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SOME CURIOSITIES OF GOVERNMENT.

Next to the president of the United States, the best paid federal official is the clerk of the supreme court. The states of Colorado, Florida, Delaware, Nevada, Oregon, Rhode Island and Vermont have less than one-half the population of Illinois, but have the same number of representatives in congress—twenty-two.

Pennsylvania has a larger number of postoffices than any other state. Not a clerk in the pension office in Washington draws less than \$1,000 a year salary; the average for the 1173 clerks being \$1,294. Even the copyists get \$900 a year. These clerks have light labor and short hours.

The average salary of the railway postoffice clerks throughout the country is only \$377 a year. These men work hard, at the most trying labor, and have long hours.

Eighty years ago North Carolina had as many representatives in congress as New York. North Carolina now has nine, or one less than in 1880, while New York has thirty-four.

There are 410 type-setters, business apprentices, in the government printing office.

Estimating congress to be in session 200 days a year, the salaries of senators and representatives amount to about \$40,000 a year.

The state of Nevada, which has two senators and one representative in congress, has not so large a population by fit souls as the city of New Haven, Conn.

A number of the United States senate's employees are put down on the records as "skilled laborers," and draw pay at \$1,000 a year, while those who are merely "unskilled laborers" get \$840 a year. The distinction between the two is in the kind of brooms they manipulate.

The skilled laborer uses a common broom to sweep the flagging, while the unskilled laborer wields a coarse broom in sweeping the carriage ways.

During the past ten years the government has expended nearly \$70,000,000 in caring for the Indians. The total number of Indians attached to agencies is only 248,000, and of these 60,000 in Indian Territory, 7,700 in Wisconsin and 5,000 in New York are supposed to be at least partially self-supporting.

Last year the postoffice department used \$11,000 worth of ink in stamping and cancelling letters.

The five states of Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Nevada and Oregon combined have not so great a population by about 100,000 souls as the city of New York. Yet New York city has but eight representatives in congress while the five states named have sixteen, besides their ten senators.

In the fiscal year ending June 30 the government's disbursements for pensions reached a sum which exceeded by six millions of dollars the disbursements for all other purposes in the year 1880.

There are in the railway mail service fifteen clerks who draw a salary of \$12 a year each.

From the five states of New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio and Massachusetts the government derives half of all its postal revenues.

Last year the government paid for several copies of *Puck* for the use of department officials.

The government expended \$41,228.65 last year for "North American Ethnology" for the Smithsonian Institute.

It costs \$20,000 a year to light the capitol and grounds.

More than one-half of the internal revenue receipts of the government comes from the four states of Illinois, New York, Ohio and Kentucky.

To wait upon the 76 senators there are 242 employees, not counting watchmen, police and librarians.

Virginia has now the same number of congressmen she had in the year 1790, when there were only 65 members of the house.

There are several postoffices in the country in which the annual salary of the postmaster is only \$1.

Postal cards cost the government 34 cents and 4 mills a thousand.

"Five hundred and eighty-nine dollars for wines, liquors and mineral waters for use of board of visitors to naval academy," is an item in last year's expenditure of the government.

The pension office expends more than \$20,000 a year investigating alleged pension frauds.

At the signal service training school, Arlington Heights, the students of meteorology, barometers and anemometers are compelled to leave their study tables in the exact corner of the room, their bunks in a certain position in a certain corner, their coats upon certain nails, and their text books piled up in a certain manner, before retiring for the night; these and a hundred other similar regulations being prescribed "by order of the chief signal officer." Their Sunday dinner is coffee, bread and dried apples stewed.

After having expended more than a hundred million dollars upon his buildings in the District of Columbia, the government finds itself paying nearly \$6,000 a month for private buildings.

The postoffice department uses \$80,000 worth of wrapping twine a year.

The thirteen states of Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Delaware, Nebraska, Nevada, Oregon, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont and West Virginia, with an aggregate population which does not exceed that of the state of New York alone, have twenty-six United States senators to New York's two.

California, with less than half the population of Indiana, pays to the government more money for the postal service.

Among the expenditures of the government last year was an item, "For manufacturing medals, \$25,438.23."

It cost the government \$157,000 a year to maintain lights and buoys on the Ohio, Mississippi and Missouri rivers.

Two-thirds of all the newspapers and periodicals sent through the mails by publishers at pound rates are mailed at New York city.

Nineteen thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight dollars of the public funds were recently expended for "machinery and experiments in the manufacture of sugar."

To supply public buildings throughout the country with fuel, light and water requires an expenditure of \$1000 a day.

Seven hundred and fifty persons are constantly employed by the two houses of congress (while in session) in and about the capitol.

The government has sold more than two hundred million dollars' worth of public lands in eighty years.

In the last twenty years the government has paid in interest on the public debt the enormous sum of \$2,039,000,000, a sum which would defray all the expenses of the government, excepting interest on the public debt, for nearly nine years to come at the present rate of expenditure, and for nearly thirty-five years if expenses could be limited to what they were in 1890.

The Upswing of the Southern Postmasters.

Under the present apportionment, the southern states will have 500 delegates to the national convention. There is always an expectation about election time, that the republicans will secure some electoral votes in that part of the country, but so far, except in the scandalous scenes of 1876, that expectation has not been realized. It is certain that the prospects do not seem just now to be brighter than usual. But the 300 delegates who will appear from the region in which republicans have not much chance, constitute more than a third of the national republican convention. That body will consist of 820 delegates. The 300 delegates from the south, the 72 delegates from New York, with little outside assistance can make the nomination.

The delegates that are now being daily elected in the south belong to the official class. They are postmasters and collectors of internal revenue and these will be generally for the party in power. An effort was made to remedy this weakness in the organization some time ago. It was proposed to base representation in the republican national convention on republican votes. This would have reduced the southern delegates by about one-third. The south and the north would have been on an equality. But the "machine" was not willing to surrender the advantage which it enjoyed in this connection. It was represented that it would not be wise to discredit the republican party of the south when it was struggling into existence. There was enough of truth mixed up with the false proposition to carry it. We shall see before long what the effect is going to be.

A SENATORIAL HALLUCINATION.—A large and imposing senator from a western state was walking up and down the senator chamber behind the chairs. His hands met at the small of his back, and one of them held the other. His step was stately, and his head leaned forward a trifle. On his face was the far away, abstract expression which is usually interpreted to mean that the owner of it is in deep thought. On a sofa in the corner of the senate chamber sat a senator from another western state, talking to a friend. Pointing to the senator who was pacing back and forth in full view of the galleries, the sitting senator said to his friend: "There's a man who is laboring under a very strange hallucination." "What is it?" inquired the startled friend. "Why, he thinks he's thinking," said the Washington Republican.

On a recent occasion when King Oscar, while in the Norwegian capital, desired to meet his Swedish ministers in cabinet council, he took a train from Christiania, and when just across the boundary met his ministers, took them into his private carriage and with the train speeding over Swedish ground held the council then and there. It is, says the Swedish papers, probably the only instance on record of a king's having presided over a council of his ministers on a railroad train.

The editor of the *La Grande Revue* wants to bet a white flag that "that man you met blind in both eyes will be able to carry the headlight of a locomotive from the University dome before the Fourth of July."

The St. James Oil Family Calendar, 1884-5, the most unique and attractive work of its kind ever issued, can be had by addressing SUPPLY DEPARTMENT, THE CHARLES A. VOEGELER CO., BALTIMORE, MD., and enclosing a two-cent postage stamp.

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From these sources arise three-fourths of the diseases of the human race. Costive bowels, indigestion, loss of appetite, loss of sleep, Sick Headache, fullness after eating, nervousness, depression of spirits, Irritability of temper, Low spirits, A feeling of having neglected some duty, Dizziness, Fainting at the heart, Dropsy, Yellowing of the eyes, highly colored urine, CONSTIPATION and demand the use of a remedy that acts directly on the Liver. As a liver medicine, TUTT'S PILLS have no equal. Their action on the bowels and skin is also prompt; removing all impurities through the pores of the skin, and thus promoting a healthy complexion, regular stools, a clear skin and a vigorous body. TUTT'S PILLS cause no nausea or griping nor interfere with daily work and are a perfect ANTIDOTE TO MALARIA.
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