

The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JULY 7, 1887.

The Week.

THE celebration of the Fourth of July at Gettysburg was perhaps the most impressive social incident that has taken place since the close of the civil war. Many things conspired to make it such. The field of Gettysburg, of all the battlefields of the war, is the one around which the greatest popular interest gathers. Other engagements were as hotly contested. Several others, Vicksburg for example, had more immediate and brilliant consequences. Some others, Nashville and Five Forks for example, were more decisive. Nevertheless, popular attention fixes itself upon the tremendous three-days' struggle that took place at Gettysburg as the turning-point of the conflict. It is remembered, also, that upon that ground Abraham Lincoln uttered the few words that summed up, as no one else had done before or has done since, the thought and purpose of the North in the war for the Union. A special and unique, and almost intense, interest had been given to this union of hands at Gettysburg by the recent battle-flag order of the President. Everybody was willing that those who captured the flags should hand them back. In fact, everybody was ready to applaud the act of returning them, provided only that the channel was the right one. If all the flags had been sent back in a mass by President Grant, nobody would have found fault with him. Battle-flags are frequently exchanged by the survivors of regiments and divisions without reproof and without special notice. It was part of the programme that the standards taken by the Pennsylvania troops at Gettysburg should be publicly returned at this celebration, but the political turmoil which followed the general order of the War Department prevented the carrying out of this intention. The failure to return the flags did not, however, detract from the felicity of the occasion, since the good feeling was expressed in the intention, and was shown forth as heartily in other ways.

The Fourth was a day in which there surely ought to have been some cursing done about battle-flags. Yet, as far as we can learn, the leading cursing men were silent. Not a curse came from Fairchild, Foraker, Halstead, Reid, Phelps, Elkins, or any other son of thunder. What was the reason of this? The reason was undoubtedly that the earlier cursing did no good. Not one stroke of paralysis has it brought down on any friend of peace and goodwill. This shows that the cursing men have not the influence with God Almighty which they evidently thought they had, when they asked Him to kill or disable people for trying to wipe out the memories of a bloody civil war. Their curses, in other words, they see now, are wasted on the desert air. As far as can be ascertained, what God Almighty desires is that Americans should hereafter dwell together in harmony, and that no man should occupy his time in counting up how many of

his countrymen he slaughtered or maimed, or how many 'memorials' he has of the agony, and sorrow, and humiliation he inflicted on them. In fact, we think the times are ripe for some cursing on the other side, and that a man who prayed that the promoters of strife and the harborers of bloody memories might be afflicted with the measles, or sprain their ankles, or be prostrated by a severe colic, would probably meet with a certain measure of success.

The District Attorney and his assistants are entitled to great credit for the very able manner in which they presented the case against Sharp. We can recall no trial in recent years in which the city has been more efficiently served than it has in this. Step by step, with the most careful deliberation, and with the nicest calculation as to effect, the mass of circumstantial evidence against the defendant was unfolded; and when the work was completed, the able counsel for Sharp discovered that no defence was possible. Mr. Martine's wisdom in trusting this work to his assistants, Messrs. Nicoll and Semple, was thus most signally vindicated. To Mr. Nicoll the highest praise is due, for it is a well-known fact that he has from the outset had special charge of all the "boodle" cases. He has now the distinction of not only presenting the first case for bribe giving ever brought into court here, but of winning it on its merits. The choice of Col. Fellows to sum up was no less wise, for his forcible presentation of the case undoubtedly had its influence upon the jury.

Still, we are inclined to the opinion that the jury had little doubt about their verdict from the moment that the defence so visibly collapsed. The prosecution had shown, in logical and clear order, that Jacob Sharp had been for thirty years spending money like water to get a railway in Broadway; that he was, during the very time that the Aldermen were bribed, spending money, in cash, more profusely than ever, and that the \$1,000 and \$500 bills which he was "diffusing" generally, subsequently appeared in the bank accounts of at least seven of the Aldermen; that some of the Aldermen and the go-betweens that Sharp employed are fugitives from justice; that from the time of the first charges against Sharp to the present, he had refused to give any explanation of his use of money, or of his relations with Moloney and the Aldermen. It was shown, in fact, that the Aldermen were bribed to pass the Broadway franchise, and that in passing it they were doing precisely what Sharp, above all other men, was moving heaven and earth to induce them to do. The only satisfactory answer to this indictment was to put Sharp on the stand, and let him give an honest and satisfactory explanation of all the suspicious circumstances surrounding his conduct.

It is but right and proper, of course, that the hard-working staff of the District Attorney's office should now take a vacation, and that no-

thing more should be attempted against the remaining "boodlers" until after the hot months. But we trust these things will not lead the District Attorney to forget Cleary. His trial has been the one failure of the campaign against the Aldermen, and was very unfortunate, as there is no reasonable doubt that he was as bad as any of them, if not worse. His case was dropped in order to prepare for Sharp's, as we understood at the time. Now that Sharp's has been brought to a triumphant close, we trust that Cleary's will be taken up again in the fall. The chances of convicting him have undoubtedly been greatly improved by the Sharp verdict, and Col. Fellows, who was absent at the first trial, would undoubtedly be able to play his part in the next one.

The way in which the Mayor has filled the Corporation Counsel's office will, we think, cause general disappointment and regret. Mr. Lacombe had not only taken it out of politics, but had brought it to a very high degree of efficiency. He made it, in truth, such a Law Department as the city has not previously had. This fact greatly increased the Mayor's responsibility in supplying his place. It imposed on him in the eyes of the public the duty of maintaining, if possible, the standard Mr. Lacombe had set up. This made the rumors which had been afloat for some weeks, touching the kind of lawyers among whom he was searching for a successor, little short of alarming, though they were to us absolutely incredible. We did not believe it possible he was seriously considering the "claims" of a low grade of Tammany politicians. And yet there appears to have been some sort of foundation for them; for although the new appointee, Mr. Morgan J. O'Brien, may not be a low grade of Tammany politician, it is as a Tammany politician, and not as a lawyer, that he is best known in this city to the few who have ever heard of him. He may turn out a fit person to take charge of the large business of the city, but it is not quite fair to ask the taxpayers to take any man's word for it. Fitness for such a place should be a matter of notoriety, and not of the information and belief of a few persons. The Mayor's reason for not appointing the one man whose eminent fitness is notorious, Mr. Dean, Mr. Lacombe's first assistant, viz., "because of the very injudicious and indiscreet manner in which his friends have acted," is one which we are sure he would hardly stand by in calmer moments. The only good reason for appointing Mr. Dean would have been that he was the best man for the place; his wishing the place would have been no reason at all. If he was the best man for it, the people of the city were entitled to him as their counsel at Mr. Hewitt's hands, and the conduct of his friends had no more to do with the matter than the conduct of Mr. O'Brien's friends. The Mayor is not charged with the duty of punishing injudicious friends for indiscreet conduct, but with that of filling the municipal offices with the best material he can get.

The explanation given for the President's unfortunate appointment of Leonard A. Giegerich as Internal Revenue Collector of the Third District is, that it is a "recognition" of Tammany Hall. If this be true, it only shows how impossible it is for any official to "recognize" Tammany with credit to himself or justice to the public. Mr. Giegerich is the son of a liquor-dealer, and owes his position in "politics" to the liquor influence which first made him a member of Tammany Hall and then a member of the Assembly. His record in the Assembly last winter consisted mainly of vociferous opposition to the High-License Bill, and of a proposition to make it compulsory upon the railways to carry members of the Legislature free. He declined the pass which had been sent him, and in forgetfulness or ignorance of the fact that the law provides for the payment of mileage to legislators, he introduced a bill making it compulsory upon all railways to give free transportation to members of the Legislature. To put a man capable of such a proposition in charge of an office which collected during the last fiscal year over \$6,000,000 for the Government, is not making of public office a public trust, but quite the contrary. It is simple truth to say that no private business of one-tenth that importance and magnitude would ever be intrusted to young Giegerich. He has never had any more important share in business than assisting his father behind the bar. The only use he can make of the office is to put "politics" into it, and give Tammany Hall all the "places" possible in its service.

There are unpleasant stories coming from Boston about charges made or proposed in the Post-office in that city by Gen. Corse. Good officers have, it is said, received notice of dismissal for reasons which seem absurd on their face, and which are generally believed to be mere covers for the ordinary political "removals," or, in other words, the displacement of Republicans to make way for Democrats. We shall not comment on these things until we know more about them, further than to say that anybody who supposes that the Administration can be strengthened in Massachusetts by disregard of business rules in the conduct of the public offices, is a foolish person, of whom the President and Postmaster-General should beware. In this State, barring some antics of Mr. Beattie, the Surveyor, in the Custom-House, everything looks well. The State Civil-Service Commission, which has just sustained a serious loss in the death of Col. Morrison, the Chief Examiner, has happily been able to fill his place by one of the warmest, ablest, most energetic, and upright friends of reform in the country, Mr. William Potts, who has long been the Secretary of the Civil-Service Reform Association in this city. Our Post office, too, remains firm as a rock amid the raging seas of local corruption. It will be sad if Massachusetts becomes at this time of day an awful example.

Our esteemed friend and contemporary Cyrus W. Field has finished playing games of infamy with Jay Gould. He began six or

seven years ago "playing bear" with Manhattan to Gould's bull, and has ended by playing bull to Gould's bear. In both games, we regret to say, he was worsted. The bystanders have long predicted how it would turn out. They have said to each other as they watched the gambols that Cyrus had a joyous and sanguine nature, while Gould was cold, selfish, and calculating, and that a day would come when Gould would take the meanest advantage of his too confiding friend. The people down in Wall Street, who were very much mystified about the tumble in Manhattan the other day, say now that they can see through it all, and that their worst fears have been realized. They say that it was not on account of poor Ives that Gould broke the market, but on account of Cyrus himself. They say that Gould knew that Cyrus had borrowed more money on Manhattan stock at high figures than prudence would justify; that he (Gould) knew beforehand, through some clerk or copyist, what Judge Ingraham's decision in the Third Avenue case would be, and that the temporary stringency in money happened just at the right time to make a dash at Cyrus's pocketbook a promising venture. Hence these tears.

The sequel is well known. Gould poured more Manhattan stock on the market than Cyrus could "absorb" at 156½. The price fell to 115. The lenders of money on Manhattan were about to call lustily for their money and throw out every share of Manhattan from their loans, when, to their complete surprise, a shower of certified checks descended upon Wall Street, and all the large loans were taken up. This, they say, was Gould's money paying Cyrus's debts, but paying them on condition of a future settlement on Gould's terms. By these terms Cyrus handed over 50,000 shares of Manhattan to Gould at 120. How much of this stock was acquired at 156½ or higher, we are not officially advised. Gould, who has a fine sense of humor underneath a prosaic and cold exterior, says that he considers Manhattan one of the best properties in the country. Evidently he must so regard it, or he would not take as much as \$6,000,000 worth in a job lot. The people who do business down town are naturally much moved by this affecting incident, because they cannot bear to see a confiding and joyous nature betrayed and trampled on in this ruthless manner.

A new constitution has been adopted by the Knights of Labor, including a section which provides for the creation and disbursement of a fund to aid coöperative enterprises. Each local assembly is required to collect and deposit a sum not less than two cents per month for every member in good standing. The money is to be invested by the Coöperative Board, and profits are to be divided equally between the General Assembly, the coöperative fund, and the workmen who create the profit. This is hailed as a new idea among the Knights, but as a matter of fact it is a return to one of the first principles of the Order as it was conceived by its founder, Uriah S. Stevens. His plan was for a union of all laboring men for the purposes

of self-education and self-benefit, and one of the necessities in his scheme was coöperation. In accordance with this idea, a coöperative board of six members was added to the other officers, and efforts were made to establish stores on a coöperative basis for the benefit of members of the Order. All these experiments failed, chiefly because of inefficient management. An Insurance Association was also formed, with a secretary appointed by the General Assembly. This was based upon the mutual-benefit principle, the plan being to give \$1,000 to the family of a deceased member by an assessment of 25 cents upon each 5,000 members who joined the Association. Membership was not compulsory, any Knight between eighteen and fifty being allowed to join on payment of \$1.25. But this plan failed through lack of support. The majority of Knights were so much wrapped up in the strikes and boycotts of the present that they took no thought of the future.

The new coöperative plan is likely to fail for the same reason as the old. In fact, so long as the Knights are composed of such stuff as at present, there is no chance for even a fair trial of anything like coöperation. They are not seeking to make the most of what they receive and to fit themselves by industry and study for deserving more, but all their energies are concentrated upon forcing from their employers higher wages by means of strikes and boycotts. Nothing could be more unlike the original idea of Stevens than the present Order of Knights as it is led by Powderly and the Quinns, Dunns, and Martin Ironsides. All experiments in coöperation have demonstrated that a coöperative concern of any kind succeeds only when it has the services of the best class of workmen. Just as soon as the lazy and incompetent are given equal prominence with the most industrious and capable, the coöperative scheme fails. In other words, coöperation must be conducted upon the same principles that the capitalist employer observes in his business, or it breaks down. Now the Knights insist that all laborers, good and bad, lazy and industrious, must be treated exactly alike, must have the same wages, and must make the injury of one, no matter how dishonest or lazy he may be, the concern of all. No scheme of coöperation can long exist upon that basis, no matter how regular and heavy may be the assessments for its support.

Attention has been called lately to the refusal of our public authorities to allow a few foreign silk-weavers and zinc-smelters to land here, while whole ship-loads of unskilled laborers, "the offscourings of Italy and Hungary," are allowed to come. The reason is, as the *Times* states, that a law of Congress prohibits the landing of any person who comes here under a contract for work. He might come under a contract for idleness. Indeed, many come in that way and are freely received. It may be that nobody in this country can do the particular work which the "contract laborer" is hired to do. It may be that he is brought hither to establish a new industry. All those things go for naught. If he comes under

an agreement to earn his own living, he must be bundled on shipboard and sent back home. It all seems very strange until we learn that this law was passed at the instance of Labor. It is akin to the various Prison Labor bills that are now agitating the bosoms of statesmen and statisticians whose object is to secure leisure, and healthful amusements, and mental culture, to convicts.

The formal excommunication of McGlynn has been ordered from Rome, and will in due time be published by the Archbishop. It will be interesting from this date to watch the sure and rapid disappearance of McGlynn as a "force" in politics. Nobody ought to be better able to calculate the time required for this than McGlynn, but he seems not to have been able to realize what he was calling down upon his own head. So long as he was merely in dispute with the local church authorities, he was able to have followers and sympathizers both in and out of his own church; but from the moment he is excommunicated all will be changed. No good Catholic can follow him after that, and as all his following which is not Catholic is political, that, too, will drop away from him, for no political organization can afford to have him for a member. He may go on for a while abolishing poverty, but it will not be long before his own poverty will be the most serious problem confronting him.

The new High-License Law for Minnesota went into effect on Friday, and its influence as a restriction upon the traffic is strikingly shown at the very outset. It requires a license fee of \$1,000 in all cities having a population of 10,000 or more, and of \$500 in all other places. Returns from each county, showing the number of applications for licenses under the new law, were received on June 30, and they showed a falling off of nearly a fifth from the number under the old law, there being only 1,866, against 2,296 last year. There are many old licenses in St. Paul and other localities which will not expire for some time yet, and when those run out there is likely to be a still further reduction.

We recently noted the fact that the prohibitory law in Maine was being openly nullified by the sale of imported liquors in the original packages, the dealers claiming the right to make such sales under a decision of the United States Supreme Court rendered many years ago. The State authorities have concluded to test the question whether this decision really sustains a citizen of Maine, in breaking the State law which forbids the sale of liquor. The Governor a few days ago sent letters to the Attorney-General and to the district attorneys of the various counties, directing them to institute proceedings against such liquor-sellers, and the first steps have been taken in Augusta, where the entire stock of Michael Burns, the most notorious offender, has been seized. Burns asserts that he has the law on his side, and will carry the matter into the Federal courts, so that the question will doubtless ultimately reach the Supreme Court.

The people of Manitoba find themselves harassed to the Canada Pacific Railway with the most unpleasant strictness. This company receives from the Dominion Government a monopoly of the Manitoba traffic by virtue of a provision of law that no other company shall build a line within twenty-five miles of the United States frontier until the expiration of twenty years from the completion of the Canadian Pacific. The latter company owns the present line from Winnipeg to Pembina, the point of connection with the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railroad. Of course, they have it in their power to make rates high enough to turn the bulk of the trade which formerly went to St. Paul and other American cities over their long line to Montreal, and this they will of course do, because it is all the traffic they can get for the line which follows the north shore of Lake Superior. The Manitobans ought to have foreseen this, and either prevented the making of such a contract, or filed such a protest against it as would furnish them a good moral basis for fighting against it. Having neglected to do this, they find themselves "bound hand and foot," for although they might go on building their new road to the United States boundary if they had the money, or might raise the money if they could give a good mortgage, yet, having neither money nor security, their threats are likely to avail nothing. There is abundant capital in the United States that would be readily invested in the bonds of the proposed railway if the investment were not forbidden by the superior political power of the Dominion.

The great and apparently unexpected victory of the English Liberals in the southern division of Lincolnshire, at a season, too, when the farm laborers are peculiarly open to intimidation, seems to have infused fresh courage into the Gladstoneites and spread corresponding dismay among the Liberal-Unionists. The latter have apparently been flattering themselves, as the Tories did in 1879, that as long as they were approved by London society and the clubs they had nothing to fear anywhere else. But the truth, we presume, is, that the passage of a very truculent and perpetual coercion bill for Ireland as the one piece of legislation of the session is more than the provincial Liberals can stomach, whatever they may think of Gladstone's scheme of home rule.

The difficulty Turkey is making over the signing of the convention with Great Britain about the occupation of Egypt bids fair to result in the indefinite continuance of the occupation. That is to say, Lord Salisbury will make answer to the remonstrances of France (the only Power which directly cares about the occupation), that he has tried to make an arrangement for leaving the country, but, owing to the obstinacy of the titular owner, was unable to carry it into effect. Russia does not care who has Egypt, but finds the occupation by England useful as a means of stirring up trouble between England and France and England and Turkey; and much the same thing may be said of Germany. So that they would probably both be pleased to

have the occupation prolonged, in order to keep open a useful sore.

There is a great protectionist splutter in Germany, growing out of the fact that a contract for 4,500 tons of steel rails for a new German railway has been awarded to a Belgian company who were the lowest bidders. The price at which the contract was made was 110.90 marks per 1,000 kilos, duty paid. The London *Economist* figures this as equal to £3 16s. per ton at the mill, which would be equivalent to \$18.47. The duty is 25 marks, about \$5.50 per ton. The indignation of the German rail-makers, who have been pluming themselves lately on taking some foreign contracts away from the English, resembles in many particulars the explosion of wrath against the late Mr. Vanderbilt in the year 1879, when he gave a large contract for steel for the New York Central Railroad to British manufacturers, in the face of a duty supposed and intended to be prohibitive. The railway directors are denounced in the protectionist newspapers as unpatriotic in buying foreign rails, even though they are offered at a lower price than German rails. As the railway in question has a subvention from the Government, being in part one of the new strategic lines, it is looked upon by the domestic railmakers as peculiarly their plunder, upon the theory that while the directors might have some excuse for looking sharply after their kreutzers in behalf of a wholly private company, they have no such excuse when the taxpayers foot the bills in part. The utmost endeavors of the German malcontents (who, by the way, denounced the Belgian contractors for "starving their own workmen") failed to shake the determination of the railway directors, who probably thought if the Belgian workmen were starving it would be an act of mercy to give them something to do.

The air is full of rumors about the impending bankruptcy of the Panama Canal. The latest accounts from the Isthmus represent that an important and costly section of the work already excavated is filling up by the sliding of an adjoining mountain; that the moving mass is too great to be held by any retaining wall; that the great problem of controlling the Chagres River has not yet been touched; that the funds in hand will suffice for only four months more, and that the chance of getting any more money is exceedingly slender. But it is noticed at the same time that Panama shares are pretty firm on the Paris Bourse, varying no more than those of the Suez Canal, or the Orleans Railway, or even the Bank of France. For example, the decline in Panama for the week ending June 16 was 3.75 fr., while the decline of Suez was 12.50, that of Orleans 6.25, and of the Bank of France 40.00. Taking account of the selling rate of these several securities, the percentage of decline was about the same in each, and this shows that at the present time Panama follows the market, and does not exhibit any special or peculiar weakness. Yet it is plain to every disinterested observer that the Lesseps company cannot finish the work, and that, if they could do so, they could not earn their fixed charges.

SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

[WEDNESDAY, June 29, to TUESDAY, July 5, 1887, inclusive.]

DOMESTIC.

THE survivors of the Philadelphia Brigade of the Union Army, and of Pickett's division of the Confederate Army, which were engaged in the battle of Gettysburg, met on the battlefield July 2, and for the two days following exchanged compliments and made demonstration of their regard for one another. In a letter expressing regret that he could not attend, President Cleveland wrote: "The friendly assaults there [on the battlefield] to be made will be resistless because inspired by American chivalry, and its results will be glorious, because conquered hearts will be its trophies of success. Thereafter this battlefield will be consecrated by a victory which shall presage the end of the bitterness of strife, the exposure of the insincerity which conceals hatred by professions of kindness, the condemnation of frenzied appeals to passion for unworthy purposes, and the beating down of all that stands in the way of the destiny of our united country."

A bronze equestrian statue of Gen. Burnside was unveiled at Providence July 4. It stands on a granite pedestal sixteen feet high, and is one and a half times the size of life. The aim was to represent Burnside as he appeared in the field. The sculptor was Launt Thompson. An oration was delivered by Gen. Horatio Rogers. At Hartford, Conn., July 2, about fifty descendants of Dr. Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet celebrated the centennial of his birth, and dedicated a memorial window. He was the first person who taught the sign language to mutes.

On the night of July 4, a party from Portland, Ore., illuminated the summit of Mount Hood, the tallest snow-covered peak in Oregon, more than 11,000 feet high. The light was seen in Portland; a distance of fifty-one miles in a straight line. For the first time in many years there was a general celebration of the Fourth of July at Salt Lake City, alike by the Mormons and the "Gentiles."

Farmers in the vicinity of the great gas wells near Kokomo, Ill., on the night of July 4 closed a grand harvest jubilee and exhibition of wheat-cutting by natural-gas light. Self-binders were run all night, and men shocked wheat at midnight by the light of the gas.

In an address at Saybrook, Ill., July 4, Senator Cullom expressed the opinion that immigration should be "so regulated that the 18,000,000 persons now in this country engaged in gainful occupations should not be thrown out of employment or forced to accept wages which will not support them and their families, and give them a fair chance in the race of life." On the same day Mr. Powderly, the Master Workman of the Knights of Labor, said at Scranton, Pa., that every immigrant should be required to show that he was self-supporting for one year before landing on these shores.

Senator Cullom, one of the framers of the Inter-State Commerce Law, declared at a meeting of the Illinois Grain Merchants' Association, June 29, that he did not think it would be repealed. "If," said he, "any persons or corporations imagine it will, they may as well dismiss that expectation. Its substantial provisions have come to stay, because the people will find out, if they have not found out, that they are in the interest of the general welfare."

The transcontinental railway companies have decided to ignore the long-and-short-haul section of the Inter-State Commerce Law after the expiration of the suspension granted by the Inter-State Commission, and to continue to make lower rates from Pacific Coast points than from interior intermediate points until the practice shall have been decided by the United States Courts to be contrary to the law. This is in accordance with the decision of the Inter-State Commerce Commission that it has no right

permanently to suspend the law, but that the railroads themselves must determine whether they may ignore section 4 or not, and if their action is found to be illegal by the courts they must take the consequences. The subject can come before the courts only by a suit against one or more of the roads.

Judge Deady, in the United States District Court at Portland, Ore., has given a judicial interpretation of the long-and-short-haul clause of the Inter-State Commerce Law. The receiver of the Oregon and California Road filed a petition asking whether under the law such rates may be made for through traffic as will enable his road to compete for it at points where competition by water or rail exists, although the rates for the long haul between those points may be less than those for a shorter haul in the same direction between said places. - The Judge in effect repeated a former decision, in which he authorized the receiver to make a lower rate for a competitive long haul than for a short haul, notwithstanding the act of the Oregon Legislature known as the Hault Law, which is in effect the same as the long-and-short-haul clause of the Inter-State Law; and he held that the Inter-State Commission is intended to prevent discrimination between long and short hauls, except where they are made under substantially dissimilar circumstances and conditions, and that freight carried to or from a competitive point is always carried under substantially dissimilar circumstances and conditions from that carried to or from non-competitive points.

The total receipts of the United States Government for the fiscal year ended June 30 were \$371,180,893, made up as follows: Customs \$217,403,983, internal revenue \$119,136,447, miscellaneous \$34,640,463. The decrease in the public debt for the fiscal year was \$109,707,046.38.

Of the 57 clerks in the office of the Quartermaster-General at Washington who have been examined for promotion under the new civil-service rules, 30 are men and 27 women. Six men and two women failed to attain the minimum of 75 out of a possible 100, and the women made a better showing than the men.

A meeting was held at Salt Lake City June 30 to formulate a petition for the admission of Utah into the Union. The chairmen of the Executive Committees of the Republican and Democratic parties on June 2 published a notice that "the whole affair is a Church party movement, conducted solely by members of the Mormon Church to obtain for it Statehood. The earnest private solicitation of many of them failed to induce a single non-Mormon to become a delegate. All non-Mormons in Utah oppose the movement as insincere, and fraught with serious consequences if successful."

According to the account kept by the *Railway Age* of Chicago, the total miles of railway track laid in the United States between January 1 and July 1 is 3,700, and many more miles of roadbed are in preparation.

The record of cases of yellow fever at Key West on July 5 was: Total cases, 63; deaths, 20; discharged cured, 12; now sick, 30.

In northwestern Illinois and in parts of Wisconsin there has been such a long drought that the crops are seriously damaged, and in some places all the vegetation has withered.

A law enacted by the last Illinois Legislature has gone into effect that forbids, under a penalty of \$20 fine for every violation, the giving or selling of tobacco, cigars, or cigarettes to any person under sixteen years of age except upon the written order of parent or guardian.

The new High-License Law in Minnesota, which requires the payment of a liquor-license fee of \$1,000 in cities of 10,000 people or more and \$500 elsewhere, went into effect July 1.

The Prohibitionists of Ohio on June 30 nominated Morris Sharpe for Governor and adopted a resolution in favor of female suffrage. Of the 500 delegates to the Convention, 200 were preachers, 40 were physicians, and 20 were law-

yers; and 156 had been Democrats. The enforcement of the prohibitory law at Atchison, Kan., has so reduced the revenue of the government that the town is not lighted, and the Mayor has informed the firemen and all the policemen but two that they cannot longer be paid.

The Ohio State Convention of the Union Labor Party at Columbus, July 5, nominated a State ticket headed by John Seitz for Governor.

E. Henry Lacombe vacated the office of Corporation Counsel for New York city July 1 and entered upon the duties of Associate Judge of the United States Circuit Court; and Morgan J. O'Brien was appointed in his place by Mayor Hewitt.

The formation of negro clubs in South Carolina, chiefly in Greenville County, provoked fears of a strike by the laborers and rumors of plans for violence. On June 30 meetings of white men were held from which armed squads were sent to the secretaries of the "Hoover" clubs, the name that the organization had taken, and they were forced to give up their books. Members of clubs were examined, and their testimony showed that they had joined the organization without any definite purpose, and that no harm was likely to come of it unless visiting agitators used it to frighten them into violent action. The negroes were "warned" and released.

The case of Jacob Sharp, tried for bribing New York Aldermen, was given to the jury June 29, and they found him guilty, but recommended him to the mercy of the Court. Motion for a new trial will be heard July 13, and on that day sentence will be pronounced.

The honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred by Harvard on Charles Eliot Norton of Cambridge, and J. Hammond Trumbull of Hartford; and by Yale on John Randolph Tucker of Virginia, Orville H. Platt, Senator from Connecticut, John S. Beach, and Chauncey M. Depew of New York.

The gifts to Yale University since last September amount to \$277,000, and, with certain bequests to be realized at a later time, to \$300,000. Mr. A. S. Barnes of this city has presented \$40,000 to Cornell University for the erection of a building for the Students' Christian Association. The Clapp Memorial Library Building at Belchertown, Mass., the gift of the late John Francis Clapp of Brooklyn, N. Y., was dedicated June 30. It cost \$40,000.

The Yale-Harvard University race at New London, June 30, was won by the Yale crew. Time: Yale 23:56. Harvard 23:10½. Of the twelve eight-oared races between these colleges, each has now won six.

Among the noteworthy persons who died during the week were A. A. Talmage, General Manager of the Wabash Railroad system, June 28; Bion Bradbury of Portland, Me., who was appointed Collector of Customs at Eastport in 1844, and was reappointed by Presidents Polk and Pierce, and had been a Democratic candidate for Governor, and was Surveyor of the Port at Portland at the time of his death at St. Johnsbury, Vt., July 2, Luke P. Poland, formerly Chief Justice of Vermont, and United States Senator; on July 3, at New Orleans, Duncan F. Kenner, who was a member of the Confederate Congress, and one of the Commissioners appointed by Jefferson Davis to visit England and France in the interest of the Confederate Government; on July 4, at Augusta, Me., Anson P. Morrill, who was the first Republican Governor of Maine, and was afterwards a member of Congress; at Philadelphia, June 29, William H. Ross, ex-Governor of Delaware.

FOREIGN.

On July 2 Queen Victoria reviewed 50,000 London volunteers in front of Buckingham Palace, and in the evening held her first garden party since the death of the Prince Consort.