THE BEAVER ARGUS.

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ADVERTISEMENTS.

Advertisements are inserted at the rate of $1.00 per square for first insertion, and for each subsequent insertion 50 cents. A liberal discount made on yearly advertisements.

A space equal to ten lines of this type measures a square.

Business Notices set under a head by themselves immediately after the local news, will be charged ten cents a line for each insertion.

Advertisements should be handed in before Monday noon to insure insertion in that week's paper.

THE ARGUS AND THE WAR!

Is published every Wednesday in the old Argus building on Third Street, Beaver, Pa., at $2 per year in advance.

Communications on subjects of local or general interest are respectfully solicited. To insure attention favors of this kind must invariably be accompanied by the name of the author.

Letters and communications should be addressed to

J. WEYAND, Beaver, Pa.

Business Cards.

FALL AND WINTER FASHIONS.—Mr. M. A. Binder has just arrived from Paris and London with the latest designs, personally selected from the greatest novelties; also, the most elegant Trimmings to be secured in Paris. Laces, Ribbons, Velvets, Bridal Veils, Flowers, Fine Jewelry, and Trimmed Paper Patterns, Dress and Cloak making. Exclusive agent for Mrs. M. Weeks's celebrated system for cutting ladies dresses, sacques, basques, &c. N.W. corner of 11th and Chestnut Sts., Philadelphia. [sept22,6m.

BEAVER LADIES' SEMINARY.—The next term of this Institution will commence on Tuesday, September 14, 1869. Every department will be furnished with experienced and competent Teachers. Miss MARY A. BOYD, who takes the place of Miss Dever, graduated in Pittsburgh High School while the subscriber was Principal and her scholarship and experience as a teacher, were the inducements that led him to secure her as a teacher in this Seminary.

Those who desire to see our Catalogue, will please call on or address the Principal.

D. H. A. M'LEAN.

BEAVER SEMINARY AND INSTITUTE Opens its Fifteenth Annual Session the 14th of September, under the superintendence of the Principal, Rev. R. T. Taylor, A. M. Special attention will be paid to the preparation of teachers for the Common Schools. Music, vocal and instrumental, by a competent Professor, at moderate rates. Late progress for College, or given a Business education. Languages, ancient and modern, by highly efficient teachers, as well as Painting, Drawing and Waxwork. Send for a Catalogue to

REV. R. T. TAYLOR, Beaver, Pa.

aug 18tf

PREMIUM TRUNK FACTORY.—Joseph Liebler, Manufacturer and Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Trunks, Valises, Traveling Bags, &c. No. 101 Wood Street, Pittsburgh, Pa. All orders promptly filled, and work Warranted. Factory corner of Fifteenth and Penn streets [junel6;1y

J. J. ANDERSON, having taken hold of the Eagle Foundry again, in Rochester, Pa., will be pleased to meet his old customers and friends who may want either the BEST COOKING STOVE, Heating Stove, or any other kind of castings of best material and workmanship. The business will be conducted by

J. J. ANDERSON & SONS.

THE SHARON MILLS.—The undersigned would take this method of informing the public that they have purchased and taken charge of the Sharon Mills, formerly owned by the Messrs Darlington, in Sharon, Beaver county, Pa. They have repaired them and are now prepared to do all kinds of grinding to the satisfaction of their patrons.—Their brands of flour will compare favorably with any in the market. Give us a call before going elsewhere.

SAMUEL DAVIDSON & BRO.

NOTICE!—New Bakery, at Wilson's old stand, Third Street, Beaver, Pa. JOSEPH M. Lee takes pleasure to inform his old friends that he has established in business at the above stand, where he will be glad to meet and accommodate them. Fresh bread, cakes, crackers, nuts, &c., &c., confectionery of all kinds. No. 1 Flour, made from Fall Wheat, by the barrel, sack, or retail.

Jan. 6, 1869.

WILLIAM BARNES, dealer in Boots and Shoes, Gaiters, Slippers, &c., next door to Potter's Tin shop, Bridge street, Bridgewater, Pa., where he is prepared to manufacture and sell anything in his line at reasonable rates. Having removed his place of business from the corner near the Bridge to his present location, he invites his old friends and patrons to give him a call.

my26'69;1y.

BEN. S. PIERSOL, Attorney at Law and Surveyor of lands. Office opposite Professor Taylor's in Beaver. [apr16;1y.

E. P. KURTZ, Attorney at Law. Office in McKinley's building, east of Public Square. [mar 31;1y.

W. A. ROSE, M. D. tenders his professional services to the citizens of Rochester and surrounding country. Office in E. C. Hanson's drug store, on Water street, Rochester, Beaver county Pa. Consultation hours between 9 a. m. and 4 p. m.

Drugs furnished and prescriptions carefully filled at above Drug Store.

1869.

Blanks of nearly all the different kinds for sale at the Argus office.

JAS. CAMERON, Attorney at Law Beaver, Pa. Office in the room formerly occupied by the late Judge Adams. Collections, &c., promptly attended to.

sep29;6m.

DENTISTRY.—Dr. J. Murray, of Bridgewater, has an "Office Right" to use the genuine GOODYEAR HARD RUBBER; consequently he does not use the Dry Rubber, or soap-stone, as a base for teeth.

Gold and Silver Fillings put in of the best material, and all work warranted.

Feb3;1y.

Blank Constable's Sales for sale at the Argus office.

P. JEUNET, Watchmaker and Jeweler, 3d street, Beaver, Pa. (In room adjoining J. A. Wilson's office.) Gold watches and chronometers repaired and warranted. Engraving done to order. The patronage of the public is solicited, and satisfaction guaranteed. Give us a trial.

apr17'68;3m.

Blank Mortgages for sale at the ARGUS office.

THOS. McCREERY, Banker, corner of Third street and diamond, Beaver, Pa. Money loaned on Government Bonds. Interest allowed on time deposits. We will also receive applications for policies in the NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO., OF THE U. S., Also Merchants', Manufacturers' and Artizans' Co., of Pittsburgh, Pa. Office below the Court House.

apr15,1868tf

HENRY MEHZ, Dealer in Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Gaiters. Boots and shoes made to order. A long experience in the business enables him to do work in a superior manner. Terms moderate. Shop on Third street (near Rev. Milligan's Bookstore), Beaver, Pa. Give him a call before purchasing elsewhere.

apr.1-69;1y

CHAS. B. HURST, Notary Public, Conveyancer and Insurance Agent. Deeds and Mortgages written and acknowledgements taken. Having been duly commissioned as Agent for several first class Insurance Companies, representing the Fire, Life, Accident, and Live Stock Departments, is prepared to take risks and write policies on the most liberal terms. Also, agent for the "Anchor Line" of first class Ocean Steamers. Tickets sold to and from all ports in England, Ireland, Scotland, Germany and France. Office in Leslie's brick row; Diamond, Rochester.

apr29'68

LOT FOR SALE.

The undersigned will sell at private sale

ONE THREE ACRE OUT LOT,

situated between the two cemeteries in Beaver Pa. The lot is in a fine state of cultivation, and is well located for either gardening or grazing purposes. It is under fence. Apply to or address

HENRY BENZ,
Beaver, Pa.

Blank Subpenas for sale at the Argus office.

LOOK HERE.

SPRING AND SUMMER GOODS.—The undersigned begs leave to inform his friends and the public generally that he has just received a new stock of goods of the latest styles for Spring and Summer wear, which he offers at very reasonable rates.

GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING GOODS,

CONSTANTLY ON HAND.

Clothing made to order on the shortest notice. Thankful to the public for past favors, I hope by close attention to business to merit a continuance of the same.

DANIEL MILLER, PA.
BRIDGE ST., BRIDGEWATER.

Mar 24tf

CANNEL COAL! CANNEL COAL!!

BY THE CAR OR WAGON LOAD.

Send in your orders at once.

Car loads shipped by railroad to all points.

Wagons will be supplied at the bank as heretofore. Remember the old Morse Cannel Coal Mine, near Darlington railroad.

P. L. GRIM, J. F. MANSFIELD,
Operators.

For car load address

MANSFIELD & CO.

New Galilee, Beaver Co., Pa.

sep29;3m.

HENRY LAPP,

Dealer in all kinds of

FURNITURE,

Brighton street above the Plow Factory,

Rochester, Pa.

The largest stock in Beaver county constantly on hand, and selling at the very lowest prices. [aug18:0m

Miscellaneous.

CHARLES COALE,

HAS OPENED A STORE IN

NEW BRIGHTON,

TO WHOLESALE and RETAIL

WHITE LEAD,

LINSEED OIL,

GLASS, PUTTY,

BRUSHES, NAILS,

Mixed Paints.

Colors, in Oil and Dry,

Carbon Oil,

Boiled Oil,

Neat's Foot Oil,

Lard Oil,

Spirits Turpentine,

Coach Body Varnish.

COPAL VARNISH,

FURNITURE VARNISH,

DAMAR VARNISH,

SHELLAC AND

BLACK VARNISH,

COALE'S PATENT JAPAN

ARTIST'S MATERIALS,

Picture Frames, (to order,)

LOOKING GLASSES.

LOOKING GLASS PLATES,

FRENCH AND PLATE

WINDOW GLASS.

FRENCH ZINC,

ENGLISH AND

GERMAN GLUE.

SAND PAPER, &C.

His terms are CASH on delivery of Goods.

Jan1,'69.

Extraordinary

GRAND BALLOON ASCENSION

IN BEAVER,

could not be more astonishing than the fact that

SIMON SNITGER & CO.,

keep the best, largest and freshest stock of

GROCERIES, FLOUR, FEED, &c,

in Beaver county.

And although it takes gas to make a Balloon rise, you will find, if you visit their establishment that they don't have to resort to gas to make their goods go. To all, we would say, "rush in" and examine our stock! We have on hand the finest and best

TEAS,

COFFEE,

SUGARS,

PURE SPICES

Molasses, Syrups, Soaps,

also the best brands of

Tobacco and Cigars

to be found in the place

We make a specialty of

FLOUR & FEED,

buying and selling none but what are known to be the very best varieties in use. Our establishment enjoys a well earned reputation in this particular, and we intend in the future as in the past to maintain it.

WE DEFY COMPETITION.

Don't mistake the place. We are still at the old stand, westend of 3d St., Beaver, Pa. Come and see us

Dec6.

T. O. MORGAN.

SUCCESSOR TO

SHALLENBERGER BROS

DEALER IN

Fine Family Groceries.

Queensware, Hardware,

NAILS, WINDOW GLASS, WOOD AND WILLOW WARE, BACON, FISH, FLOUR, SALT, LIME.

Country Produce Taken in Exchange for Goods.

Goods delivered free of charge in all the Villages.

aug19;68.

The Safe Deposit Company.

OF PITTSBURGH, PA.,

Incorporated for the safe keeping

OF BONDS, OTHER SECURITIES, &C.,

No. 83 Fourth Avenue.

GUARANTEE RATES.

Government and all other Coupon Securities, including Bank Bills, for a year or less period, $1 00 per $1,000.

Gold Coin or Bullion, $1 25 per $1,000.

Silver Coin or Bullion, $2 00 per $1,000.

Silver or Gold Plate, under seal, on owner's estimate of full value, and rate subject to adjustment for bulk, on a basis of $1 00 per $1,000.

Deeds, Mortgages, Valuable Papers generally, when of no fixed value, $1 a year each, or according to bulk.

With $5, which premium covers the remainder of the life of the maker.

The company is also prepared to Rent Small Iron Safes, (each furnished with a tin box) inside its Burglar Proof Vault, the Renter exclusively holding the key thereof, at the following rates, viz: $15, $20, $30, $60, $75 and $100 per annum. Also, to store Books of Account, Valuable Title papers, etc., at reasonable rates

President:

WILLIAM PHILLIPS.

Vice President:

HENRY LLOYD.

Directors:

William Phillips,	Byron H. Painter,
Henry Lloyd,	Joseph S. Morrison,
William Eva,	George Black,
Wm. M. Lyon,	Curtis G. Hussey,
Jas. I. Bennett.	

Secretary and Treasurer:

S. F. VON BONNHORST.

sep29;3m.

WALL PAPER

&

WINDOW SHADES

In great variety, also

SCHOOL BOOKS, BLANK BOOKS SLATES,

The largest and cheapest assortment of ALBUMS to be found in either city, at

F. E. WELL & CO'S.,

NO, 106 FEDERAL STREET.

ALLEGHENY CITY, PENN'A.

sept15;1y.

FARM FOR SALE.—The undersigned offers his farm, situated in North Sewickley township, Beaver county, for sale. The farm contains 207 acres, about 130 of which are cleared and the whole under fence; the balance is well timbered. About 100 acres of the cleared land is first and second bottom. A large portion of the whole tract is underlaid with ore and coal. The farm is well watered. On the farm are two comfortable dwelling houses, a stone spring-house, and a frame barn forty by sixty feet, and a log barn thirty by sixty feet, together with all necessary out buildings. A large orchard of bearing fruit trees on the land; also 500 grape vines set out last fall, and 1000 gooseberry plants at same time. Payments easy. Call on or address. HUGH MARSHALL.

North Sewickly P. O., Beaver county Pa.

P. S. The above farm is known as the "Dr. Robert Cunninghan farm." [ly7;6m

Miscellaneous.

Blank Deeds for sale at the Argus office.

AMARANTH Lodge No. 294, I. O. O. F. meets every Monday evening at 7 o'clock, in Rochester, in Coffin's Hall. [3bb10;1f

SPRING STOCK.

CARPETS

Oil Cloths, Etc., Etc.

M'CALLUM BROTH'S.

51 Fifth Avenue, above Wood street,

PITTSBURGH, PA

Have on hand

THE LARGEST STOCK IN THE MARKET.

From the Finest Qualities to the Very Lowest Grades.

WINDOW SHADES,

Fine and Common Table Covers, &c., &c.

Prices uniform to all, and the lowest.

M'CALLUM BROS.

mar24;1y.

Blank warrants for sale at the Argus office.

This is no Patent Medicine Humbug, gotten up to dupe the credulous, nor is it represented as being "composed of rare and precious substances brought from the four corners of the earth, carried seven times across the Great Desert of Sahara on the backs of fourteen camels, and brought across the Atlantic Ocean on two ships." It is a simple, mild, soothing Remedy, a perfect Specific for Catarrh and Cold in the Head, also for offensive Breath, Loss or Impairment of the sense of Smell, Taste or Hearing, Watering or Weak Eyes, Pain or Pressure in the head, when caused, as they all not unfrequently are, by the violence of Catarrh.

We offer in good faith a standing Reward of $500 for a case of Catarrh that we cannot cure.

Sold by most Druggists Everywhere.

PRICE FIFTY CENTS.

Sent by mail post paid on receipt of 60 cents. Four packages for two dollars or one dozen for five dollars.

Send a 2 cent stamp for Dr. Sage's pamphlet on Catarrh. Address the proprietor, R. V. PIERCE, M. D., Buffalo, N. Y.

mar23m;dec3m;sep9m.dec.3m.)

HARDWARE,

Glass, Nails & Paints,

S. J. Cross & Co.,

ROCHESTER, Pa.

ny in large quantities of manufacturers all kinds of

Building Hardware,

Such as Locks, Latches, Butts, Screws, Strap Hinges, Bolts, Sash Locks and Pulleys, Shutter Hinges and Fastenings, &c., &c.

CARPENTERS' TOOLS

Saws, Augers, Planes, Plane Bitts, Squares and Iron Squares, Try Squares, Bevel Squares, Braces, Brace Bitts, Drawing Knives, Hammers, Hatchets, Adzes, Axes, &c., &c.

Plasterers' and Mason's Trowels.

FARMER'S TOOLS.

Shovels, Spades, Picks, Mattocks, Forks, Hoes, Breast, Trace, Draw, Halter, Dog & Cow Chains.

Also a full line of

Housekeeper's Goods,

such as table and pocket Cutlery, Spoons, Scissors, Coffee Mills, Apple pearers, Sad Irons, &c., &c.

NAILS OF ALL SIZES,

Comprising Fence and Finishing, in any quantity, and as low as can be bought in the city.

GLASS,

A large supply constantly on hand of all sizes, and single and double strength, at manufacturers prices.

PAINTS.

WHITE LEAD, RED LED,

and every Color, dry and in oil.

MINERAL PAINT

WHITING, PUTTY.

Linseed Oil,

TURPENTINE, DRYER, ALCOHOL,

GUM SHELLAC, VARNISHES,

PAINT BRUSHES, GLAZIER'S TACKS, &C.

We buy our White Lead by the ton of manufacturers, and can sell on as good terms as any house in or out of the city.

These goods are our

SPECIALTIES,

and we know we can make it the interest of consumers to buy from us.

All goods delivered in the vicinity and to railroad and river, free of charge. Orders carefully filled.

S. J. CROSS & CO.

oct6,1y.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6, 1869.

CONGRATULATORY.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In coming before you for the first time as Chief Magistrate of this great nation, it is with gratitude to the Giver of all good for the many benefits we enjoy. We are blessed with peace at home and are without entangling alliances abroad to forebode trouble. With a territory unsurpassed in fertility; of an area equal to the abundant support of fifty millions of people, and abounding in every variety of useful material, in quantity sufficient to supply the world for generations with abundant crops; with variety of climate adapted to the production of every species of earth's riches, and suited to the habits, tastes, and requirements of every living thing; with a population of forty millions of free people, all speaking one language, with facilities for every mortal to acquire an education; with institutions closing to none the avenues to fame or any blessing of fortune that may be coveted; with freedom of the pulpit, the press, and the school; with a revenue flowing into the national treasury beyond the requirements of the Government supply; harmony is being rapidly restored within our own border; manufacturers, hitherto unknown in our country; are springing up in all directions, producing a degree of National independence, unequaled by that of any other Power; these blessings and countless others are entrusted to your care and mine for safe keeping for the brief period of our tenure-of-office. In a short time we must each of us return to the people who have conferred upon us our honors, and account to them for our stewardship. I earnestly desire that neither you nor I may be condemned by a free and enlightened constituency, nor by our own consciences.

THE PAST SITUATION.

Emerging from a rebellion of gigantic magnitude, aided, as it was by the sympathy and assistance of Nations with which we are at peace, eleven States of the Union were, four years ago, left without legal State governments, a debt had been contracted, American commerce was almost driven from the seas, the industry of one half of the country had been taken from the control of the capitalist and placed where all labor rightfully belongs, in the keeping of the laborer.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED.

The work of restoring the State Governments loyal to the Union, of protecting and fostering free labor, and providing means for paying the interest on the public debt has received ample attention from Congress. Although your efforts have not met with the success in all particulars that might have been desired, yet on the whole, they have been more successful than could have been reasonably anticipated. Seven States which passed ordinances of secession have been fully restored to their places in the Union.

THE CASE OF GEORGIA.

The eighth—Georgia—held an election at which she ratified a Constitution republican in form, elected a Governor, members of Congress State Legislature, and all other offices required. The Governor was duly installed and the Legislature met and performed all the acts then required of them by the reconstruction acts of Congress. Subsequently, however, in violation of the Constitution, they had just ratified, as since decided by the Supreme Court of the State, they incited by violence the colored members of the Legislature, and admitted to seats some members who are disqualified by the third clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution, an article which they themselves had contributed to ratify. Under these circumstances, I would submit to you whether it would not be wise, without delay, to enact a law authorizing the Governor of Georgia to convene the members originally elected to the Legislature, requiring each member to take the oath presented by the Reconstruction Act, and none to be admitted who are ineligible.

THE FREEDMEN.

Under the third clause of the Fourteenth Amendment the freedmen under the protection which they have received are making rapid progress in learning, and no complaints are heard of lack of industry on their part when they receive fair remuneration for their labor.

ABLE TO PAY OUR DEBTS.

The means provided for paying the interest on the public debt, with all the other expenses of the Government, are more than ample.

DECLINE OF SHIPPING INTERESTS.

The loss of our commerce is the only result of the late rebellion which has not received sufficient attention from you. To this subject I call your earnest attention. I will not now suggest plans by which this object may be effected, but will, if necessary, make it the subject of a special message during the session of Congress.

VIRGINIA.

At the March term, Congress, by joint resolution, authorized the Executive to order elections in the States of Virginia, Mississippi and Texas; to submit to them the constitutions which each had previously, in convention framed, and submit the constitution, either entire or in separate parts, to be voted upon at the discretion of the Executive. Under this authority elections were called. In Virginia the election took place on the 6th of July, 1869. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor elect have been installed. The Legislature met and did all required by the resolution and by all the reconstruction acts of Congress, and abstained from all doubtful authority. I recommend that her Senators and Representatives be received, and that the State be fully restored to its place in the family of States.

TEXAS AND MISSISSIPPI.

Elections were called in Mississippi and Texas, to commence on the 30th of November, 1869, and to last two days in Mississippi and four days in Texas. The elections have taken place, but the result is not known.—It is to be hoped the acts of the Legislatures of these States, when they meet, will be such as to receive your approval, and thus close the work of reconstruction.

THE STATE OF THE CURRENCY.

Among the evils growing out of the rebellion and not yet referred to is that of an irredeemable currency. It is an evil which I hope will receive your most earnest attention. It is a duty, and one of the highest duties of the Government, to secure to the citizens a medium of exchange of fixed unvarying value. This implies a return to a specie basis, and no substitute for it can be devised. It should be commenced now, and reached at the earliest practicable moment consistent with a fair regard to the interest of the debtor class.

GRADUAL APPROACH TO RESUMPTION.

Immediate resumption, if practicable, would not be desirable. It would compel the debtor class to pay beyond their contracts the premium on gold at the date of their purchase, and would bring ruin and bankruptcy to thousand. Fluctuations, however, in the paper value of the measurs of all values—gold—is detrimental to the interests of trade. It makes the man of business an involuntary gambler, for in all sales where future payment is to be made, both parties speculate as to what will be the value of the currency to be paid and received. I earnestly recommend to you then, such legislation as will insure a gradual return to specie payments and put an immediate stop to fluctuations in the value of currency. The methods to secure these results are as various as the speculations in political economy. To adopt the latter I see but one way, and that is: To authorize the treasury to redeem its own paper at a fixed price, whenever presented, and to withhold from circulation all the currency redeemed, until solicited for gold.

OUR BONDED DEBT.

The vast resources of the Nation, both developed and undeveloped, ought to make our credit the best on earth. With a less burden of taxation than the citizen has borne for six years past, the entire public debt could be paid in ten years, but it is not desirable that the people should be taxed to pay it in that time. Year by year the ability to pay increases in a rapid ratio, but the rate of interest ought to be reduced as rapidly as can be done without violation of a contract. The public debt is represented in a great variety of bonds, having from five to twenty years, from ten to forty years to run, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent. and five per cent. respectively. It is optional with the Government to pay their bonds at any period after the expiration of the first named, upon their face. The five are already expired, when a great part of them may be taken up. The time is rapidly approaching when all may be.

FUNDING AT A LOWER RATE.

It is believed that all which are now due may be replaced by bonds bearing a rate of interest not exceeding four and one half per cent., and as rapidly as the remainder becomes due that they may be replaced in the same way. To accomplish this it may be necessary to authorize the interest to be paid at either three or four of the money centres of Europe, or by any assistant treasurer at the option of the holder of the bond. I suggest this subject for the consideration of Congress; also, simultaneously with this, the propriety of redeeming our currency, as before suggested, at its market value, at the time the law goes into effect increasing the rate at which currency will be bought and sold, from day to day, and week to week, at the same rate of interest as the Government pays upon its bonds.

NO TINKERING WITH THE TARIFF.

The subject of the tariff and internal taxation will necessarily receive your attention. The revenues of the country are greater than the requirements, and may with safety be reduced. But as the funding of the debt in a four, or four and a half per cent. bond, would reduce the annual current expenses largely, thus after funding, justify a greater reduction of taxation than would be now expedient. I suggest a postponement of this subject until the next meeting of Congress. It may be advisable to modify taxation and the tariff in instances where unjust or burdensome discriminations are made by the present laws, but a general revision of the laws regulating this subject I recommend a postponement of the present.

I suggest the renewal of the tax on incomes, but at a reduced rate, say of three per cent., and this tax to expire in three years with the funding of the National debt as here suggested.

REDUCTION IN IMPORTS.

I feel safe in saying that the taxes and revenue for imports may be reduced safely from sixty to eighty millions, per annum at once, and still further reduced from year to year, as the resources of the country are developed.

THE TREASURY.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury shows the receipts of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1869, to be $370,943,717, and the expenditures, including interest, bounties, &c., to be $321,490,597. The estimates for the ensuing year are more favorable to the Government and will no doubt show a large decrease of the public debt. The receipts in the Treasury, beyond expenditures, have exceeded the amount necessary to place to the credit of the sinking fund as provided by law. To lock up the surplus in the Treasury and withhold from circulation would lead to such contraction of currency as to cripple trade and seriously affect the prosperity of the country.

PURCHASE OF BONDS.

Under these circumstances, the Secretary of the Treasury and myself heartily concurred in the propriety of using all the surplus currency in the Treasury in the purchase of Government Bonds, thus reducing the interest bearing debt of the country, and of submitting to Congress the question of the disposition to be made of bonds so purchased. The bonds now held by the Treasurer amount to about $75,000,000, including those belonging to the sinking fund. I recommend that the whole be placed to the credit of the sinking fund.

NEW OFFICES—BANK CIRCULATION.

Your attention is respectfully invited to the recommendations of the Secretary of the Treasury for the creation of the offices of Commissioner of Customs and Revenue, for an increase of salary to certain classes of officials and the substitution of increased national bank circulation to replace the outstanding three per cent. certificates, and most especially to his recommendation for the repeal of laws allowing shares of fines, penalties, forfeitures, &c., to officers of the Government or to informers. The office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue is one of the most arduous and responsible under the Government. It falls but little, if any, short of a cabinet position, in its importance and responsibilities and I would ask for it, therefore, such legislation as in your judgement will place the office on a footing of dignity commensurate with its importance and with the character and qualifications of the class of men required to fill it properly.

NEUTRALITY.

As the United States is the freest of all nations, so too its people sympathize with all people struggling for liberty and self government, but while so sympathizing, it is due to our honor that we should abstain from enforcing our views upon unwilling nations, and from taking an interested part without invitation in the quarrels between different nations, or between governments and their subjects. Our course should always be in conformity with strict justice and law, international and local. Such has been the policy of the Administration with these questions.

CUBAN BELLIGERENT RIGHTS.

For more than a year a valuable province of Spain, and a near neighbor of ours, in whom all our people cannot but feel a deep interest, has been struggling for independence and freedom. The United States entertain the same warm feelings and sympathies for the people of Cuba in their pending struggle that they manifested throughout the previous struggles between Spain and former colonies in behalf of the latter; but the contest has at no time assumed the conditions which amount to a war, in the sense of international law, or which would show the existence of a *de facto* political organization of the insurgents, sufficient to justify a recognition of belligerency. The principle is maintained, however, that this nation is its own judge when to accord the right of belligerency, either to a people struggling to free themselves from a government they believe to be oppressive, or to independent nations at war with each other.

COLONIAL RELATIONS.

The United States have no disposition to interfere with the existing relations of Spain to her colonial possessions on this continent. They believe that in due time Spain and the other European powers will find their interest in terminating those relations and establishing their present dependencies as independent. These dependencies are no longer regarded as subject to transfer from one European power to another. When the present relations of colonies cease, they are to become independent powers, exercising the right of choice and of self control in the determination of their future condition and relations with other powers.

INTERMEDIATION OFFERED.

The United States, in order to put a stop to bloodshed in Cuba, and in the interest of a neighboring people, proposed their good offices to bring the existing contest to a termination. The offer not being accepted by Spain on a basis which we believed could be received by Cuba, was withdrawn. It is hoped that the good offices of the United States may yet prove advantageous for the settlement of this unhappy strife.

FILIBUSTERING EXPEDITIONS.

Meanwhile a number of illegal expeditions against Cuba have been broken up. It has been the endeavor of the Administration to execute the neutrality laws in good faith, no matter how unpleasant the task, made so by the suffering we have endured from lack of good faith towards us by other nations.

SEIZURE OF VESSELS.

The United States schooner Lizzie Major was arrested on the high seas by a Spanish frigate and two passengers taken from it and carried as prisoners to Cuba. Representations of these facts were made to the Spanish Government as soon as official information of them reached Washington. The two passengers were set at liberty and the spanish Government assured the United States that the Captain of the frigate in making the capture had acted without law; that he had been reprimanded for the irregularity of his conduct, and that the Spanish authorities in Cuba would not sanction any act that could violate the rights or treat with disrespect the sovereignty of this nation.

The question of the seizure of the brig Mary Lowell, at one of the Bahama Island, by the Spanish authorities, is made the subject of correspondence between this Government and those of Spain and Great Britain. The Captain General of Cuba, about May last, issued a proclamation authorizing search to be made of vessels on the high seas. Immediate remonstrance was made against this, whereupon the Captain General issued a new proclamation, limiting the right of search of vessels of the U. S so far as authorized under the treaty of 1795. This proclamation, however, was not immediately withdrawn.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

I have always felt that the most intimate relation should be cultivated between the Republic of the United States and all independent nations on this Continent. It may be well worth considering whether new treaties between us and them may not be profitably entered into to secure intimate relations, commercial and otherwise.

THE DARIEN CANAL.

The subject of an inter-oceanic canal to connect the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans through the Isthmus of Darien is one in which commerce is greatly interested. Instructions have been given to our Minister to the Republic of the United States Colombia to endeavor to obtain authority for a survey by this Government, in order to determine the practicability of such an undertaking, and a charter for the right of way to build by private enterprise such work, if the survey proves it to be practicable.

APPROPRIATION ASKED.

In order to comply with the agreement of the United States as to a mixed Commission at Lima for the adjustment of claims, it became necessary to send a Commisioner to Lima in August last. No appropriation having been made by Congress for this purpose, it is now asked that one be made covering the past and future expense of the Commission.

PEACE CONGRESS.

The good offices of the United States to bring about a peace between Spain and South American republics with which she is at war, having been accepted by Spain, Peru and Chili, a Congress has been invited to be held in Washington during the present winter.

NICARAGUA TRANSIT.

A grant has been given to Europeans of an exclusive right of transit over the Territory of Nicaragua, to which Costa Rica has given its assent, which it is said conflicts with the vested rights of citizens of the United States. The Department of State has now the subject under consideration.

THE SPANISH GUNBOATS.

The Minister of Peru having made representations that there was a state of war between Peru and Spain, and that Spain was constructing in and near New York thirty gunboats that might be used by Spain in such a way as to relieve the naval force at Cuba, so as to operate against Peru, orders were given to prevent their departure. No further steps have been taken by the representatives of the Peruvian Government to prevent the departure of these vessels, and I not feeling authorized to detain the property of a nation with which we are at peace, on a mere Executive order, the matter has been referred to the Courts to decide.

SOUTH AMERICAN WAR.

The conduct of the war between the allies and Republic of Paraguay has made the intercourse with that country so difficult that it has been deemed advisable to withdraw our representative from there.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

Towards the close of the last administration a convention was signed at London for the settlement of all outstanding claims between Great Britain and the United States, but failed to receive the advice and consent of the Senate to its ratification. The time and the circumstances attending the negotiations of the treaty were favorable to its acceptance by the people of the United States, but its provisions were wholly inadequate for the settlement of the grave wrongs that had been sustained by this Government, as well as by its citizens. The injuries resulting to the United States by reason of the course adopted by Great Britain during our late civil war, increased rates of insurance, in the diminution of exports and imports and other obstructions in domestic industry and productions, in its effect upon the foreign commerce of the country, in the decrease and transfer to Great Britain of our commercial marine, in the prolongation of the war and increased cost both in treasure and in lives in its suppression, could not be adjusted and satisfied as ordinary commercial claims, which continually arise between commercial nations. And yet the convention treated them as such ordinary claims, from which they differ more widely in the gravity of their character than the magnitude of their amount. Great even as is that difference, not a word was found in the treaty, and not an inference could be drawn from it to remove the sense of unfriendliness of the course of great Britain in our struggle for existence, which had so deeply and universally impressed itself upon the people of this country.

Believing that a convention thus misconceived in its scope and in its provisions would not have produced the hearty cordial settlement of pending questions which alone is consistent with the relations which I desire to have established between the United States and Great Britain, I regarded the action of the Senate in the rejection of the treaty to have been wisely taken in the interest of peace, and as a necessary step in the direction of a perfect and cordial friendship between the two countries.

A sensitive people, conscious of their power, are more at ease under a great wrong, wholly unatoned, than under the restraint of a settlement which satisfies neither the ideas of justice nor the grave sense of the griefs they have sustained. The rejection of the treaty was followed by a state of public feeling on both sides which I thought not favorable to an attempt at renewed negotiations. I accordingly so instructed the Ministers of the United States to Great Britain, and found that my views in this respect were shared by Her Majesty's ministers.

I hope that the time may soon arrive when the two can approach the solution of this momentous question with an assurance of the dignity and honor of each, and with the determination not only to remove the causes of complaint in the past, but to lay the foundation of a broad principle of public law which will prevent future differences and tend to firm and continued peace and friendship. This is now the only grave question which the United States has with any foreign nation.

RECIPROCITY TREATY.

The question of a treaty for reciprocity between the United States and the British Provinces on this continent has not been favorably considered by the Administration. The advantage of such a treaty would be wholly in favor of the British producer, except possibly a few engaged in the trade between the two sections. No citizen of the United States would be benefitted by reciprocity. Our internal taxation would prove a protection to the British producer almost equal to the protection which our manufacturers now receive from the tariff. Some arrangement, however, for the regulation of commercial intercourse between the United States and the Dominion of Canada may be desirable.

HUDSON BAY CLAIMS COMMISSION.

The Commissioners for adjusting the claims of the Hudson Bay & Puget's Sound Agricultural Company to the United States has terminated its labors. The award of $650,000 has been made and all the rights and titles of the company on the territory of the United States have been extinguished. Deeds for the property of the company have been received. An appropriation by Congress to meet this sum is asked.

NORTHWESTERN BOUNDARY.

The Commissioners for determining the Northwestern land boundary between the United States and the British possessions under the treaty of 1856 have completed their labors and the Commission has been dissolved.

SLAVE TRADE SUPPRESSION.

In conformity with the recommendation of Congress, a proposition was early made to the British Government to abolish the Mixed Courts created under the treaty of April 7, 1862, for the suppression of the slave trade. The subject is still under negotiation.

FRENCH TELEGRAPHIC CABLE.

It having come to my knowledge that a corporate company organized under British laws, proposed to land upon the shores of the United States to operate there a submarine cable, under concesion from His Majesty the Emperor of the French of an, exclusive right for twenty years of telegraphic communication between the shores of France and the United States, with the very objectionable feature of subjecting all messages conveyed thereby to the sovereignty and the control of the French Government, I caused the French and British Legations at Washington to be made acquainted with the probable policy of Congress on the subject, as foreshadowed by the bill which passed the Senate in March last. This drew from the representative of the Company an agreement to accept, as the basis of their operations, the provisions of the bill, or of such other enactments on the subject as might be passed during the approaching session of Congress; also, to use their influence to secure from the French Government a modification of their concession so as to permit the landing upon French soil of any cable belonging to any company incorporated by the authority of the United States, or of any State in the Union, and on their part not to oppose the establishment of any such cable. In consideration of this agreement, I directed the withdrawal of all opposition by the United States authorities to the landing of the cable, and to the working of it, until the meeting of Congress.

I regret to say that there has been no modification made in the Company's concession, nor, so far as I can learn, have they attempted to secure one. Their concession excludes the capital and the citizens of the United States from competition upon the shores of France. I recommend legislation to protect the rights of citizens of the United States, as well as the dignity and sovereignty of the nation, against such an assumption, I shall also endeavor to secure by negotiation an abandonment of the principle of monopolies in ocean telegraph cables. Copies of this correspondence are herewith furnished.

NATURALIZATION—PROTECTION OF AMERICANS ABROAD.

The unsettled political condition of other countries less fortunate than our own, sometimes induces their citizens to come to the United States for the sole purpose of becoming naturlized. Having acquired it, they return to their native country and reside there without disclosing their change of allegiance; they accept official positions of trust or honor which can only be held by citizens of their native land; they journey under passports describing them as such citizens; and it is only when civil discord, after years of quiet, threatens them, or threatens their persons or their property, or when their native States draft them into their military service, that the fact of their change of allegiance is made known. They reside permanently from the United States, they contribute nothing to its revenues, they avoid the duties of its citizenship, and then only make themselves known by a claim of protection. I have directed diplomatic and consular officers of the United States to scrutinize carefully all such claims of protection. The citizen of the United States, whether native or adopted, who discharges his duty to his country is entitled to its complete protection. While I have a voice in the direction of affairs I shall not consent to impair the sacred right by conferring it upon fictitious or fraudulent claimants.

PROTECTION OF EMIGRANTS.

On the accession of the present administration, it was found that the Minister for North Germany had made propositions for the negotiation of a convention for the protection of emigrant passengers, to which no response had been given. It was concluded that to be effectual, all the maritime powers engaged in the trade should join in such a measure. Invitations have been extended to the Cabinets of London, Paris, Florence, Berlin, Brussels, The Hague, Copenhagen, and Stockholm, to empower their representatives at Washington to simultaneously enter into negotiation and to conclude with the United States conventions identical in form, making uniform negotiations as to the construction of the parts of vessels to be devoted to the use of emigrant passengers, as to the quality of food, as to the medical treatment of the sick, and as to the rules to be observed during the voyage, in order to secure ventilation, to promote the health, to prevent intrusion, for the establishment of tribun