

The Berrien County Record.

D. A. WAGNER, Editor.

THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 8, 1870.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The President, in his message, after referring to the general prosperity of the past year, speaks of reconstruction as complete, except in the case of Georgia, and hopes that State will not be without representation long.

The President considers our relations with Foreign Governments, and expresses sympathy for the French Republic.

He recommends the purchase of the Alabama claims by our own Government. This, we presume, is so that private parties may not settle this matter. He also refers to the difficulties with Canada, growing out of the fisheries question. According to the message we have a real grievance with the Dominion on this question. The purchase of San Domingo is strongly advocated. Upon our northern border, at Pembina, England seems to be occupying territory belonging to the United States.

Specific payment is recommended at an early day as possible.

On the public land question the President thinks that no more should be given away. In this the people will heartily concur. The time has arrived when the public domain should no longer be given to corporations and monopolies, but should be reserved for actual settlers.

He also recommends reform in the civil service. This, too, will be seconded by almost every man in the nation. A more liberal policy is recommended towards the Navy, in the construction of new vessels.

Among the most important information in the message is the pleasing assurance of the great reduction of expenses.

The message, as a whole, is commented upon by the press as a good one, and gives general satisfaction to the Republican party. True, there are exceptions. For instance, those semi-Republican journals like the Chicago Tribune, are disposed to speak pretty favorably of the message, yet their comments are so worded as almost in every paragraph to reflect upon the policy of the President.

THE GREAT SWINDLE.

One of the greatest swindles that have ever been perpetrated on the Government, is now being carried on by the Union Pacific and the Central Pacific Railroad companies, in their refusal to pay the interest on the bonds issued by Government to aid them in the construction of the road. These companies maintain that the interest on these bonds is not payable till the principal comes due, some twenty-five years hence.

The interest annually on the bonds loaned to the Union Pacific road amounts to \$1,639,190, and the annual interest on the Central Pacific to \$1,552,286. Now, that every means in the power of these immensely wealthy corporations, will be used to defraud the Government not only out of the interest, but also out of the principal of these bonds, there can be no doubt. In fact the course taken by these corporations shows that such will be the result, if they can bring it about. If they refuse to pay the interest, will they not, as so frivolous a pretext, refuse to pay the principal when due? This is a matter that the administration and Congress needs to look after.

It is a settled fact that the people all over the country demand that these wealthy railroad corporations shall be kept within due bounds. It is a settled conviction among the masses, that there is nothing so dangerous to our institutions and Government as the influence of the Railroad interests of the country. It is high time that Congressmen, the servants of the people, should begin to look after these things. Let these Pacific Roads defeat the Government and defraud the country of her just dues, and there is no limit then to be placed to the monied influence of these tremendous corporations. Now is the time to crush this fearful power. Require the companies to pay the interest on these bonds or take possession of their roads, as the Government has the undoubted right to do.

That our readers may more fully understand this great railroad swindle we present the following statement from the Chicago Tribune of Saturday last:

The amount issued on each road, and the interest now due, are as follows:

| Railroad Co. | Amount of Bonds | Interest now due |
|--|-----------------|------------------|
| Union Pacific | \$27,336,512 | \$2,545,899 |
| Central Pacific | 29,885,000 | 2,826,884 |
| Western Pacific | 1,970,000 | 177,798 |
| St. Louis & San Francisco | 200,000 | 20,000 |
| Kansas Pacific | 6,300,000 | 599,261 |
| Cent. Pac. N. Pacific | 1,600,000 | 150,210 |
| Total | \$44,811,512 | \$7,101,652 |
| The annual interest on the bonds loaned to the Union Pacific Road amounts to \$1,639,190, and for thirty years, the period the bonds have to run, \$49,995,700. | | |
| The annual interest on the bonds issued to the Central Pacific amounts to \$1,552,286, and for thirty years, \$46,585,800. | | |
| The annual interest on the Kansas Pacific Road amounts to \$290,180, and for thirty years, \$1,170,540. The annual interest on the Western Pacific Road is \$118,200, and for thirty years, \$3,546,000. The annual interest on the St. Louis & San Francisco is \$27,600, and for thirty years, \$831,776. The interest on the Central Branch is \$96,000 per annum, and for thirty years, \$2,880,000. The total annual interest out of which these companies have undertaken to swindle the government is \$3,889,238, and for thirty years, it amounts to \$116,673,961. Add to this the principal of the bonds, \$44,811,512, and the total sum is \$161,485,613. | | |

The question at issue involves nearly one hundred and seventeen millions of interest and sixty-five millions of principal, and, both together, more than one hundred and eighty-one millions of dollars.

If these roads, by any chicanery, bribery, or other means, escape from their legal obligations to the government, the effect on the tax-payers will be equivalent to adding nearly \$200,000,000 in the national debt.

For two days, last week, the young folks of our village enjoyed very fine skating on the pond. Skating so early in the season is a rare event in this latitude.

REFORM NEEDED.

In no branch of the Government is reform so much demanded as in that of the civil service. One of the great sources of corruption in the government is the manner in which the civil service is filled. Positions and appointments are almost universally with political considerations in view, and without any reference to the most eminent qualifications. In fact, the manner of securing appointments often defeat the will of the people. The Congressmen who holds; under the present arrangements, the appointments in his district, in his hands, too often uses this patronage for the furtherance of his own personal ends. Thus it no doubt often happens that through this very patronage the will of the people is defeated. The entire civil service is a corrupt regime, of the civil service is so easily used for corruption, and is often so used, that it may properly be denominated a system of corruption. The demands of the hour, the demands of the people, require a radical reform in the civil service.

THE CABLES.

The means for obtaining the European news is greatly limited. The two English Atlantic cables are out of order, so that nothing can be received over them. This makes us rely wholly upon the French cable for the news. This cable, too, is liable to give out any moment. Messages can now only be sent one way. No communication can be made over it from America to Europe, while the currents from Europe to America are very weak. Should this cable give out, and the expedition for the repair of the English cables fail, the country would be thrown back on the old slow steamship mode of receiving news. It is hoped this will not be the result.

APPORTIONMENT.

One of the first duties of Congress should look after proper apportionment of representation under the new constitution. It is hoped now that the entire Michigan delegation will see eye to eye on this subject. The West is entitled to a much greater proportion of Representatives in Congress than she now has, and it is simply the most manifest injustice to deny her claim. We trust, then, that the present session of Congress will attend the just apportionment of the Representation in that body, so that the Western States, which are entitled to an increased number of Congressmen, may secure their just rights as early as possible, as December, 1870, instead of 1875.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE—DEC. 5TH. The Senate was called to order at noon by the Vice President, the presence of a very large audience. Nearly all the Senators were in their seats. A joint resolution was offered regarding the payment of the balance of the war claim against the State of Alabama. The removal of political disabilities; for the immediate repeal of all laws for the collection of interest on the bonds of the United States; to strengthen the reserves of national banks, and promote the return to specie payments. A joint resolution was offered relating to gold notes and United States notes. The President's message was received, and read members present.

The roll was called, and 178 members answered to their names. Mr. Duke, a member from Virginia, took the oath. The President's message was received and read. The treasury report was presented and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. A bill to supply an omission in the Indiana Appropriation bill passed.

SENATE—DEC. 5TH. Bills were introduced to authorize the election of a delegate to Congress from the Indiana Territory; to repeal to much of the act of July 14, 1870, as continues the income tax after December 31, 1869; authorizing the Postmaster General to continue the use in the post office of a patented device for post marking, and the more effective cancellation of stamps. A resolution was adopted calling upon the Secretary of State to report on the regulations prescribed by him for the transportation of goods in bond from foreign countries to the United States. A bill was introduced for the correspondence between the Navy Department and Rear-Admiral Fox, from January 1, 1870, relative to the search for the missing ship, the Albatross. A bill was introduced to repeal the income tax on the production of the late war. Bills were introduced and referred for the creation of United States Court rooms, revenue officers, and Post-Offices at Covington, Ky.; making provision for a government building at San Francisco.

HOUSE—DEC. 6TH. A bill was introduced to repeal the income tax on the production of the late war. Bills were introduced and referred for the creation of United States Court rooms, revenue officers, and Post-Offices at Covington, Ky.; making provision for a government building at San Francisco.

FROM VAN BUREN COUNTY.

HARTFORD, NOV. 29, 1870.

EDITOR RECORD.—We have at last reached Hartford, after laying the track through the so much dreaded and talked of swamps, which delayed us about a day. After passing the swamps, we found soil of a little better quality, but no detriment to farming. Settlers need not leave this section, because they cannot find soil to suit them. The town is flourishing, both in business and buildings. There are nine stores for general merchandise, one jewelry store, one harness shop, one grocery store, one drug store, one hotel. One is a Methodist, and the other is a Universalist. The town will be completed this year, and adds greatly to the appearance of the place. There is some talk of a third church in the Spring. I am glad to say that there are not as many saloons here as at Bangor or Bredfordville.

The hotel has a fine appearance, and would tempt the weary traveler to tarry for the night. The landlord seems to be a whole soul fellow. There are great many new stores and buildings that have risen from the ground, apparently, within the past few months. Now, Mr. Editor, I would call the attention of those whose names are on the list of last spring to call and see some "foe any" of the farms along the line, and see if it is ruining the country. If you have not got your eyes opened, a visit on the line of the O. & M. L. S. R. R. from New Buffalo to the junction of K. & S. L. R. R. will soon open them.

Williams River, a resident of this place, died very suddenly, on Sunday, 27th. He had been complaining for some time past with the ague. He was feeling very well on Saturday; went to his bed as usual, but awoke the family about midnight, and they found him choking, and died in a short time. The farmers are very busy doing their fall plowing. The weather is very pleasant, and feels very much like spring. We will reach Waterville in about 10 days, and will write again.

Yours, &c., E. D. WARD.

—We learn from the Bay City Sun that seven hundred mutton carcasses were brought to this city, Friday, from Flint, by one man. The price asked was four cents per pound. The water in the river is said to be warmer this season than any corresponding period for many years.

The War, &c.—Latest Dispatches.

BERLIN, Dec. 2.—King William telegraphs the following to the Queen:

"Versailles, Nov. 30.—The Sixth Corps, yesterday, repulsed a sortie near L'Hay, on the south of Paris. Over one hundred French prisoners were taken, and several hundred dead and wounded left on the field. The French also made sorties on positions of the Wurtembergers and Saxons at Bonnart, Clarenton, and Villiers, to the east and southeast of Paris. These positions were taken by the French, but subsequently retaken by the Prussians. At the same time sorties were made at the north and west, and at St. Denis against the Fourth Corps and Guard. The French were, however, repulsed, and driven back behind their works in all cases. I remain at Versailles, as it is a central point. (Signed) WILLIAM."

BERLIN, Dec. 2.—The following despatch from General De Trochu, commander of the Seventh Prussian Corps, just received, is dated the 1st: "A great sortie occurred yesterday. The French moved out against the Prussians and Wurtembergers early in the morning, supported by heavy cannonade of their forts. Generals Trochu and Ducrot commanded, and the French were repulsed. The morning the French were repulsed by the Sixth Corps and retired. Subsequently, at 8 o'clock in the morning, the Wurtembergers, who had been reinforced by cavalry and artillery, were attacked by the French. The latter were again defeated. German losses were trifling."

LOSDON, Dec. 2.—The Telegraph says the French have won great advantage in the movement of the Seine and Marne, and now possess a military preponderance never enjoyed since the opening of the campaign.

A special from Tours says official despatches announce that General Trochu and Ducrot completely surrounded the Prussians at Orléans. The Prussians were driven from Orléans, and the French moved on to the city. The Prussians were driven from Orléans, and the French moved on to the city.

LOSDON, Dec. 4.—The New York Tribune correspondent at Versailles, on the 1st, writes: "The sortie, yesterday, against the Wurtemberg Division, east of Paris, between the Seine and Marne, resulted in leaving the French in possession of the villages about Erius-Marne. The Germans say that they must retreat there at any cost. The French occupied the line right and left of Ormesson. They were driven back, with heavy loss, from this, their most advanced position. The Wurtembergers were supported by brigades of the Pomeranian Corps, the Crown Prince's old corps, and a great part of the Sixth Corps. Both sides fought hard. The French were led by dismounted officers of high rank, and showed something of their traditional firmness. Had not the Wurtembergers been very steady while being driven back, and had not the Prussians arrived promptly to their support, the investment line might have been broken. The French merely gained a better foothold for their future operations. Their great want is space to deploy forces. A very hard fight took place the same day north of St. Denis. The French sallied out against the Fourth Prussian Corps, the attack was repulsed, and many prisoners were taken by the Prussians. The loss of the French was heavy, including seven officers. Frederick-Charles, on the other hand, though not successful, was much hindered by heavy rains. The army is fatigued by long marches. Today all is quiet in the southern front of Paris. The first shell was fired into the city yesterday from the Bavarian batteries near Chailillon. It was accidental. The Crown Prince has issued orders to use no more guns at present at such range. If the French try more sorties, there will probably be a sharp attack on the outlying defenses of the city."

LOSDON, Dec. 4.—5 a. m.—The fighting at Brie, on Friday, was very severe, the Germans being exposed to a steady fire from the French forts; but at 3 in the afternoon the French retired, leaving behind many prisoners. Brie, though abandoned by the French, has not been occupied by the Germans. The French wounded, who have fallen into the hands of the besiegers, refuse the offer to be sent back to Paris.

The German leaders are losing much of their overweening confidence in consequence of recent military events. The correspondent of the New York Tribune telegraphs from Berlin, Sunday afternoon: "The King telegraphs to the Queen: 'No fighting yesterday at Tours. The French are massing troops from Vincennes. During the night of December 2d, the French lost 1,800 prisoners, including one General, twenty superior officers, besides seven guns.' The Duke Mecklenburg makes the following report: Yesterday morning a battle commenced near Bazoches-le-Haut. After a hot fight the Fifteenth French Army Corps was defeated and driven back to Athénay. The Sixteenth French Army Corps was driven beyond Loigny. Several hundred prisoners and eleven guns were taken. The loss of the French was considerable. Our loss is unknown, but is much smaller than that of the enemy."

Tours, Dec. 4.—The government makes the following announcement: "The Army of the Loire has discontinued its forward movement, owing to the resistance of the enemy, who are concentrating large masses of men in the towns of Bourges, Ardenay, and Angoulême. The army occupies strongly entrenched positions, in which it will remain for the present, postponing its advance until better opportunity is offered. In the meanwhile, General Ducrot, with the army which he led out of Paris, is dispersing the enemy's forces, and is not more finding before him the masses of the enemy which was supposed were going to meet him, but which are really retained north of Orléans."

(Signed) "GAMBETTA."

The correspondent of the New York Tribune from St. Petersburg, Sunday afternoon, says: "General von Gortschakoff's second note was delivered yesterday. It insists that Gortschakoff demands that the Russian army be withdrawn from the Polish frontier; otherwise the Embassy will be withdrawn. The English think it a diplomatic victory. The position is still delicate."

FLORENCE, Dec. 3.—The depuration of the Spanish government and Cortes to tender the crown of Spain to the Duke of Aosta arrived here to-day, and was received with unusual demonstrations of sympathy.

New York, Dec. 5.—A Paris despatch, by way of Tours, states that the advances gained by Ducrot and Vinor are highly important. Vinor, with two divisions of the Second Corps, was perfectly successful, cutting his way, on the 29th, as far south as Rungis, and only retired in order to allow Ducrot to overcome obstacles retarding his further advance.

LOSDON, Dec. 5.—Advices from Paris received up to a late hour Sunday night, state that there has been no further attempt to force the Russian lines.

Yves, Dec. 5.—The French have been driven from Chevilly, and have abandoned Champigny-sur-Marne. They are now massing near Orléans.

New York, Dec. 5.—The Tribune's correspondent telegraphs from Versailles, on the 2d inst, that the fighting of the 30th was as hard as any during the whole year. The French consider that they won a partial triumph, because they took 100 German prisoners, and occupied positions far in advance of their former line of outposts. In a sortie between the Seine and Marne, the French had an overwhelming force. The French, in the sortie, employed their whole division. No efforts could be made to drive them back. No efforts could be made to drive them back.

Tours, Dec. 4.—On Friday the Prussians recaptured from the French the following places: Ferminier, Guillonville, Neuville and Ville Pain.

Tours, Dec. 5.—In an official communication it is announced that General Avellana, of the Spanish army, who died on the 2d of December, advised the Government of the necessity of evacuating Orléans and retreating to the left bank of the Loire. The government, however, was of the opinion that it would be better to hold firm to Orléans; but General Aurelles de Paladine retained his views as to the necessity for retreat. The Government decided to act accordingly; but, at noon of the 4th, General de Paladine telegraphed to the government that he had changed his opinion, and would hold Orléans. Thereupon M. Gambetta started for Orléans; but when near La Chapelle, the train was fired upon by Prussian artillery. Gambetta returned to Tours, where he found a dispatch from General Fiala announcing that the enemy demanded the evacuation of Orléans under threat that they would bombard the place, and that Palliere had agreed in the name of General de Paladine, to comply with the demand. Accordingly the machine batteries were sent to the point of strategy, and at midnight the Prussians occupied Orléans. Despatches from the Chief Corps d'Armée announce that the retreat was made in good order. No despatches have been received from General de Paladine.

LOSDON, Dec. 2.—The losses sustained by the Saxons in the battles around Paris from Nov. 20 to Dec. 2, are estimated at about 1,800 men. Two regiments of the Sixth Corps, the One Hundred and Fourth, One Hundred and Sixth, One Hundred and Seventh, and One Hundred and Eighth, lost 15 officers killed and 63 wounded.

The total number of French prisoners taken was about 8,000.

State Items.

—There are 641 convicts in the State Prison. Twenty-eight were received last month, while 24 were discharged. The total number of convicts in the State Prison is 641.

—During last Tuesday night the barn of Mr. A. McMillan, of Sheridan, about four miles from this place, was burned to the ground with all its contents. In the barn were five horses, about 400 bushels of grain, about 10 tons of hay, and a new lumber wagon, harnesses and a lot of farm implements. —Albion Mirror.

—The Grand Traverse Herald says that there are three or four inches of snow in that village. A few miles west, on the highlands, are told that it is from eight to ten inches. —Three thousand seven hundred and ninety-five barrels of Michigan apples were received in Milwaukee in one day.

—The Marshall Statesman says there is a lady in that city who is going to die unless the doctors can invent some preparation to kill the jute bugs that have found a resting place in her scalp. A jute switch is the cause.

—Mr. James Ketchum, Post-Master at Mayville, Tuscola county, was brought before the U. S. Court at Chicago, on Monday, charged with opening three letters directed to his office containing money, and appropriating the contents to his own use. One of these letters contained \$15, and the other two \$50 each. The prisoner waived an examination, and for want of bail, he was held in Detroit in the U. S. Court, to be held in Detroit in December. —Flint Globe.

—Col. Ferry's foundry and machine shop together with their contents were totally destroyed by fire on the morning of the 24th inst. The books and papers only were saved. It must have been the work of an incendiary, for the fire first broke out under the outside stairway. Loss estimated at \$40,000. Insurance \$13,500. —Newaygo Republican.

—On Monday and Tuesday last, Messrs. Garnett & Kline, at the "Chamber of Commerce," (Tamarack Hall), dressed 12 hundred pounds of turkey and eight hundred pounds of chickens, and sold them for the New York market. —Constantine Mercury.

—On Saturday night last, the Grocery Store of Jesse Harrison, in this village was entered by some soundraiders, and about \$200 worth of tobacco and cigars abstracted.

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What to Read.

—Brown.—How are you, Jones? What paper have you been reading? What is the news this fine morning?

—Jones.—Oh, this is my Detroit Weekly Tribune. I have just taken from the Post-Office a copy of the Tribune, and I am reading it. I can't wait till I get home to look it over; and then there is always such a rush for it the moment it comes into the house, that I can't get a chance at the markets, which have every year saved me many times the cost of the paper, unless I glance them over on the road, as you just caught me doing.

—Brown.—You don't mean to say that the children read the paper!—Catch mine over touting one!

—Jones.—Because you don't take the right one. My children never did, until I commenced taking the Tribune, and now they cannot read enough. My wife would no more think of leaving one paragraph unread than she would of omitting her weekly wash. Robert, my eldest son, takes great interest in the progress of the European War, and in the general news of the day which is about as ably gotten up as in any paper I have ever seen. George, my next, does not read until he has read each week's story, which he generally pronounces perfectly splendid. Harry learns the poetry by heart, and is as good as all the new plays by Tennyson, Longfellow, Whittier, and the other great poets of the day, and publish no trash. I don't mind her doing so. Sarah does not care for stories or news, but she always finds a rich feast in the gossip and miscellany of which each paper contains a large installment, and in the Michigan news which they make a specialty of, and which is not equalled by any other paper in the country. The Tribune has its own paid correspondents in every country, and their reports are always fresh, interesting and reliable.

—Brown.—So good a paper ought to be highly successful. How is it with the Tribune?

—Jones.—The Tribune never flourished as it does to-day. Within a year it has purchased ground, and built, what printers tell me is one of the complete printing offices in the country. They have spent large sums for new machinery and other appliances, and are working harder and spending more money in improving their paper, and increasing its circulation, than ever before. Within three years, their circulation has increased fully one hundred per cent. It is a positive fact that the circulation of the Tribune Tribune now exceeds that of any two other papers in the State. When you go to Detroit you should visit the Tribune office. You will be cordially welcomed, and will find it well repaid.

—Brown.—I think I will. But what other good papers has the Tribune Tribune, besides those you have mentioned?

—Jones.—Well, there is Personal and Political Column, which is to be surprised for its vivacity and humor by nothing in the West; that the Religious column every week is very full and readable. The Farmer's column is prepared, regularly by an old and experienced agriculturist, and I have already adopted many of his suggestions with advantage. The Congressional and Legislative reports, when those bodies are in session, are very full and complete. The editorial is always sound, the market particularly correct and reliable, and indeed every department of the paper is made up with great care and judgment.

New Advertisements.

I WAS CURED OF DRUNKENNESS AND CATARRH BY A REMEDY WHICH I WILL SEND THE RECIPE FOR.

8 O'CLOCK. SALESMAN WANTED. Business honorable. No competition. Liberal pay given. Address: J. H. BROWN, 181 Chatham St., N. Y. City.

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TRY WELLS' CARBOLIC TABLETS. An unfailing remedy for all Bronchial Affections, Coughs, Croup, Hoarseness, Asthma, Diphtheria, Dyspepsia of the Throat and Wind Pipes, and all other diseases of the Throat and Lungs. Address: J. H. BROWN, 181 Chatham St., N. Y. City.

Dr. Wells' Carbolic Tablets. A SURE CURE FOR ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE THROAT AND LUNGS. Address: J. H. BROWN, 181 Chatham St., N. Y. City.

NEW GOODS! NEW GOODS!

Just Received from New York City, by Wm. H. FOX & Co., First Door East of the Bank, The largest stock ever brought to Buchanan, comprising Black & Colored Silks, Irish & French Poplins, Merinos and Empress Cloths, all colors, Handsome Plaids for Ladies and Misses. Also a Large Line of Cheap Dress Goods. FLANNELS: FLANNELS: SHAWLS: SHAWLS: Over one hundred different patterns, including some handsome Paisley Shawls. Water-Proof Cloaking, in Great Variety! CARPETS, OIL CLOTH AND WALL PAPER! Also a large stock of Brown and Bleached Muslins, Crash, Denims, Tickings, Shirting Cheeks, Jeans, &c., &c., all of which will be sold for cash or to prompt paying customers. WM. H. FOX & Co. Buchanan, Mich., Oct. 5, 1870.—831f

Commissioners' Notice. STATE OF MICHIGAN, County of Berrien, ss.—The Board of Commissioners, appointed by the Probate Court of said County, do hereby give notice, to all persons claiming any interest in the estate of John Smith, deceased, to appear at the office of the said Commissioners, on the 15th day of December, 1870, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause why the said estate should not be administered by the said Commissioners. Dated November 20, 1870.

THE CHICAGO REPUBLICAN. New Management and Ownership. Will be fresh and spicy in its news; bold, honest, and independent in its opinions; reliable in its facts, and its conclusions. THE CHICAGO REPUBLICAN PUBLISHED BY J. H. BROWN, 181 Chatham St., N. Y. City.

THE DAILY REPUBLICAN. It is the aim of its managers to supply a want long felt by the people of the Northwest—namely, a CHEAP MORNING NEWSPAPER. The Republican will contain all the regular telegraphic dispatches found in the high-priced papers; a full and complete report of the markets of the world; every other service necessary to the making up of a first-class newspaper. It will contain twenty-eight columns of matter well arranged and prepared. In politics it will be thoroughly independent, aiming at truth to advocate only such measures as seem to be for the benefit of the people. Not adhering to the doctrine of political infallibility, it will use only such measures as seem to be for the benefit of the people.

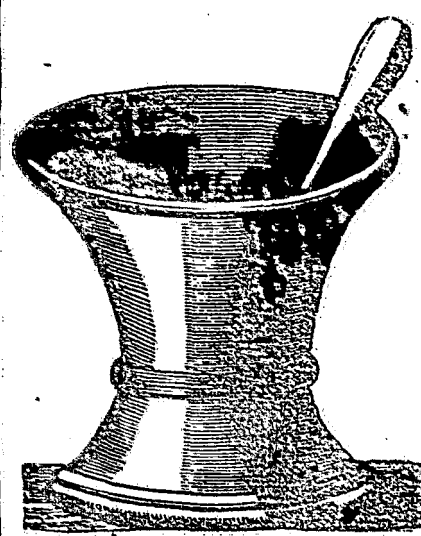
THE WEEKLY REPUBLICAN. A LARGE EIGHT PAGE PAPER (forty-eight columns), its Telegraphic News re-written, and its matter made up exclusively for family reading, with the most complete market, will be sent by mail, as follows: SINGLE COPIES, PER YEAR, \$1.50. SILENT COPIES, \$2.50. GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES FOR GENTLEMEN. For Gifts for the WEEKLY REPUBLICAN will be given by the "REPUBLICAN PREMIUM WATCHES," manufactured by the NATIONAL WATCH COMPANY of Boston, expressly for us, marked.

PRINTING! FROM THIS NEAR. WEDDING AND VISITING CARD! MAMMOTH POSTER! GIVE US A CALL! We have one of the best of And a larger and better POWER PRESS!

GORDON JOBBERS! Then can be found in Southern Michigan. We to constantly adding new type and material are determined not to be outdone, either in price or quality.

THE BERRIEN COUNTY RECORD. Is the largest local newspaper in Southwestern Michigan. There is no better medium than the Record, by which those living at a distance can know the vast natural advantages of their own and adjoining Counties. Only \$2 per year in advance. Send for a copy, and then send your friends a copy.

D. A. WAGNER, EDITOR & PUBLISHER. Buchanan, Mich.



FACTS! FACTS!

THAT AT

OSBORN'S
DRUG STORE

Can at all times be found the

LARGEST STOCK

—OF—

Paints, Oils,

TURPENTINE, BENZINE,

Window Glass, Putty,

VARNISHES,

BRUSHES,

SAND PAPER,

PAINTERS STOCK,

COLORS, &c., &c.

In fact, anything you can find at any

PAINT & OIL STORE,

Which will be sold at

Very Low Figures.

I keep the well known

Pure Fahnestock

WHITE LEAD,

The best in the world. Also, the

DAYTON, OHIO, LINED OIL.

Come and get prices before buying

elsewhere.

COTTAGE COORS

OF ALL SHADES.

I make a specialty of Paints and Oils,

and

WILL NOT BE UNDERSOLD.

MY STOCK OF

Drugs and Medicines,

DYE STUFFS, &c.,

Will be found full and complete,

BOUGHT AT CLOSE FIGURES,

Of Pure Quality,

AND ALWAYS RELIABLE.

Thankful for former patronage, I hope

by selling

GOOD GOODS,

—AT—

LOW FIGURES,

To merit a continuance of your favors.

WM. OSBORN.

Buchanan, April 1, 1870.

Advertise in the

Berrien County Record.

It has double the circu-

lation of any other local

newspaper in Berrien

County.

Get your Job

Work done at the office

of the Berrien County

Record. It is the largest

and most complete

Job Office in Southern

Michigan. The work is

done the cheapest

and best. Call and see

specimens.

The Berrien County Record

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE COUNTY.

THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 8, 1870.

To Advertisers.

The "Record" is the best Advertising

Medium in South-western Michigan, hav-

ing a larger circulation than any other

paper in this part of the State.

Roll of Honor.

Who deserves more honor than the man who

subscribes for a paper and pays for it?

Received for the week ending Dec. 8:

A. W. Longburn, \$2.00

R. E. Johnson, 2.00

M. J. Coffey, 2.00

F. Grimes, Niles, 2.00

W. G. Wood, Niles, 2.00

A. C. Harger, Three Oaks, 2.00

C. Thurston, Galesburg, 2.00

P. S. Sawyer, Sawyer, 2.00

All subscribers in arrears, for one year

are now indebted \$2.00 each, but one who

pay in advance as they are in arrears will

receive the benefit of advance payment.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Special Township Meeting—D. E. Hinnan.

Hard Times Almost Over—Redden & Dun-

can. Farm for Sale—P. S. Cross.

A Lecture to Young Men—Chas. J. C. Cline &

Scientific American—Munn & Co.

Local Notice—B. F. Fisk.

To Tax-Payers.

Notice is hereby given that the Tax Roll

for 1870 is now in my hands, and that I will

be for the collection of Taxes, on Friday of

each week, with my E. H. Hinnan, Esq.,

in the office of the Township Treasurer.

Buchanan, Dec. 7, 1870.

Musical.

Miss Nettie M. Botsford is desirous of obtain-

ing pupils in Vocal and Instrumental music.

For terms and further information, inquire at

the residence of Wm. H. Fox.

Nov. 16, 1870.

Settle Your Account.

All persons indebted to the undersigned for

work or millinery goods will please call and

settle the same, as soon as possible—immedi-

ately. Mrs. P. B. Deans.

Nov. 16, 1870.

Musical.

The subscriber is giving instructions in in-

strumental music, and desires a few more pupils

in Buchanan. For particulars and terms apply

to Miss Lizzie Whitaker, Buchanan.

Nov. 16, 1870.

Settle—Pay Up.

All persons indebted to the late firm of

French & DeMont are hereby notified that the

notes and accounts here have been left with E.

Challenge, Esq., for collection. Cost will be

settled by immediate settlement. J. H. French,

Buchanan, Aug. 31, 1870.

Settle Up.

All persons indebted to G. H. McNeil will

settle the same with the undersigned, immedi-

ately. The accounts and notes have been left in my

hands for collection. I can be found at my

residence, on the corner of Front and Detroit

streets. J. H. French, Buchanan.

Nov. 23, 1870.

THE BAPTIST.—The Baptist Church

has rented a part of Union Hall, for

ROLL OF HONOR.

Room E. of Buchanan Union School.

The following persons are hereby com-

mended for perfect deportment during the

week ending December 3, 1870.

Minnie Boyl, Adeline Widner,

Ida Beardsley, Florence Birdsall,

Edna Beardsley, Fannie Woodworth,

Anna Campbell, Emma Collins,

Ida Chittenden, Florence Smith,

Montie Dowling, Frank Fox,

Aggie High, Edie Harper,

Lillie Howe, Chas. Palmer,

Estelle Holliday, Jessie Platt,

Minnie Hamilton, Sylvester Shedd,

Artie Logan, Frank Widner,

Estie McCollum, Chas. Wilson,

Ida Munson, Albert Thurston,

Jennie Long, Herbert Jeffery,

Emma Ross, Eudora Chamberlain,

Ida Richards, Freddie Jeffery,

A. C. Harger, Thos. Curtis,

C. Thurston, Selma Barnes,

P. S. Sawyer, E. P. Briggs,

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Nov. 23, 1870.

THE BAPTIST.—The Baptist Church

has rented a part of Union Hall, for

FIRE IN BENTON HARBOR.

From the Palladium we learn that on Thurs-

day morning of last week, about one

o'clock, a fire broke out in Russell's

Hall, which resulted in the complete

destruction of that building. The fire

was supposed to have originated from

a defective flue. The evening before

the hall had been occupied by the

general assembly of the Church. The

building burned was a high two story

frame, 45x85 feet. The second story

was fitted up for a hall and the lower

part was finished up for two store

rooms. The loss was some \$6,500.

There was an insurance, in different

companies, to the amount of \$4,500.

TRED UP.—We learn that the

Schooner Hibbard, on her arrival in

Chicago a few days since, was taken

possession of by the proper officers for

damages that are claimed to be due

for her running into the railroad

bridge. A more strange proceeding

we have not heard of, and though the

claim may be proper, still we hope her

owners will test the question at issue

to the full extent of the law. We don't

believe there is any valid authority

for locating a railroad bridge, so as to

interfere with the interests of naviga-

tion or of the St. Joseph harbor in

the least. There are very few persons

who do not regard the present loca-

tion of the bridge as dangerous, un-

necessary and inimical to the shipping

interests of both St. Joseph and Ben-

ton Harbor.—Benton Harbor Palladium.

WILSON'S Anti-Periodic or Fever and

Ague Tonic.

The GREAT TONIC, the only one

known to cure without exception, and

offered to every man, woman or child suffering

from Chills and Fever, Dumb Ague, Bil-

ious Fever, Enlarged Spleen, Periodic

Neuritis, and Sun Pains, and that hor-

rible malady, Congestive Chills. It is a

specific for each and all of these complaints,

and may be safely administered at any

time and to any age. It contains no po-

ison, no arsenic or mercury—does not re-

quire rubbing, drugging and plastering

with unwholesome, nauseous and offen-

sive Enlarged Spleen; no mercury internally

to effect a cure.

Wilson's Tonic cures permanently and

destroys the periodicity of Chills and

fevers. For sale at Osborn's

Drug Store.

1874w

County Correspondence.

FROM GALENA.

DEAR RECORD.—You will please notice

through your excellent paper, that the

Graduated School of Galena Village can

also afford a Roll of Honor. The following

pupils are hereby recommended for per-

fect deportment during the week ending

December 8, 1870:

Della Dingman, Della Clossen,

Sarah Blackless, Ida Grace,

Eva Spangenberg, Lucy Woot,

Ida Spangenberg, Eva Mcomber,

Record under the head of Money—\$25

worth of information sent prepaid, to any

address, on receipt of 50 cents. I. S. Child

man, Kansas, Tex. or I will give him de-

sirable information enough in one article

through the RECORD to last him his natu-

ral lifetime. Truly, yours,

JO. BAKER.

An apple-dealer of Port Huron has

lately returned from Liverpool, where he

contracted for the delivery of 10,000 bar-

rels of the best Michigan apples. It is

said he will clear \$1.75 on each barrel.

He contracted for the same number of

barrels last year, and filled his contract,

the apples arriving in Liverpool in good

Many of the apples thus sent to Liver-

pool are thence sent to the Mediterranean

in exchange for other fruits.

BUCHANAN PRICES CURRENT.

Current prices of various goods for the week

ending Dec. 7, 1870, at Buchanan, Mich.

Wool per pound, 1.00

Wheat, white, per bushel, 1.00

Berrien County Record--Supplement.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

A year of peace and general prosperity to this nation has passed since the last assembling of Congress. We have, through a kind Providence, been blessed with abundant crops, and have been spared from complications and war with foreign nations. In our midst comparative harmony has been restored. It is to be regretted, however, that a free exercise of the elective franchise has, by violence and intimidation, been denied to citizens in exceptional cases in several of the States lately in rebellion, and that the verdict of the people has thereby been reversed. The States of Virginia, Mississippi and Texas have been restored to representation in our national councils. Georgia, the only State now without representation, may confidently be expected to take her place there also at the beginning of the new year, and then, let us hope, will be completed the work of reconstruction. With an acquiescence on the part of the whole people in the national obligation to pay the public debt created as the price of our union and the pensions to our disabled soldiers and sailors or their widows and orphans, and in the changes to the Constitution which have been made necessary by a great rebellion, there is no reason why we should not advance in material prosperity and happiness as no other nation has ever done after so protracted and devastating a war.

THE EUROPEAN WAR.

Soon after the existing war broke out in Europe the protection of the United States Minister in Paris was invoked in favor of the North Germans, domiciled in the French territory. Instructions were issued to grant the protection asked, and this has been followed by an extension of American protection to the citizens of Saxony, Hesse and Saxony-Coburg, Gotha, Colombia, Portugal, Uruguay, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Chili, Paraguay and Venezuela in Paris. The charge was an onerous one, requiring constant and severe labor as well as the exercise of patience, prudence and good judgment. It has been performed to the entire satisfaction of this Government, and, as I am officially informed, equally so to the satisfaction of the Government of North Germany.

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

As soon as I learned that a republic had been proclaimed at Paris and the people of France had acquiesced in the change, the Minister of the United States was directed by telegraph to recognize it, and tender my congratulations and those of the people of the United States. The re-establishment in France of a system of government, disconnected with the dynastic traditions of Europe, appeared to be a proper subject for the solicitation of Americans. Should the present struggle result in attacking the hearts of the French to our simpler forms of representative government, it will be a subject of still further satisfaction to our people.

While we make no efforts to impose our institutions upon the inhabitants of other countries, and while we adhere to our traditional neutrality in civil contests elsewhere, we cannot be indifferent to the spread of American political ideas in a great and highly civilized country like France. We were asked by the new government to use our good offices jointly with those of the European powers in the interest of peace. Answer was made that the established policy and the true interests of the United States forbade them to interfere in European questions jointly with European powers.

I ascertained informally and unofficially that the government of North Germany was not then disposed to listen to such representations from any power, and though earnestly wishing to see the blessing of peace restored to the belligerents, with all of whom the United States is on terms of friendship, I declined, on the part of this government, to take a step which could only result in injury to our true interests without advancing the object for which our intervention was invoked. Should the time come when the action of the United States can hasten the return of peace by a single hour, that action will be heartily taken.

I deemed it prudent in view of the number of persons of German and French birth living in the United States to issue soon after official notice of a state of war had been received from both belligerents a proclamation defining the duties of the United States as a neutral, and the obligations of persons residing within their territory to observe their laws and the laws of nations. This proclamation was followed by others as circumstances seemed to call for them. The people, thus acquainted in advance with their duties and obligations, have assisted in preventing violations of the neutrality of the United States.

CUBA.

It is not understood that the condition of the insurrection in Cuba has materially changed since the close of the last session of Congress. In an early stage of the contest the authorities of Spain inaugurated a system of arbitrary arrests, of close confinement, and of military trials and executions of persons suspected of complicity with the insurgents, and of seizure of their property and the sequestration of their revenues by executive warrant. Such proceedings as far as they affected the persons or property of the citizens of the United States were in violation of the treaty of 1795 between the United States and Spain. The representations of injuries resulting to several persons claiming to be citizens of the United States, by reason of such violations, were made to the Spanish government from April, 1899, to June last. The Spanish minister at Washington had been clothed with a limited power to aid in redressing such wrongs. That power was found to be withdrawn, in view, as it was said, of the favorable situation in the island of Cuba, which, however, did not tend to the revocation or suspension of the extraordinary and arbitrary functions exercised by the executive power in Cuba, and we were obliged to make our complaint at Madrid. In the negotiations thus opened and still pending there, the United States only claimed that for the future the rights reserved for their citizens by treaty should be respected in Cuba; and that to the past a joint tribunal should be established in the United States with full jurisdiction over all such claims. Before such an impartial tribunal, each claimant would be required to prove his case. On the other hand, Spain would be at liberty to traverse every material fact, and thus complete equity would be done. A case which at one time threatened seriously to affect the relations between the United States and Spain has already been disposed of in this way.

The claim of the Col. Lloyd Aspinwall, for the illegal seizure and detention of that vessel, was referred to arbitration by mutual consent and has resulted in an award to the United States for the owners of the same of \$19,702 50 in gold. Another and long pending claim of a like nature—that of the whale ship Canada, has been disposed of by friendly arbitration. During the present year it was referred by the joint consent of Brazil and the United States to the decision of Sir Edward Thornton, her Britannic Majesty's minister at Washington, who kindly undertook the laborious task of examining the voluminous mass of correspondence and testimony submitted by the two Governments and awarded to the United States the sum of \$100,750 00 in gold which has since been paid by the imperial government. These recent examples show that the mode which the United States have proposed to Spain for adjusting the pending claims is just and feasible, and that it may be agreed to by either nation without dishonor. It is to be hoped that this moderate demand may be acceded to by Spain without further delay. Should the pending negotiations unfortunately and unexpectedly be without result, it will then become my duty to communicate that fact to Congress, and invite its action on the subject.

SPAIN AND SOUTH AMERICA.

The long deferred peace conference between Spain and the allied South American Republics has been inaugurated in Washington, under the auspices of the United States. Pursuant to the recommendations contained in the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 17th of December 1898, the Executive Department of the government offered its friendly offices for the promotion of peace and harmony between Spain and the allied republics. Hesitations and obstacles occurred to the acceptance of the offer. Ultimately, however, a conference was arranged and was opened in this city on the 29th of October last, at which I authorized the Secretary of State to preside. It was attended by the ministers of Spain, Peru, Chili and Ecuador. In consequence of the absence of a representative from Bolivia, the conference was adjourned until the attendance of a Plenipotentiary from that Republic could be secured or other measures could be adopted towards compassing its object.

The allied and other republics of Spanish origin on this continent may see in this fact a new proof of our sincere interest in their welfare, of our desire to see them blessed with good governments capable of maintaining order and preserving their respective territorial integrity, and of our sincere wish to extend our own commercial and social relations with them.

The time is not probably far distant when, in the natural course of events, all European political connection with this continent will cease. Our policy should be shaped, in view of this probability, so as to ally the commercial interests of the Spanish American States more closely to our own, and thus give the United States all the pre-eminence and all the advantage which Mr. Monroe, Mr. Adams and Mr. Clay contemplated when they proposed to join in the congress of Panama.

SAN DOMINGO.

During the last session of Congress a treaty for the annexation of the republic of San Domingo to the United States failed to receive the requisite two-thirds vote of the Senate. I was thoroughly convinced then that the best interests of the country commercially and materially demanded its ratification. Time has only confirmed me in this view. I now firmly believe that the moment it is known that the United States have entirely abandoned the project of accepting as a part of its territory the island of San Domingo, a free port will be negotiated for by European nations. In the Bay of Samana, a large commercial city will spring up, to which we will be tributary without receiving corresponding benefits. The government of San Domingo has voluntarily sought this annexation. It is a weak power, numbering, probably, less than 100,000 souls, and yet possessing one of the richest localities under the sun, capable of supporting a population of 10,000,000 of people in luxury. The people of San Domingo are not capable of maintaining themselves in their present condition, and must look for outside support. They yearn for the protection of our free institutions and laws, our progress and civilization. Shall we refuse them? The acquisition of San Domingo is desirable, because of its geographical position. It commands the entrance to the Caribbean sea and the isthmus transit of commerce. It possesses the richest soil, best and most capacious harbors, most salubrious climate, and most valuable products of the forest, mine and soil of any of the West India Islands. Its possession by the United States will in a few years build up a coastwise commerce of immense magnitude, which will go far toward restoring to us our lost merchant marine. It will give to us those articles which we consider greatly valuable and do not produce, thus equalizing our exports and imports. In case of foreign war, it will give us the command of all the islands, and thus prevent an enemy from again possessing himself of a rendezvous upon our coast. It protects our coast trade between the States bordering on the Atlantic and those bordering on the Gulf of Mexico, as, by the Bahamas and the Antilles, twice we must, as it were, pass through foreign countries to get from Georgia to the east coast of Florida. San Domingo, with a stable government, under which her immense resources can be developed, will give remunerative wages to tens of thousands of laborers, not now upon the island. These latter will take advantage of every available means of transportation to abandon adjacent islands, and seek the blessings of freedom and its sequence—each inhabitant receiving the reward of his own labor. Porto Rico and Cuba will have to abolish slavery as a measure of self preservation to retain their laborers. San Domingo will become a large consumer of the products of northern farms and manufactories. The cheap rate at which her citizens can be furnished with food and machinery will make it necessary that contiguous islands should have the same advantages in order to compete in the production of sugar, coffee, tobacco, tropical fruits, etc. This will open to us a wider market for our products. The production of our supply of these articles will cost no more than \$100,000,000 of our annual imports, besides largely increasing our exports. With such a picture, it is easy to see how our large debt abroad is ultimately to be extinguished. With the balance of trade against us, including interest on bonds held by foreigners and the money shipments of our citizens traveling in foreign lands equal to the yield of the precious metals in this country, it is not so easy to see how this result is to be otherwise accomplished. The acquisition of San Domingo is an adhesion to the Monroe doctrine. It is asserting our just claim to a controlling influence over the great commercial traffic soon to flow from west to east by way of the isthmus of Darien, and which is to build up our merchant marine. It is to furnish new markets for the products

of our farms, shops and manufactories. It is to make slavery unsupportable in Cuba and Porto Rico at once and ultimately so in Brazil. It is to settle the unhappy condition of Cuba and end an exterminating conflict. It is to provide the honest means of paying our honest debts without over-taxing the people. It is to furnish our citizens with the necessities of every day life at cheaper rates than ever before. It is, in fine, a rapid stride towards that greatness which the intelligence, industry and enterprise of the citizens of the United States will cause this country to assume among the nations. In view of the importance of this question, I earnestly urge upon Congress early action expressive of its views as to the policy of acquiring San Domingo. My suggestion is that, by a joint resolution of the two Houses of Congress, the Executive be authorized to appoint a commission to negotiate for a treaty with the authorities of San Domingo for the acquisition of that island, and that an appropriation be made to defray the expenses of such commission. The question may then be determined by the action of the two Houses of Congress upon a resolution of annexation, as is the case of the acquisition of Texas. So convinced am I of the advantages to flow from the acquisition of San Domingo, and of the great disadvantages—namely almost any calamities—to flow from non-acquisition, that I believe the subject has only to be investigated to be approved.

MEXICAN MATTERS.

It is to be regretted that our representations in regard to the injurious effects, especially upon the revenue of the United States, of the policy of the Mexican government in exempting from import duties a large tract of its territory on our borders, have not only been fruitless, but that it is even proposed in that country to extend the limits within which the privilege advertised to has hitherto been enjoyed. The expediency of taking into your serious consideration the proper means for contracting the policy referred to will, it is presumed, engage your earnest attention.

EXTRADITION TREATIES.

It is the obvious interest, especially of neighboring nations, to provide against injury to those who may have committed high crimes within their borders, and who may have sought refuge abroad. For this purpose extradition treaties have been concluded with several of the Central American Republics, and others are in progress.

THE VENEZUELAN CLAIMS.

The sense of Congress is desired as early as may be convenient upon the proceedings of the Commission on Claims against Venezuela, which were communicated in my messages of March 4, 1899, March 1, 1897, and March 31, 1897. It has not been deemed advisable to distribute any of the money which has been received from that government till Congress shall have acted upon the subject.

THE MASSACRE IN CHINA.

The massacre of French and Russian residents at Tien Tsin, under circumstances of great barbarity, were supposed by some to have been premeditated, and to indicate a purpose among the populace to exterminate foreigners in the Chinese empire. The evidence fails to establish such a supposition but shows a complicity of the local authorities with the mob. The government at Peking, however, seems to have been disposed to fulfill its treaty obligations so far as it was able to do so. Unfortunately, the news of the war between the German States and France reached China soon after the massacre, and it would appear that the popular mind became possessed with the idea that this contest, extending to Chinese waters, would neutralize the Christian influence and power, and that the time was coming when the superstitious mass might expel all foreigners and restore mandarin influence. Anticipating trouble from this cause, I invited France and North Germany to make an authorized suspension of hostilities in the East, where they were temporarily suspended by act of the commanders, to act together for the future protection in China of the lives and property of Americans and Europeans.

ABOLITION OF THE SLAVE TRADE.

Since the adjournment of Congress the ratifications of the treaty with Great Britain for abolishing the mixed courts for the suppression of the slave trade have been exchanged. It is believed that the slave trade is now confined to the eastern coast of Africa, whence the slaves are taken to Arabian markets.

NATURALIZATION.

The ratifications of the naturalization convention between Great Britain and the United States have also been exchanged during the recess, and thus a long standing dispute between the two governments has been settled in accordance with the principles always contended for by the United States.

OUR NORTHWESTERN BOUNDARY.

In April last while engaged in locating a military reservation near Pembina, a corps of engineers discovered that the commonly received boundary line between the United States and the British Possessions at that place is about 5,700 feet south of the true position of the Zenith parallel, and that the line when run on what is now supposed to be the true position of that parallel would leave the fort of the Hudson Bay Company at Pembina within the territory of the United States. This information was communicated to the British government, and I was requested to consent, and did consent, that the British occupation of the fort of the Hudson Bay Company should continue for the present. I deem it important, however, that this part of the boundary lines should be definitely fixed by a joint commission of the governments, and I submit herewith an estimate of expense for such a commission on the part of the United States and recommend an appropriation for that purpose. The land boundary is already fixed and marked from the summit of the Rocky Mountains to the Georgian Bay. It should now be in like manner marked from the Lake of the Woods to the summit of the Rocky Mountains.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

I regret to say that no conclusion has been reached for the adjustment of the claims against Great Britain, growing out of the course adopted by that government during the rebellion. The Cabinet of London, so far as its views have been expressed, does not appear to be willing to concede that her Majesty's government was guilty of negligence, or did or permitted any act during the war by which the United States has just cause of complaint. Our firm and unalterable convictions are directly the reverse. I would recommend to Congress to authorize the appointment of a commission to take the proof of the amounts and the ownership of these claims, on notice to the representative of Her Majesty at Washington, and that authority be given for the settlement of these claims by the United States, so that the Government shall have the ownership of the property claims as well as the responsible control of all the demands against Great

Britain. It cannot be necessary to add that whenever Her Majesty's government shall entertain a desire for a full and friendly adjustment of these claims the United States will enter upon their consideration with an earnest desire for a conclusion consistent with the honor and dignity of both nations.

THE FISHERY QUESTION.

The course pursued by the Canadian authorities towards the fishermen of the United States during the past season has not been marked by a friendly feeling. By the first article of the Convention of 1818 between Great Britain and the United States, it was agreed that the inhabitants of the United States should have forever, in common with British subjects, the rights of taking fish in certain waters therein defined—in the waters not included in the limits named in the convention, i.e., within three miles of the ports of the British coast. It has been the custom for many years to give to the fishermen of the United States a reasonable warning of their violation of the technical rights of Great Britain. The Imperial government is understood to have delegated the whole or a share of its jurisdiction and control of these inshore fishery grounds to the Colonial authority, known as the Dominion of Canada, and this semi-independent, but irresponsible agent, has exercised its delegated powers in an unfriendly way. Vessels have been seized without notice or warning, in violation of the custom previously prevailing, and have been taken into the Colonial ports, their voyages broken up, and the vessels condemned. There is reason to believe that this unfriendly and vexatious treatment was designed to bear harshly upon the hardy fishermen of the United States, with a view to political effect on this government. The statutes of the Dominion of Canada assume a still broader and more untenable jurisdiction over the vessels of the United States. They authorize officers or persons to bring vessels, hovering within three marine miles of any of the coasts, bays, creeks or harbors of Canada, into port, to search the cargo and to examine the master on oath touching the cargo and voyage, and to inflict on him a heavy pecuniary penalty if true answers are not given. If such a vessel is found preparing to fish within three marine miles of any such coasts, bays, creeks or harbors, without a license or after the expiration of the period named in the last license to it,—they provide that the vessel with her tackle, etc., shall be forfeited. It is not known that any condemnations have been made under the statute. Should the authorities of Canada attempt to enforce it, it will become my duty to take such steps as may be necessary to protect the rights of the citizens of the United States. It has been claimed by Her Majesty's officers that the fishing vessels of the United States have no right to enter the open ports of the British possessions in any other manner except for the purpose of shelter, of repairing damages, and of purchasing wood and obtaining water; that they have no right to enter the British Custom Houses or to trade, except for the purchase of wood and water, and that they must depart within 24 hours after a notice to leave. It is not known that any seizure of a fishing vessel carrying the flag of the United States has been made under this claim. So far as the claim is founded in an alleged construction of the Convention of 1818 it cannot be acquiesced in by the United States. It is hoped that it will not be insisted upon by Her Majesty's government. During the conference which preceded the negotiation of the Convention of 1818 the British Commissioners proposed expressly to exclude the fishermen of the United States from the privilege of carrying on trade with any of His Britannic Majesty's subjects residing within the limits assigned for their use, and also that it should not be lawful for the vessels of the United States engaged in such fishery to have on board any goods, wares or merchandise whatever, except such as may be necessary for the prosecution of their voyages to and from said fishery grounds, and that any vessel of the United States which shall contravene this regulation may be seized, condemned and confiscated with her cargo. This proposition, which is identical with the construction now put upon the language of the Convention, was emphatically repelled by the American Commissioners, and thereupon was abandoned by the British plenipotentiaries, and Article 1, as it stands in the Convention, was substituted. If, however, it be said that this claim is founded on provincial or colonial statutes and not upon the Convention, this government cannot but regard them as unfriendly and in contravention of the spirit, if not of the letter of the treaty, for the faithful execution of which the Imperial government is alone responsible. Anticipating then that an attempt, possibly, be made by the Canadian authorities, in the coming season, to repeat their unneighborly acts towards our fishermen, I would recommend you to confer upon the Executive the power to suspend, by proclamation, the operation of the laws authorizing the transit of goods, wares and merchandise in bond through the territory of the United States to Canada; and further, should such an extreme measure become necessary, to suspend the operation of any laws whereby the vessels of the Dominion of Canada are permitted to enter the waters of the United States.

NAVIGATION OF THE ST. LAWRENCE.

An unfriendly disposition has been manifested on the part of Canada in the maintenance of the claim of the right to exclude the citizens of the United States from the navigation of the St. Lawrence. This river constitutes a natural outlet to the ocean for States with an aggregate population of about 17,600,000 inhabitants and with an aggregate tonnage of 681,367 tons upon the water which discharges into it. The foreign commerce of our ports on those waters is open to British competition, and the major part of it is done in British bottoms. If the American seamen are excluded from this natural avenue to the ocean, the monopoly of the direct commerce of the lake ports with the Atlantic would be in foreign hands, their vessels on trans-Atlantic voyages having access to our lake ports, which would be denied to American vessels in similar condition. To state such a proposition refutes its justice. During the administration of John Quincy Adams, Mr. Clay demonstrated the natural right of the citizens of the United States to the navigation of this river, claiming that the act of the Congress of Vienna in opening the Rhine and other rivers to all nations, showed the judgment of European jurists and statesmen, that the inhabitants of a country through which a navigable river passes have a natural right to enjoy the navigation of that river to and into the sea, even though passing through the territory of another power. This right does not exclude the equal right of the sovereign possessing the territory through which the river discharges into the sea to make such regulations relative to the policy of its navigation as may be reasonably necessary, but those regulations should be framed in a liberal spirit of amity, and

should not impose needless burdens upon the commerce which has the right of transit. It has been found in practice more advantageous to arrange these regulations by mutual agreement. The United States are ready to make any reasonable arrangement as to the policy governing the navigation of the St. Lawrence which may be suggested by Great Britain. If the claim made by Mr. Clay was just, when the population of the States bordering on the shores of the lakes was only 3,400,000, it now derives greater force and equity from the increased population, wealth, production and tonnage of the States on the Canadian frontier. Since Mr. Clay advanced his argument in behalf of our own rights, the principle for which he contended has been frequently and by various nations recognized. By law, or by treaty it has been extended to several other great rivers. By the treaty concluded at Mayence in 1881, the Rhine was declared free from the point where it is first navigable into the sea. By the convention between Spain and Portugal, concluded in 1835, the navigation of the Douro, throughout its whole extent, was made free for the subjects of both crowns. In 1858 the Argentine Confederation, by treaty, threw open the free navigation of the Paraguay and the Uruguay to the merchant vessels of all nations. In 1856 the Crimean war was closed by a treaty which provided for the free navigation of the Danube. In 1858, Bolivia by treaty declared that it regarded the rivers Amazon and La Plata, in accordance with fixed principles of natural law, as highways or channels opened by nature for the commerce of all nations. In 1859 the Paraguay was made free by treaty, and in December, 1860, the Emperor of Brazil, by an Imperial decree, declared the Amazon to be open to the frontier of Brazil to the merchant ships of all nations. The greatest living British authority on this subject, while asserting the abstract right of the British claim, says it seems difficult to deny that Great Britain may ground her refusal upon strict law, but it is equally difficult to deny first, that in so doing, she exercises harshly an extreme and hard law; secondly, that her conduct with respect to the navigation of the St. Lawrence is in glaring and discreditable inconsistency with her conduct with respect to the navigation of the Mississippi. On the ground that she possessed the small domain in which the Mississippi took its rise, she insisted on the right to navigate the entire volume of its waters. On the ground that she possessed both banks of the St. Lawrence where it disembogues itself into the sea, she denies to the United States the right of navigation, while about one-half of the waters of Lakes Ontario, Huron, Erie and Superior, and the whole of Lake Michigan, which flow through the river, are the property of the United States. The whole nation is interested in securing cheap transportation from the agricultural States of the west to the Atlantic seaboard; to the citizens of those States. It secures a greater return for their labor to the inhabitants of the seaboard; it offers cheaper food to the nation and an increase in the annual surplus of wealth. It is hoped that the government of Great Britain will see the justice of abandoning the narrow and inconsistent claim to which her Canadian provinces have urged her adherence.

OUR COMMERCE.

Our depressed commerce is a subject to which I called your special attention at the last session. I suggested that we would in the future have to look more to the countries south of us, and to China and Japan for its revival. Our representatives to all these governments have exerted their influence to encourage the trade between the United States and the countries to which they are accredited, but the fact exists that the carrying is done almost entirely in foreign bottoms; and while this state of affairs exists we cannot control our due share of the commerce of the world. That between the Pacific States and China and Japan is about all the carrying trade now conducted in American vessels. I would recommend a liberal policy towards that line of American steamers—one that will insure its success, and even increased usefulness. The cost of building iron vessels,—the only ones that can compete with foreign ships in the carrying trade—is so much greater in the United States, than in foreign countries that without some assistance from the government, they cannot be successfully built here. There will be several propositions laid before Congress in the course of the present session, looking to a remedy for this evil, even if it should be at some cost to the National Treasury. I hope such encouragement will be given as will secure American shipping on the high seas and American ship building at home.

CONDITION OF THE ARCHIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT.

The condition of the archives at the Department of the State calls for the early action of Congress. The building now rented by that department is a frail structure, and at an inconvenient distance from the Executive Mansion and from the other departments. It is ill adapted to the purpose for which it is used, has not the capacity to accommodate the archives, and is not fire proof. Its remote situation, its slender construction, and the absence of a supply of water in the neighborhood leaves but little hope of safety for either the building or its contents in case of the event of a fire. Its destruction would involve the loss of the rolls containing the original acts and resolutions of Congress; of the history and records of the revolution, and of the confederation; of the whole series of diplomatic and consular archives since the adoption of the Constitution, and of the many other valuable records and papers left with that department when it was the principal depository of the governmental archives. I recommend an appropriation for the construction of a building for the Department of State.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS.

I recommend to your reconsideration the propriety of transferring to the Department of the Interior, to which they seem more appropriately to belong, all powers and duties in relation to the territories with which the Department of State is now charged by law or usage; and from the Interior Department to the War Department, the Pension Bureau, so far as it regulates the payment of pensions to soldiers. I would further recommend that the payment of naval pensions be transferred to one of the Bureaus of the Navy Department.

ESTIMATES OF THE EXPENSES FOR THE COMING YEAR.

The estimates for the expenses of the Government for the fiscal year are, \$18,244,841, 61 less than for the current one, but exceed the appropriations for the present year for the same items \$8,972,127.50. In this estimate, however, is included \$22,393,278.37 for public works heretofore begun under Congressional provision, and for which only so much is asked as Congress may choose to give. The appropriation for the same work for the present fiscal year was \$11,984,518.01.

GOLD AND THE CURRENCY.

The average value of gold as compared with

