

piners since July 1, 1898, inclusive of the current official reports given out in detail at Washington to February 20, 1901, are as follows:

Deaths to May 16, 1900 (see page 91)	1,847
Killed reported from May 16, 1900, to the date of the presidential election, November 6, 1900	100
Deaths from wounds, disease and accident, same period	468
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Total deaths to presidential election	2,415
Killed reported since presidential election	36
Deaths from wounds, disease and accident, same period	159
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Total deaths	2,610
Wounded since July 1, 1898	2,410
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Total casualties since July, '98 ..	5,020
Total casualties to last week	5,020
Total deaths to last week	2,610

War of a somewhat different kind from the sanguinary species to which so much of our space has been devoted for the past two years and more, has broken out between the United States and Russia. It is a tariff war. Our own secretary of the treasury, Mr. Gage, began it, though in compliance with an act of congress prescribing his official duty. It had appeared from the reports of American consular officers in Russia, that the Russian government pays a bounty upon sugars exported from that country. This is done indirectly by remitting from sugar exports the internal tax imposed upon sugar for home consumption. But like a direct bounty, it enables Russian exporters of sugar to the United States to pay the American import tariff and yet undersell importers from other countries, and also the American sugar trust, in the American market. The American sugar trust had provided for such contingencies by securing the insertion in the tariff law of a provision directing the secretary of the treasury to impose countervailing duties upon goods imported from abroad under the stimulation of export bounties. Accordingly, Mr. Gage decided on the 12th, proclaiming it by department circular No. 10 of the 14th, to make an increase of 35 per cent. of the present import duties on Russian sugar. Similar additional duties are imposed upon sugars from other bounty paying countries—as France, Germany, Bel-

gium, etc.; but the Russian government has decided to retaliate by imposing practically prohibitory tariffs—an average increase of about 50 per cent.—upon the principal imports into Russia from the United States. The ordinance for that purpose, sent to the Russian senate immediately upon the announcement of Mr. Gage's decision, is to take effect on the 1st of March. It affects chiefly such American manufactures as machinery, tools and other products of cast iron and steel.

There is an interesting coincidence in the fact that this tariff war, which is between Russia and the United States only nominally, being in fact a conflict of interests between the American sugar trust on one side and the American steel trusts on the other, has broken out just at the moment when the steel trusts are completing a consolidation. Rumors of this consolidation have furnished floods of newspaper gossip for several weeks, but nothing authentic has been published. We noted the rumors on pages 665 and 697. It seems reasonably probable, however, that the consolidation is now complete except in form, and that in that particular it is nearly so. Dispatches of the 15th from New York told of arrangements for filing the charter of the new corporation in Delaware; the capital stock to be \$800,000,000. The old concerns whose interests are to be consolidated in the new are the Carnegie company, the Federal Steel Co., the American Steel & Wire Co., the National Tube Co., the American Bridge Co., the Lake Superior Consolidated iron mines, the Republic Iron & Steel Co., the American Tinplate Co., the National Steel Co., and the American Steel Hoop Co. Half of the \$800,000,000 of stock, it is explained in a further dispatch of the 18th, is to be seven per cent. preferred, the other half being common; and in addition to the stock a five per cent. first mortgage debt of \$300,000,000 is to be created. Mr. Carnegie is to receive, it is understood, \$124,500,000 for his Carnegie company stock.

Kansas furnishes reports of still another kind of warfare. This war consists of the riotous demonstrations against liquor sellers to the inception of which we referred editorially (page 657) last month. In Kansas, a prohibition state, liquor selling is a crime.

Concluding, therefore, that the goods and appurtenances of liquor sellers used in that business are not lawful property, Mrs. Carrie Nation began in Wichita a crusade of smashing the windows, furniture and other equipments of liquor saloons, excusing this disorderly proceeding upon the plea that the officers of the law wink at violations of the prohibitory statutes. Growing out of these demonstrations, and directly inspired by Mrs. Nation, who went to Topeka to carry on her crusade, a large mass meeting was held at Topeka on the 10th, at which liquor sellers were given until the 15th to remove their illicit goods and fixtures under penalty of their destruction. This action appears to have been effective. Some 60 liquor "joints" closed at once, and by the appointed time Topeka was reported as perfectly "dry." Nevertheless, on that day, the 15th, Mrs. Nation, with five companies of "The Carrie Nation Home Defenders," consisting of 500 men and women, found several "joints" to attack. The first one was guarded by four policemen, but regardless of these guardians the attack was made. Plate glass windows were broken, doors and window frames were cut away with axes, and the contents of the saloon were smashed. The policemen arrested Mrs. Nation. She was soon released, however, and led similar attacks upon other places. Four times during the day she suffered arrest. The smashing work went on for two or three days in Topeka, but on the 18th Mrs. Nation was ordered committed to jail in default of peace bonds in \$2,000. Some of her coadjutors were held in smaller sums. Mrs. Nation refuses to give the bonds required, and is still in jail. On the 20th the criminal court of Sedgwick county, sitting at Wichita, decided a case brought against her for malicious destruction of property in that town. The decision, which was not upon the facts, but upon the law, was adverse to Mrs. Nation. The court decided that property used for saloon purposes is under the protection of the law, and can be confiscated or destroyed only by due process.

Similar demonstrations have taken place in other parts of Kansas—Winfield, Emporia, Olpe, Perry, Goffs, Newman, Hutchinson, Wellington and Lawrence. In Millwood, a town near Leavenworth, an attack by masked men was made upon a liquor joint on the 19th, and in the disorder it occasioned, the assailants shot