lem and in the desire of reaching some wise and practical solution of it. The British government has published a resume of the steps taken jointly by the French ambassador in London and the cial envoys of the United States, with whom our ambassador in London actively co-operated in the presentation of this subject to her majesty's government. This will be laid before congress. Our special envoys have not made their final report. as further negotiations between the representatives of this government and the governments of other countries are pending and in contemplation. that the doubts which have been raised in certain quarters respecting the possi-bility of maintaining the stability of the parity between the metals and kindred questions may yet be solved by further negotiations

Meanwhile, it gives me satisfaction to state that the special envoys have aldemonstrated their ability and fitness to deal with the subject, and it is to be earnestly hoped that their labors may international agreement which will bring about recognition of both gold and silver as money upon such terms and with such safeguards as will ocure the use of both metals upon a any class of citizens.

RECIPROCITY.

Negotiations Pending With European and American Governments. In order to execute as early as possible the provisions of the third and fourth tions of the revenue act approved July 24, 1897, I appointed the Hon. John A. Kasson, of lowa, a special commissioner plenipotentiary to undertake the requisite negotiations with foreign countries desiring to avail themselves of these provisions. The negotiations are now proceed-ing with several governments, both European and American. It is believed that by a careful exercise of the powers conferred by that act, some grievances of our own and of other countries in our mutual trade relations may be either removed or largely alleviated, and that the volume of our commercial exchanges may enlarged with advantage to both con-

THE MERCHANT MARINE. Government Should Foster This

Languishing Industry. Most desirable from every standpoint of national interest and patriotism is the effort to extend our foreign commerce. To this end our merchant marine should be improved and enlarged. We should do our full share of the carrying trade of the world. We so not do it now. We should not be laggard any longer. The inferiority of our merchant marine is justly hu-miliating to the national pride. The government, by every proper constitutional means, should aid in making our ships familiar visitors at every commercial port of the world, thus opening up new and valuable markets to the surplus products of the farm and factory.

SEALING QUESTION.

Negotiations in Progress for Preservation of the Herds.

The efforts which have been made during the two previous administrations by my predecessors to secure better protec-tion to the fur seals in the North Pa-cific ocean and Behring sea were renewed at an early date by this administration, and have been pursued with earnestness Upon my invitation, the governments of Russia and Japan sent delegates to Washington, and an international conference was held during the months of October and November last, wherein it was unanimously agreed that under the existing regulations this species of useful animals vas threatened with extinction and that an international agreement of all interested powers was necessary for their adequate protection.

The government of Great Britain did not see proper to be represented at this conference, but subsequently sent to missioners of Great Britain and Canada who had during the past two years visited the Pribyloff Islands, and who met in conference similar commissioners on the part of the United States. The result of this conference was an agreement on the im-portant facts connected with the condition of the seal herd heretofore in dis-pute, which should place beyond controversy the duty of the governments con-cerned to adopt measures without delay for the preservation and restoration of the Negotiations to this end are in progress, the result of which I hope able to report to congress at an early day.

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION.

Recent Events Strengthen the Presi-

dent's Views.

International arbitration cannot be omitted from the list of subjects claimin: our consideration. Events have recently served to strengthen the general views or this question expressed in my inaugural address. The best sentiment of the civilized world is moving toward the settle-ment of differences between the nations without resorting to the horrors of war Treaties embedying these humane prin-ciples on broad lines without in any way imperiling our interests or our honor shall have my constant encouragement,

THE PARIS EXPOSITION.

Arguments for a Liberal Appropri-ation by Congress.

The acceptance by this government of he invitation of the republic of France to participate in the universal expe of 1900 at Paris was immediately followed by the appointment of a special commis-sioner to represent the United States in the proposed exposition with special ref-erence to the securing of space for an adequate exhibit on behalf of the United States.

The special commissioner delayed his departure for Paris long snough to ascer-American exhibitors. His inquiries veloped an almost unprecedented interest in the proposed exposition, and the infor-mation thus secured enabled him to justify an application for a much larger al-lotment of space for the American section than had been reserved by the exposition authorities. The result was particularly ratifying in view of the fact that the United States was one of the last coun tries to accept the invitation of France.

missioner was most cordial, and he was given every reasonable assurance that the United States would receive a consid commensurate with the propor-

The report of the special commissioner attion and the demand for space for American exhibits supplies new arguments for a liberal and judicious appropriation by congress to the end that an exhibit fairly representative of the industries and resources of our country may be made in an exposition which will illustrate the world's progress during the 19th century. The exposition is intended to be the most mportant and comprehensive of the long international exhibitions which our own at Chicago was a brilliant example, and it is desirable that the United States should make a worthy exhibit of American genius and skill, and their unrivaled achievements in every branch of industry.

THE NAVAL ESTABLISHMENT. Armor der New Warships and More

The present immediate effective force of the navy consists of four battle-ships of the first class; two of the accord class

and it other vessels, ranging from

the international character of the prob- armored cruisers to torpedo-boats. There are under construction five battle-ships of the first class, 16 torpedo-boats and one submarine boat. No provision has yet been made for the armor of three of the five battle-ships, as it has been impossible to obtain it at the price fixed by congress. It is of great importance that congress provide this armor, as until then the ships are of no fighting value. The presby ships new under tion, while not as large as that of a few other powers, is a formidable force; its vessels are the very best of each type; and with the increase that should be made to it from time to time in the future and careful attention to keeping it in a high state of efficiency and repair, it is well adapted to the necessities of the country.

has taken place in recent years was justified by the requirements of the naval de-fense and has received public approbation. The time has now arrived, however, when this increase to which the country is committed should for a time take the form of increased facilities commensurate with the increase of our naval vessels. It is an unfortunate fact that there is only one dock on the Pacific coast capable of docking our largest ships, and only one on the Atlantic coast, and the latter has for the last six or seven months een under repair and therefore incapable f use. Immediate steps should be taken to provide three or four docks of this capacity on the Atlantic coast, at least one on the Pacific coast, and a floating dock on the Gulf. This is the recommendation of a very competent board ap-

pointed to investigate the subject.

There should also be ample provision made for powder and projectiles and other munitions of war and for an increased number of officers and entisted men, Some additions are also necessary to our navy-yards for the repair and care of the larger number of vessels. As there are now on the stocks five battle-ships of the largest class, which cannot be completed for a year or two. I concur with the recom-mendation of the secretary of the navy for an appropriation authorizing the con-struction of one battle-ship for the Pacific coast, where there is at present only one in commission and one under construction, while on the Atlantic there are in commission and four under construction, and also several torpedo-be authorized in connection with our general system of coast defense.

NEEDS OF ALASKA. Existing Conditions Demand Change in the Laws.

The territory of Alaska requires the rempt and early attention of congress. The conditions now existing demand a material change in the laws relating to the territory. The great influx of popula-tion during the past summer and fall and the prospect of a still larger immigra-tion in the spring will not permit us to longer neglect the extension of civil authority within the territory or strong the establishment of a more thorough government. A general system of public surveys has not yet been extended to and all entries thus far made in Alaska. that district are upon special surveys. The act of congress extending to Alaska mining laws of the United States contained the reservation that it should not

be construed to put in force the general land laws of the country. By an act approved March 3, 1891, authority was given for entry of lands for townsite purposes, and also for the purchase of not exceeding 160 acres then or thereafter occupied for purposes of and manufacture. The of congress, as thus seed, has been that such rights should apply to the territory as should be specifically named. It will be seen how much remains to be done for that vast, remote, and yet promising por-

tion of our country. Special authority was given to the president by the act approved July 24, 1897, to divide that territory into two land dis-tricts, and to designate the boundaries thereof, and to appoint registers and re-ceivers of said land offices, and the presiwas also authorized to appoint a surveyor-general for the entire Pursuant to this authority, a surveyor general and receiver have been appointed, with offices at Sitka. ing year the conditions justify it, the additional land district authorized will be established with an office at some point in the Yukon valley. No appropriapose, and that is now necessary to be

The Military Post.

done.

I concur with the secretary of war in his suggestions as to the necessity military force in the territory of Alaska for the protection of persons and propfor the protection of persons and prop-erty. Already a small force consisting of 25 men and two officers, under com-mand of Lieutenant-Colonel Randall, of the Eighth infantry, has been sent to St. Michaels to establish a military post. As it is to the interest of the government to encourage the development of the coun try and its duty to follow up its citizens benefits of legal machinery. I carnestly urge upon congress the tablishment of a system of government of such flexibility as will enable it to ad est itself in the future to the needs at-

tendant upon a greater population.

Relief for Starving Klondikers. The startling though possibly exag-gerated reports from the Yukon river country of the probable shortage of food for the large number of people who are intering there without the means of leaving the country, are confirmed in measure as to justify bringing the matter to the attention of congress. Access to that country this winter can be had only by the passes from Dyea and vicinity, which is a most difficult and perhaps imossible task. However, should these reports of the suffering of our fellow-clit-zens be further verified, every effort at any cost should be made to carry them relief.

INDIAN AFFAIRS,

New Regulations for Five Civilized

Tribes Are Imperative. For a number of years it has been ap-parent that the condition of the five civil-ized tribes in the Indian territory under treaty provisions with the United States, with the right of self-government and the exclusion of all white persons from within their borders, have undergone so uplete a change as to render the continuance of the system thus inaugurated practically impossible. The total number of the five civilized tribes, as shown by has not materially increased, while the white population is estimated at from 200.000 to 250.000, which, by permission of the Indian government, has settled in the territory. The present area of the Indian territory is 25,564,545 acres, much of which is very fertile land. The United States citizens residing in the territory, most of whom have gone there by invitation or with the consent of the tribal authorities, have made permanent homes for them-Numerous towns have been built, in which from 1006 to 5000 white people

Valuable residence and business houses have been erected in many of them and ber 21, 1807, was the principal of the sub-sidy bonds, \$6.203,000, and the unpaid and large business enterprises are carried in which vast sums of money are em-ployed, and jet these people. Who have invested their capital in the development try, are without title to the land they oc cupy and have no voice whatever in the government of the nations or tribes. advertisement of the court, the upset prices at the sale of the Kansas Pacific must at the sale of the Kansas Pacific must Thousands of their children who were born in the territory are of school age, but the doors of the schools of the sections are shut against them and what

education they get is by private contribu- If no other or better bid is made, this sum is all that the government will re-ceive on its claim of nearly \$13,00,000. No provision for the protection of the life or property of these white citi-zens is made by the tribal governments The government has no information as to whether there will be other bidders or and courts. The secretary of the interior reports that leading Indians have absorbed great tracts of land to the exclu-

another bid than the maximum amount herein stated. The question presented, therefore, is whether the government therefore, is whether the government shall, under the authority given it by the act of March 23, 1884, purchase or redeem the road in the event that a bid is not made by private parties covering the entire government claim.

sion of the common people, and govern-ment by an Indian aristocracy has been

practically established, to the detriment

of the people. It has been found impos

sible for the United States to keep its

citizens out of the territory, and the

leges which belong to that condition.

ritory.

The Dawes Commission.

sition from the beginning. The Indians were very slow to act and those in con-

trol manifested a decided disinclination

to meet with favor the propositions sub

terms, and, as they have a common inter-

nations, the agreement with the latter

nation could not have been made with-

out the consent of the former. April 23

1897, the commission effected an agree-ment with both tribes-the Choctaws and

Chickasaws. This agreement, it is under-stood, has been ratified by the constituted

ratification by congress to make it bind-

The provision of the Indian appropria-

tion act approved June 10, 1896, makes it the duty of the commission to investigate

and determine the rights of applicants for

citizenship in the five civilized tribes

The commission is at present engaged in this work among the tribes, and has made

arrangements for taking the census of

these people up to and including the 30th

Should the agreement between the Choc-

taws and Chickasaws be ratified by congress and should the other tribes fail to

make an agreement with the commission,

then some legislation must be had by congress which, while just and honorable to

white people who have settled upon these

lands by invitation of the tribal nations.

Hon. Henry L. Dawes, chairman of the

the interior under date of October 11, 1897,

(the commission's) opinion absolutely es-

sential to any permanent improvement in

conditions, and the lack of it is the root

nearly, all the evils which have

grievously afflicted these people. Allot-

ment by agreement is the only possible method, unless the United States courts

are clothed with the authority to apportio

the lands among the citizen Indians for

I concur with the secretary of the in

terior that there can be no cure for the

evilsengendered by the perversion of these

great trusts except by their resumption by

QUARANTINE LAWS.

Appointment of a Bacteriological

Commission Also Recommended.

The recent prevalence of the yellow fever

in a number of cities and towns through

turbance of commerce and demonstrated

the necessity of such amendments to our

quarantine laws as will make the regula

tions of the national quarantine authori

portion of his report relating to the opera-

tion of the marine hospital service, calls attention to the defects in the present

quarantine laws, and recommends amend-

ments thereto which will give the treas

prevent the invasion of epidemic disease

ury department the require authority to

from foreign countries, and in times of

emergency, like that of the past summer

will add to the efficiency of the sanitary

measures for the protection of the people

and at the same time prevent unnecessary

restrictions of commerce. I concur in hi

In further effect to prevent the invasion of the United States by yellow fever, the

importance of the discovery of the exact cause of the disease, which up to the

present time has been undetermined, has been obvious, and to this end a systematic

bacteriological investigation should be

gress authorize the appointment of

commission by the president to consist

from the medical corps of the marine

the army and one from the navy.

our expert bacteriologists, to be selected

pital service, one to be appointed from

THE BOND-AIDED ROADS.

est in the Kansas Pacific.

The Union Pacific railway, main line, was sold under decree of the United States court for the district of Nebraska

versior I and 2, this year,

principal of the subsidy bonds, \$27, 512, and the accrued interest thereon

ESI, 211.711 75, making the total indebtedness

mortgage den and the entire mortgage claim of the government Occa-interest).

The sale of the subsidized portion of the Kanana Pacific line, upon which the gov-

ernment holds a second-mortgage lien, has been postponed at the instance of the government to December 16, 1897. The

cific railroad to the government, Novem-

scerned interest, \$6,00.00 II. making total of \$12,950,00 II. The saw of this re

was originally advertised for November

yield to the government the sum of

4. For the purpose of securing the mo-public notice of the event. It was pos-

poned until December 18, and a se advertisement of the sale was made

The hid at the sale covered the first

amount due the government consiste

therefore recommend that or

The secretary of the treasury, in that

out the South has resulted in much

ties paramount.

recommendation.

whose use it was originally granted.

the government which created them,

'Individual ownership is not in their

commission, in a letter to the secretary

the Indians, shall be equitable to

of the present month.

SHYS

with the Choctaw nation alone.

nations have for the most part

nable the government to bid at the ditions contained in the treaties with the sale will require a deposit of \$900,000, as follows: In the government cause, \$500,000 and in each of the first mortgage causes impossible of execution. Friends of the Indians have long believed that the best interests of the Indians of the five civil-\$200,000, and in the latter, the must be in eash. Payments at the sale are to be as follows: Upon acceptance ized tribes would be found in American citizenship with all the rights and priviof the bid a sum which, with the amount already deposited, shall equal 15 per cent of the bid, the balance in installments of 25 per cent, 30, 40 and 50 days after the confirmation of the sale. section 16 of the act of March 3,

1893, the president was authorized to ap-point three commissioners to enter into The lien on the Kansas Pacific, prior to that of the government on July 30. negotiations with the Cherokee, Choctaw. Chickasaw, Muskogee (or Creek) and Semiprincipal and interest, amounted to \$7,421,088 II. The government, therefore, should it become the highest bidder, will nole nations, commonly known as the five civilized tribes in the Indian territory have to pay the amount of the first-mort-gage lien. I believe that under the act Briefly, the purpose of the negotiations was the extinguishment of the tribal title gage Hen. I believe that under the act of 1887 it has authority to do this, and to any land within that territory, now in the absence of any action by con-gress I shall direct the secretary of the held by any and all such nations or tribes. either by cession of the same or some treasury to make the necessary deposit, as required by the court's decree, to qualify as a bidder and to bid at the sale part thereof to the United States, or by allotment or by division of the same in severalty among the Indians of such naa sum which will at least equal the prin-cipal of the debt due to the government. tions or tribes respectively as may be entitled to the same, or by such other but suggest, in order to remove all con-troversy, that an amendment to the law method as may be agreed upon between the several nations and tribes aforesaid or be immediately passed explicitly giving such powers and appropriating in general terms whatever sum is sufficient therefor each of them with the United States, with a view to such an adjustment upon the basis of justice and equity as may, with the consent of the said nations of Indians so far as may be necessary, requisite and suitable, enable the ultimate creation of a state or states of the Union which shall embrace the lands within said Indian ter-The commission met much oppo

In so important a matter as the government becoming the probable owner of the railroad property, which it perforce must conduct and operate, I feel constrained to lay before congress these facts for its consideration and action before the con-summation of the sale. It is clear to my mind that the government should not permit the property to be sold at a price which will yield less than one-half the principal of its debt and less than one-fifth of its debt, principal and interest. mitted to them. More than three years ago the commission affected an agreement The government, rather than accept less than its claim, should become a bidder Chickasaws have refused to agree to its and thereby the owner of the propercy. and I submit this to congress for action est with the Choctaws in the lands of said

CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY. Recommends That Congress Con-

tinue to Develop It. The congressional library, provided for by the act of congress approved April 17, 1896, has been completed and opened to authorities of the respective tribes or na-tions or parties thereto, and only requires the public. It should be a matter of conlation that through the foresight and munificence of congress the nation posdge. It is earnestly to be hoped that, On the 27th of September, 1897, an agreement was effected with the Creek nation, but it is understood that the nahaving done so much toward the cause of education, congress will continue to tional council refused to ratify the same. Negotiations are yet to be had with the velop the library in every phase of research, to the end that it may not only be one of the most mugnificent, but Cherokees, the most populous of the five civilized tribes, and with the Seminoles, among the richest and most beautiful the smallest in point of numbers and ter-

THE CIVIL SERVICE. Room for Further Improvement.

Which Will Be Made. The Important branch of our government known as the civil service, the practical improvement of which has long been subject of earnest discussion, has of late years received increased legislative and executive approval. During the past few months, the service has been placed on a still firmer basis of business meth-ods and personal merit. While the right of our veteran soldiers to reinstatement in deserving cases has been asserted, dismissals for merely political reasons have been carefully guarded against, the examinations for admittance to the service enlarged and at the same time rendered less technical and more practical, and a distinct advance has been made by giving a hearing before dismissal upon all cases where incompetency is charged or a demand is made for removal of officials in any of the departments.

This order has been made to give the accused his right to be heard without in any way impairing the power of removal, which should always be exercised in cases of inefficiency or incompetency, and which is one of the safeguards of the civil service reform system, preventing stagna-tion and deadwood and keeping every employe keenly alive to the fact that se curity of tenure depends not on favor, his own tested and carefully watched record of service. Much, course, still remains to be accomplished before the system can be made reasonably perfect for our needs. There are places now in the classified service which to be exempted and others unclassified may properly be included. I shall not hes-itate to exempt cases which I think have been improperly included in the classified service or include those which, in my judgment, will best promote the publi The system has the approval of the people and it will be my endeavor to uphold and extend it.

I am forced by the length of this mes sage to omit many important references to affairs of the government with which congress will have to deal at the present They are fully discussed in departmental reports, to all of which I

invite your earnest attention.

The estimates of the expenses of the overnment by the several departments congress may find it an easy task to reuce the expenses of the government, it should not encourage their increase Phese expenses will, in my judgment, mit of a decrease in many branches of thegovernment without injury to the pub he service. It is a commanding duty to appropriations within the ceipts of the government and thus WILLIAM MCKINLEY. Executive Mansion, Dec. 6, 1897

Prof. Walter T. Scheele, a scientist of Rahway, N. J., has sounded what he claims is the death knell of the mosquito, and it is to be hoped for the sake of a long suffering people that his claim is correct. Living as he does in New Jersey, famed in the funny papers as the home of the largest and most warlike members of the mosquito tribe, he has had ample opportunity to study the insects, and at the same time p'enty of incentive, in the shape of attacks from the pests, to work toward their destruction. It is well known that mosquitoes breed on the surface of the water in swampy places, and the professor's idea is to kill the eggs while still on the water and before they are hatched. To do this he throws into the water a small quantity of permanganata of potash, and when this dissolves it instantly destroys the life in all the eggs lying on the doctored water. He has made experiments in his inhoratory and found that with one small pinch of permanganate he can kill all the mosquitoes in a 1,000-gallon tank of water. On this basis, he says, two or three ounces will be sufficient to treat a ten-acre area. If the professor knows what he is talking about, the extermination of the annoying insects should not be a very difficult matter.

A model bushand lets bis wife have her own way, even when he knows & is not good for her.

LOST IN A LIVE CRATER.

The Horrible Experience of Doctor The Peculiar Life Led by Jacob Tom-Guppy in Manna Loa.

prison bars and its horrors! What of a Mission Valley, Texas, is looking for a twenty-three days' solitary vigil on a wife. He has inserted the following in lonely mountain top, 13,000 feet above several country newspapers; sea level, with the yawning, seething crater of one of the world's greatest of a young lady; object, matrimony. I volcanoes at your feet?

That was the experience of Dr. H. B. Guppy, the noted English scientist, and if any living man has formed an Idea of what the sulphurous hades of the orthodox looks like, feels like and is like, it should be this same Dr. Guppy. for he spent twenty-three days right down in the very crater of that famous old belcher of fire, smoke and lava-Mauna Loa, Hawaii.

He began the descent into the crater on the morning of Aug. 2. Everywhere the lava crust cracks crisply underfoot, and this very cracking seems to warn one not to proceed farther. In many places large lava bubbles blister the surface, and to step on one of these and have it break beneath the foot is enough to unnerve the bravest men. is feel the crust suddenly sink beneath one in the bed of a crater is not one of the most pleasing sensations in the world.

Each day was one of peril; but aside from the every-day experiences of life in a crater, Doctor Guppy had two extraordinary adventures, neither of which he will soon forget. On Aug. 7 a section of rock 1,200 feet by 300 feet in area started from the cliff at the top of the crater and came tumbling down. It came with a crash which under ordinary circumstances would have been terrific, but in the solitude and awesome surroundings of Mauna Loa's crater was something quite beyond description. The resounds within the crater were as though all the pent-up forces in the earth had found voice and were calling back and forth for help.

The landslide continued for seven hours, during which time Doctor Guppy could do naught else but stand and contemplate the possibilities of what would happen next. And the possibilities of events out of the ordinary happening within a volcano's crater are almost anything an imaginative mind can conceive. Great rocks faling from great heights would strike the floor of the crater and rebound again and again in their seeming desire to break through to the regions below. If ever a man had an opportunity to judge of what the awful crisis of the last day will be, Doctor Guppy experienced it them.

The other occasion on which the scientist had a chance to contemplate the uncertainty of things in general and craters in particular was the day he was lost in the crater. This was shortly after the landslide, and his nerves had scarcely recovered their usual composure. He had started early in the morning to make an exploration of an unvisited portion of the floor of the crater. He had gone about three miles from his camping place when the steam and vapor began to settle thickwere soon shut out from view and he started to return to his little camp. The vapor clouds settled in more and more thickly until the mist became so heavy he could not discern objects ahead of him.

If ever he felt the want of companlonship it was then. He had become confused in his efforts to reach camp, and until he could again see his landmarks could not for the life of him tell which way to go, even if it were safe to venture further. The most vivig imagination could scarcely conceive what a man's thoughts would be under such elecumstances. Alone and at a spot where no man would venture to rescue; surrounded with a vapor bearing in it a tinge of poison; the oppressive silence broken only by the escaping steam, generated not at the will of man, but from the unsolved mysteries of the very bowels of the earth, he waited for six long hours.

At last the clouds began to lift and a little later Doctor Guppy could get his bearings and return to his headquar-

Science on Brains,

The following extract is from Havelock Ellis' book, "Man and Woman:"

"Again, until quite recent times it has over and over again been emphatically stated by brain anatomists that the frontal region is relatively larger in men, the parietal in women. This conclusion is now beginning to be regarded as the reverse of the truth, but we have to recognize that it was inevitahighest and most abstract intellectual processes, and if on examining a dozen or two brains an anatomist found himwomen the probability is that he would feel that he had reached a conclusion that was absurd. It may, indeed, be said, that it is only since it has become known that the frontal region of the brain is of greater relative extent in the ape than it is in man and has no special connection with the higher intellectual processes that it has become possible to recognize the fact that that region is relatively more extensive in Womest,"

At the Side Door, Smith-Look at that grum policemen over there on the corner! Did you ever

see him smile? Brown-No. They say he is very cautious and never does it when any one is around.

Literary Theories. "Napoleon's autograph is about as

bad as Shakspeare's."

"Yes; I'll wager that Bacon wrote both of them."-Detroit Free Press.

About the only difference between a saloon and a cafe is the prices charged for drinks.

A TEXAS HERMIT.

linson.

Talk about solitary confineent behind Old Jacob Tomlinson, the hermit of

"Wanted-To form the accuaintance am 78 years of age and will give the young lady who meets my approval \$5,000 cash on our wedding day. She must be a brunette, handsome and not over 19 years of age. All applications must be accompanied by photograph. Address Jacob Tomlinson, San Antoulo. Texas."

Tomlinson is a peculiar character. He has one of the most beautiful homes in Mission Valley, a rich section of country northwest of San Antonio. He made his first appearance in Missouri Valley lifty years ago and settled upon 160 acres of land. He built a comfortable log cabin home and lived all alone. He had a number of single-handed encounters with Indians, and the slaughter which he invariably made on those occasions gave him a reputation for bravery in that neighborhood. He has continued to live the life of a recluse ever since.

He makes occasional visits to San Antonio for his mail and supplies, but this is the farthest he has been from home since he began his hermit life. in the early days be was a hunter and trapper and made considerable money out of the sale of furs and hides. When the wild game became scarce he devoted himself to stock raising and agric culture. He laid up money each yea and added to his landed possessions un til he now has a farm of 6,000 acres one-half of which is under cultivation

Several years ago he built a nev house. It is situated on a hill in the center of his tract of land and is unique in construction and arrangement. It is built with bamboo rods, intertwined so as to make many kinds of pretty figures. These rods are nailed to the framework of the house. The roof is thatched with reeds. It has seven large rooms, all handsomely furnished. The floors are of hard wood, stain d and covered with furs and rugs of

great vale. One of the rooms is used as a library, and is filled with several hundred volumes of choice books and the latest magazines. "Unche" Jacob is a great reader and spends much of his time in his library. He always has performed all of his household duties, even cooking his own meals. There are few persons who ever crossed the threshold of his home. He keeps a number of men employed on his farm, but they occupy houses at the farther end of the large tract of land and are never permitted to visit their employer's home. "Uncle" Jacob ans never told the secret of his early life. It is believed that he came from the New England

States.-Chicago Chronicle. Ta Mine Swindle.

Probably one of the greatest steals on record in the mining history of the ly all over the crater. His landmarks Black Hills is that of the Harvey Peak Tin Mining and Manufacturing Company. For an investment of some two and one half millions of gollars which were furnished by English capitalists, there remains to show for the investment only some out-of-date machinery, several large buildings and some land. A few years ago tin bearing ore was discovered near Harvey Peak. Some of the most influential business men inthe bills, together with capitalists from New York, plotted a scheme which was worked, which sunk thousands of Enalish money and gave the Black Hills country a ten-years' setback. A large mill was first built, then filled with expensive machinery for the purpose of mining tin. It was commonly said that there was enough tin in the mine to "roof the whole vault of heaven." But one run was made by the mill, when it was closed down. Enough tin was milled to rope in the buyers, and the transaction was made. The mine has been shut down ever since. There was an attempt made to reorganize the company and begin operations again, but the general report is that the deal has fallen through. There was a time when Eastern capital was anxious to make investments of Black Hills mining property, when almost any amount of money could be obtained simply upon a fair representation of the resources of the mine. Since this Harvey Peak swindle, however, the Eastern men have withdrawn their money, and as a consequence many valuable claims have remained undeveloped. The Black ble. It was firmly believed that the Hills is just emerging from the shame frontal region is the seat of all the of this deal. During the past few months more Eastern capital has come this way and found investments than for any like period for some time. Conself landed in the conclusion that the fidence is gradually being restored and frontal region is relatively larger in capital is once more turning toward the hills.-Minneapolis Times.

Important if True.

"Yes," said the poet, "the greater a man becomes, the more pleasure be derives from visits to the scenes of his childhood."

"Humph!" retorted the cynic, "do you know why? He just wants to hear the old folks around there say they always knew he had something more than common stuff in him."

Her Hope,

"Dear me," exclutined Mand, who had been reading a fashion paper. "Last year's engagement ring has gone wholly out of style,"

"What has taken its place?" inquired Manile.

"I don't know. But I hope it's a libcycle."-Washington Star.

Etymological. "Baw jove, I have heard that you

said I was a monomanise."

"Mey Never. A monomaniae is a man of one idea. If you are anything you must be a nonomaniac."-Indianap olis Journal.