandonment of this post, which recomendation, however, he subsequently imanged.

Second Comptroller Maynard has given en opinion that pensioners who live in the United States cannot give other persons a lower of attorney to receive and receipt or pension money, and that agents are reuired to draw checks payable to each pen ioner and forward them directly to each ensioner. In case pensioners live in forign countries be says they are required to xecute vouchers in presence of a magis trate, but the check may be drawn payable to the pensioner on the order of an attor ney, who can then receive and receipt for

The secretary of the interior has rendered a decision in Michigan land cases known as the common limits of the Marquette and state line and the Ontonagon and state line roads. The secretary holds that the titles to the land in question as not void, but voidable, and may be submitted to a board of equitable adjudication or confirmation of entries. The facts in these cases are stated to be substantially the same as in the case of Picard vs. Gamins, decided by the department Sept. 17, 1885, and the principle therein is fully applicable to these The principle involved in the decision affects lands estimated to be worth \$20,000. 000. The decision relates to even sections and not to lands granted to rail

A special says: The projectors of the Hennepin canal scheme are here in force endeavoring to secure such change in the rule as will save them from the defeat, through the moving of a point of order, which they experienced last year. They propose to ac complish this by giving the committee on ivers and harbors jurisdiction of canaland of all water ways, and of changing its title to that of "rivers, habors and canals." This will enable the Hennepin folks to place their appropriation in the regular river and harbor bill, provided they have nufficient influence in the committee and will give the neasure special advantage of place in a bill which the committee in charge has a right to report at any time.

THE POLITICAL WORLD.

Congressman Gay, of Louislana, is said to have a unilion dollars at his call. Congressman Healey will bring forward a bill for the entire exclusion of Chinese immigrants of the laboring class.

Webb Connor, of Arkausas, has been ap pointed special agent of the general land office for tumber depredations.

The best way to fill a vacancy in the vice presidency, according to the Louisville Courier-Journal, is to reconvene the electoral college which elected the deceased, and have it choose his successor.

One of the elements in Louisiana state politics will probably be a combination be tween Lieut,-Gov. Knoblach and Congress man Gay, which has in view the election of the former to the governorship in 1888 and the elevation of the latter to the United States senate.

The following have been appointed spe cial examiners in the pension office under the civil service rule: Lucy A. Lawrence, the civil service rule: Lucy A. Lawrence, of Tennessee; T. N. Magee, Pennsylvania; J. M. Kennedy, Ohio; F. H. Austin, Missouri; R. G. Hoge, Iowa; W. H. McGuire, Indiana; G. B. Fleming, Indiana; F. B. McDonald, Indiana; F. M. Rogers, Illinois, J. H. Bundy, Illinois,

and T. H. Bundy, lilinois. Washington dispatch: During the visit of "Richelieu" Robinson to the president this morning the question of the appoin ment to the pension agency at New York for which Robinson's friends have presse him, was referred to and the president i timated that the appointment would be decided upon for a couple of months. is understood that the president consider that pension agents should be ex-soldiers and will make no exception in this instance

DECEMBER CROP REPORT.

As Emanating from the Department of Agriculture.

The crop reports of the department of

agriculture for December give the farm prices of the principal crops. The increase in the product of corn has reduced the demise, I give, devise and bequeath unto my two sons, Cornelius and William H Vanderbilt, in equal shares, and to their crop in December was 36 cents. The recrop in December was 36 cents. The reduction is the largest in the Ohio valley and southern states west of the Mississipp The increase in stock-feeding has corrected the tendency to extremely low prices. Com-pared with former prices, corn values are very low. For the preceding five years (nearly all under average in production), the average farm value was 44.7 cents per bushel; for the preceding 10 years, 42. cents. The price of wheat, though low, is considerable above last December's aver cents. age, which was 65 cents. That of 1883 was 91, and the present is 78.7 cents. For five years past the average farm value has been 90 cents per bushel, and for the preceding ten years 81.5 cents. Last year's farm gress for use during the coming year. He says also the amount asked for salaries and expenses of all kinds for the pension bureau is less by \$15,000 than the amount forcign demand for a surplus nearly equal to one-third of the entire crop.

FOREIGN IFTELLIGENCE.

The funeral services over the remains of the late King Allonso took place at Madrid on the 12th, at the church of St. Francis. The great edifice was crowded with distinuished people. All the sovereign heads of Europe were represented and members of the diplomatic corps were present. The civil and military pageant was an imposing pectacle and was witnessed by an immease A telegram from the front states that a

long and bloody engagement took place there between the Servians and Bulgarians, The town of Veliki-Isoor was wrested from the possession of two battalions belonging to the first division of the Bulgarian army, who attacked the Servians. Upon finding themselves outnumbered the Bulgarians made signs that they wished to surrender. The Servians, who were mostly elderly men, belonging to the second reserve, shouted in reply: "You have already deluded our children (meaning the youths of the first reserve) in that fashion but you will not Thereupon they charged the deceive us." Bulgarians with the bayonet, scattering them in every direction. The Bulgarians leit many dead and wounded on the field.

It is not believed at Belgrade that the owers will be able to prevent a decisive battle being fought between the Rulgarians and Servious. The Servious will not admit that they have been conquered. They have a large army concentrated at Bel-grade and are harrying to retrieve their military honors. Servin has sent a circular to the foreign ministers stating that she

cannot accept the Bulgarian conditions as the price of peace because they are dishon-orable. Hostilities will be resumed. There has been a change in the attitude d Russia in regard to the Balkan question. M. Nelidoff, Russian ambassador, has sent a note to Said Pasha, the Turkish prime ninister, protesting against Turkish intervention in Roumelia. The Turkish minis ter at St. Petersburg telegraphs that in consequence of Austria's acting with Servia, the Russian government is preparing to effectually support Bulgaria.

The Department of Justice.

The annual report of Attorney General Garland, suggests the advisability of buildof jails at each place in the country where United States courts are held, and the necessity for building a government penitentiary where all persons convicted for United States offences could be confined is strongly urged. Such convicts, he says, could be employed in the manufacture of supplies exclusively for the government, which work would assist in making the institution self-sustaining. He also suggests the propriety of erecting on the grounds adjoining the department of justice a proper building for the accommodation. n addition to that department, of the apreme court and other proper courts and ammissions of the United States. The reort closes with a brief statement of the nion Pacific railway litigation and says that a motion will be filed by the governnent in a few days to advance the appeals on the docket so as to have a speedy determination of them. The attorney eral adds that the motion will doubtless be granted and the matter disposed of at

The Late W. H. Vanderbilt.

Coroner Messemer, of New York, took the fellowing statement from President Robert Garrett, of the Baltimore and Ohio, on Vanderbilt's death: "I reached Vanferbilt's house yesterday about 1:15 p. m. He received me in his library. We conversed together about an hour-perhaps a little longer - when Vanderbilt's speech betired a twitching of the muscles about the mouth, and almost at that instant his face was saddenly convulsed. He was sitting on the edge of his chair. He fell forward and I reached him in time to thrust my arm under his shoulder and prevent his falling heavily to the floor. I placed a sushion which was at hand under his head and immediately summoned a sevent and called for water, with which I bathed his face until the arrival of his son, Geo. Vanderbilt, and Dr. Miller. We did not realize he fact of his death until the arrival of Dr.

Is Gordon Still Alive?

Col. Chaillu Long, late chief of staff to Gen. Gordon, in a lecture in Chickering hall, New York, said: "The probabilities are that Gen. Gordon is still alive. In this I am supported by Capt. Burton, and I understand there is being organized in London an expedition to search for him. We know by his journal up to December 4th that he ould have gone away. We know he had four or five steamers, and my opinion is he went south in one of these to our place at Gondacora and will from there in due time be heard from.

Locusts as Food.

St. Mark describes the diet of John the Baptist as consisting of "locusts and Some commentators wild honey." have explained "locusts" as denoting some kind of bread or wild fruit. This is an error, for locusts are eaten as food by many people in the East. A recent writer on the curiosities of food accords to the locust the first place, in the purely insect world, as an article of diet. He says:

"From the remotest antiquity the locust has been used for food-witness the sculptures of Assyria- and at the present day they are devoured in enormous quantities by many different races. Yet there is a wide divergence of opinion regarding the value of locusts as food.

"Some traveiers describe locusts as a desperate makeshift; others as passable; others, again, as resembling shrimps in delicacy and flavor. They compete with meat in the market of Bagdad; they are called "terad" in Yemen, and "anne" in Dancali, and they are frequently used as food by the wandering tribes of Asia and Africa, who, after broiling them, separate the head from the body, and eat them as Western nations do shrimps. In some parts of Africa they are ground and made into bread. In Senegal they are eaten by the highest classes. They are the main support of the bushmen of South Africa.

Young men should always beware of the following paragraph, which was started by a Philadelphia paper, and is now going the rounds. The chances are that the man who wrote it is tied to a woman with a hand like a Japanese fan, and a voice that would make a buzzsaw pause in astonishment. It reads: "Marriage is a safe way to gamble; if you win, you win a pile, and if you lose, you don't lose anything."

MR. HAZARD, of Vancluse, R. I., gave a lawn party to the spirits of his dead relatives. He says that among the guests was his late wife and daughter.