The Huntingdon Journal.

VOL. 40. HUNTINGDON, PA., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1876. NO. 49.

The Huntingdon Journal.

J. R. DURBORROW, - - J. A. NASH,

PUBLISHERS AND PROPRIETORS.

Office in new JOURNAL *Building, Fifth Street.*

THE HUNTINGDON JOURNAL is published every Friday by J. R. DURBORROW and J. A. NASH, under the firm name of J. R. DURBORROW & Co., at $2.00 per annum IN ADVANCE, or $2.50 if not paid for in six months from date of subscription, and $3 if not paid within the year.

No paper discontinued, unless at the option of the publishers, until all arrearages are paid.

No paper, however, will be sent out of the State unless absolutely paid for in advance.

Transient advertisements will be inserted at TWELVE AND A-HALF CENTS per line for the first insertion, SEVEN AND A-HALF CENTS for the second and FIVE CENTS per line for all subsequent insertions.

Regular quarterly and yearly business advertisements will be inserted at the following rates:

	3m	6m	9m	1 yr		3m	6m	9m	1yr
1 In	$3 50	4 50	5 50	8 00	¼col	9 00	18 00	$27	$ 36
2 "	5 00	8 00	10 00	12 00	½col	18 00	36 00	50	65
3 "	7 00	10 00	14 00	18 00	¾col	34 00	50 00	65	80
4 "	8 00	14 00	20 00	18 00	1 col	36 00	60 00	80	100

All Resolutions of Associations, Communications of limited or individual interest, all party announcements, and notices of Marriages and Deaths, exceeding five lines, will be charged TEN CENTS per line.

Legal and other notices will be charged to the party having them inserted.

Advertising Agents must find their commission outside of these figures.

All advertising accounts are due and collectable when the advertisement is once inserted.

JOB PRINTING of every kind, Plain and Fancy Colors, done with neatness and dispatch. Hand-bills, Blanks, Cards, Pamphlets, &c., of every variety and style, printed at the shortest notice, and everything in the Printing line will be executed in the most artistic manner and at the lowest rates.

Professional Cards.

DR. BLACK, Surgeon Dentist, would say to you that he has opened a Dental office in the rooms over the post office, in Huntingdon, where he is prepared to perform all operations belonging to his profession. Particular attention is given to the filling of teeth, to the building up the whole or any part of the crowns. He also uses the patent atmospheric disk for holding artificial teeth firmly in place in eating, talking or laughing, and making them as comfortable and reliable as natural teeth. Those who have been greatly embarrassed by their teeth dropping down can now get a set which will remain firmly in place under all circumstances. Artificial teeth as low as ten and twelve dollars per single set. All work warranted, and satisfaction guaranteed in every respect. Anaesthetics given, if desired, when extracting teeth.
Now is your time to get your artificial teeth.
Give him a call and be convinced. [nov10-tf.

D. CALDWELL, Attorney-at-Law, No. 111, 3rd street. Office formerly occupied by Messrs. Woods & Williamson. [ap12,'71

DR. A. B. BRUMBAUGH, offers his professional services to the community. Office, No 523 Washington street, one door east of the Catholic Parsonage. [jan4,'71

E. C. STOCKTON, Surgeon Dentist. Office in Leister's building, in the room formerly occupied by Dr. E. J. Greene, Huntingdon, Pa. [apl28,'76.

GEO. B. ORLADY, Attorney-at-Law, 405 Penn Street, Huntingdon, Pa. [nov17,'75

G. L. ROBB, Dentist, office in S. T. Brown's new building, No. 520, Penn Street, Huntingdon, Pa. [apl2,'71

H. W. BUCHANAN, Surgeon Dentist, No. 228, Penn Street, Huntingdon, Pa. [mch17,'75

H. C. MADDEN, Attorney-at-Law. Office, No. —, Penn Street, Huntingdon, Pa. [ap19,'71

J. FRANKLIN SCHOCK, Attorney-at-Law, Huntingdon, Pa. Prompt attention given to all legal business. Office, 229 Penn Street, corner of Court House Square. [dec4,'72

J. SYLVANUS BLAIR, Attorney-at-Law, Huntingdon, Pa. Office, Penn Street, three doors west of 3rd Street. [jan4,'71

J. W. MATTERN, Attorney-at-Law and General Claim Agent, Huntingdon, Pa. Soldiers' claims against the Government for back-pay, bounty, widows' and invalid pensions attended to with great care and promptness. Office on Penn Street. [jan4,'71

J. R. DURBORROW, Attorney-at-Law, Huntingdon, Pa., will practice in the several Courts of Huntingdon county. Particular attention given to the settlement of estates of decedents. Office in the JOURNAL building.

L. S. GEISSINGER, Attorney-at-Law and Notary Public, Huntingdon, Pa. Office, No. 230 Penn Street, opposite Court House. [feb5,'71

R. A. ORBISON, Attorney-at-Law. Patents Obtained. Office, 321 Penn Street, Huntingdon, Pa. [my31,'71

S. E. FLEMING, Attorney-at-Law, Huntingdon, Pa., office in *Monitor* building, Penn Street. Prompt and careful attention given to all legal business. [aug5,'74-6mos

WILLIAM A. FLEMING, Attorney-at-Law, Huntingdon, Pa. Special attention given to collections, and all other legal business attended to with care and promptness. Office, No. 229, Penn Street. [apl9,'71

Miscellaneous.

MARK THESE FACTS!

The Testimony of the Whole World.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

BAD LEGS, BAD BREASTS, SORES AND ULCERS.

All descriptions of sores are remediable by the proper and diligent use of this inestimable preparation. To attempt to cure bad legs by plastering the edges of the wound together is a folly; for should the skin unite, a boggy diseased condition remains underneath to break out with tenfold fury in a few days. The only rational and successful treatment, as indicated by nature, is to reduce the inflammation in and about the wound and to soothe the neighboring parts by rubbing in plenty of the Ointment as salt is forced into meat. This will cause the malignant humors to be drained off from the hard, swollen and discolored parts round about the wound, sore, or ulcer, and when these humors are removed, the wounds themselves will soon heal; warm bread and water poultices applied over the affected parts, after the Ointment has been well rubbed in, will soothe and soften the same, and greatly assist the cure. There is a description of ulcer, sore and swelling, which need not be named here, attendant upon the follies of youth, and for which this Ointment is urgently recommended as a sovereign remedy. In curing such poisonous sores it never fails to restore the system to a healthy state if the Pills be taken according to the printed instructions.

DIPTHERIA, ULCERATED SORE THROAT, AND SCARLET AND OTHER FEVERS.

Any of the above diseases may be cured by well rubbing the Ointment three times a day into the chest, throat, and neck of the patient, it will soon penetrate, and give immediate relief. Medicine taken by the mouth must operate upon the whole system ere its influence can be felt in any local part, whereas the Ointment will do its work at once. Whoever tries the unguent in the above manner for the diseases named, or any similar disorders affecting the chest and throat, will find themselves relieved as by a charm. All sufferers from these complaints should envelop the throat at bedtime in a large bread and water poultice, after the Ointment has been well rubbed in; it will greatly assist the cure of the throat and chest. To allay the fever and lessen the inflammation, eight or ten Pills should be taken night and morning. The Ointment will produce perspiration, the grand essential in all cases of fevers, sore throat, or where there might be an oppression of the chest, either from asthma or other causes.

PILES, FISTULAS, STRICTURES.

The above class of complaints will be removed by nightly fermenting the parts with warm water, and then by most effectually rubbing in the Ointment. Persons suffering from these direful complaints should lose not a moment in arresting their progress. It should be understood that it is not sufficient merely to smear the Ointment on the affected parts, but it must be well rubbed in for a considerable time two or three times a day, that it may be taken into the system, whence it will remove any hidden sore or wound as effectually as though palpable to the eye. There again bread and water poultices, after the rubbing in of the Ointment, will do great service. This is the only sure treatment for females, cases of cancer in the stomach, or where there may be a general bearing down.

INDISCRETIONS OF YOUTH;—SORES AND ULCERS

Blotches, as also swellings, can, with certainty, be radically cured if the Ointment be used freely, and the Pills taken night and morning, as recommended in the printed instructions. When treated in any other way they only dry up in one place to break out in another; whereas this Ointment will remove the humor from the system, and leave the patient a vigorous and healthy being.—It will require time with the use of the Pills to insure a lasting cure.

DROPSICAL SWELLINGS, PARALYSIS, AND STIFF JOINTS.

Although the above complaints differ widely in their origin and nature, yet they all require local treatment.—Many of the worst cases, of such diseases, will yield in a comparatively short space of time when this Ointment is diligently rubbed into the parts affected, even after every other means have failed. In all serious maladies the Pills should be taken according to the printed directions accompanying each box.

Both the Ointment and Pills should be used in the following cases:

Bad legs,	Cancers,	Sore Nipples,
Bad Breasts,	Contracted & Stiff Joints,	Sore throats,
Burns,	Elephantiasis,	Skin Diseases,
Bunions,	Fistulas,	Scurvy,
Bite of Moschetoes and Sandflies,	Gout,	Sore Heads,
Coco-bay,	Glandular Swellings,	Tumors,
Chiego-foot,	Lumbago,	Ulcers,
Chilblains,	Piles,	Wounds,
Chapped Hands,	Rheumatism,	Yaws.
Corns (Soft)	Scalds,	

CAUTION:—None are genuine unless the signature of J. HAYCOCK, as agent for the United States, surrounds each box of Pills and Ointment. A handsome reward will be given to any one rendering such information as may lead to the detection of any party or parties counterfeiting the medicines or vending the same, knowing them to be spurious.

*** Sold at the Manufactory of Professor HOLLOWAY & Co., New York, and by all respectable Druggists and Dealers in Medicine throughout the civilized world, in pots at 25 cents, 62 cents, and $1 each.

☞ There is considerable saving by taking the larger sizes.

N. B.—Directions for the guidance of patients in every disorder are affixed to each pot. [apr28,'76-eow-1y

FOR ALL KINDS OF PRINTING, GO TO THE JOURNAL OFFICE

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE JOURNAL. Only $2.00 a year.

Prospectuses.

"Unquestionably the best sustained work of the kind in the World."

Harper's Magazine.
ILLUSTRATED.

Notices of the Press.

The *Magazine* has attained in its one-quarter century and more of existence to that point where it may be said of it, in the words of Dr. Johnson, "It is vain to blame and useless to praise." The lustre of its long-ago-attained reputation has increased as the years have passed, and its future seems as bright if not brighter than at any time since the golden hue of prosperity settled around its later and best years.—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

Harper's Monthly is marked by the same characteristics which gave it circulation from the first with the better class of readers. It combines reading matter with illustrations in a way to make clear and vivid the facts presented. Pictures merely designed to catch the eye of the ignorant are never inserted.—*Chicago Journal.*

TERMS:

Postage free to all Subscribers in the United States.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE, one year........................ $4 00

$4.00 includes prepayment of U. S. postage by the publishers.

Subscriptions to *Harper's Magazine, Weekly, and Bazar*, to one address for one year, $10.00; or, two of Harper's Periodicals, to one address for one year, $7.00: postage free.

An extra copy of either the *Magazine, Weekly, and Bazar*, will be supplied gratis for every Club of FIVE SUBSCRIBERS at $4.00 each, in one remittance; or, Six Copies for $20.00, without extra copy: postage free.

Back numbers can be supplied at any time.

The Volumes of the *Magazine* commence with the Numbers for June and December of each year. Subscriptions may commence with any number. When no time is specified, it will be understood that the subscriber wishes to begin with the first number of the current volume, and back numbers will be sent accordingly.

A Complete Set of *Harper's Magazine*, now comprising 53 Volumes, in neat cloth binding, will be sent by express, freight at expense of purchaser, for $2.25 per volume. Single volumes, by mail, postpaid, $3.00. Cloth cases, for binding, 58 cents, by mail, postpaid.

A Complete Analytical Index to the First Fifty Volumes of *Harper's Magazine* has just been published, rendering available for reference the vast and varied wealth of information which constitutes this periodical a perfect illustrated literary cyclopedia. 8vo, Cloth, $3.00; Half Calf, $5.25. Sent postage prepaid.

Newspapers are not to copy this advertisement without the express order of HARPER & BROTHERS.

Address HARPER & BROTHERS, New York. [dec8-2t

"A Repository of Fashion, Pleasure and Instruction."

Harper's Bazar.
ILLUSTRATED.

Notices of the Press.

For strictly household matters and dress, *Harper's Bazar* is altogether the best thing published. To take it is a matter of economy. No lady can afford to be without it, for the information it gives will save her very much more money than the subscription price, besides giving the household an interesting literary visitor.—*Chicago Journal.*

Harper's Bazar is profusely illustrated, and contains stories, poems, sketches, and essays of a most attractive character. * * * In its literary and artistic features, the *Bazar* is unquestionably the best journal of its kind in the country.—*Saturday Evening Gazette*, Boston.

TERMS:

Postage free to all Subscribers in the United States.

HARPER'S BAZAR, one year........................ $4.00

$4.00 includes prepayment of U. S. postage by the publishers.

Subscriptions to *Harper's Magazine, Weekly, and Bazar*, to one address for one year, $10.00; or, two of Harper's Periodicals, to one address for one year, $7.00: postage free.

An extra copy of either the *Magazine, Weekly or Bazar* will be supplied for every Club of Five Subscribers at $4 each, in one remittance; or, Six Copies for $20.00, without extra copy: postage free.

Back Numbers can be supplied at any time.

The Volumes of the *Bazar* commence with the year. When no time is mentioned, it will be understood that the subscriber wishes to commence with the number next after the receipt of his order.

The Annual Volumes of *Harper's Bazar*, in neat cloth binding, will be sent by express, free of expense, for $7.00 each. A complete Set, comprising Nine Volumes, sent on receipt of cash at the rate of $5.25 per vol., freight at expense of purchaser.

Cloth Cases for each volume, suitable for binding, will be sent by mail, postpaid, on receipt of $1.00 each.

Indexes to each volume sent gratis on receipt of stamp.

Newspapers are not to copy this advertisement without the express order of HARPER & BROTHERS.

Address HARPERS & BROTHERS, New York. [dec8-2t

ST. NICHOLAS

"THE KING OF ALL PUBLICATIONS ISSUED FOR THE YOUNG ON EITHER SIDE OF THE ATLANTIC."—*Southampton (England) Observer.*

The third volume of this incomparable Magazine is now completed. With its eight hundred royal octavo pages, and its six hundred illustrations, its splendid serials, its shorter poems, and sketches, etc., etc., in its beautiful binding of red and gold, it is the most splendid gift-book for boys and girls ever issued from the press. Price $4; in full gilt, $5.

"*St. Nicholas* is full of the choicest things. The publication is, in all respects, the best of its kind. We have never yet seen a number that was not surprisingly good."—*The Churchman*, Hartford, Conn.

St. Nicholas, for 1877, which opens with November, 1876 begins a short and very entertaining serial from the French, "The Kingdom of the Greedy," a story adapted to the Thanksgiving season. Another serial, of absorbing interest to boys, "*His own master*," By J. T. Trowbridge, author of the "Jack Hazzard Stories," begins in the Christmas Holiday Number.

Besides serial stories, Christmas stories, lively sketches, poems and pictures for the holidays, and some astonishing illustrations of Oriental sports, with drawings by Siamese artists, *The Christmas Holiday Number of St. Nicholas*, superbly illustrated, contains a very interesting paper, "*The Boys of my Boyhood*," by William Cullen Bryant; "The Horse Hotel," a lively article, by Charles A. Barnard, splendidly illustrated; "The Clock in the Sky," by Richard A. Proctor; "A Christmas Play for Homes or Sunday Schools," by Dr. Eggleston; "The Peterkins' Christmas Tree," by Lucretia P. Hale; "Poetry and Carols of Winter," by Lucy Larcom, with pictures.

Do not fail to buy St. Nicholas for the Christmas Holidays. 1 Price 25 cents.

During the year there will be interesting papers for boys, by William Cullen Bryant, John G. Whittier, Thomas Hughes, William Howitt, Dr. Holland, Geo. MacDonald, Sanford B. Hunt, Frank R. Stockton, and others.

There will be stories, sketches, and poems, of special interest to girls, by Harriet Prescott Spofford, Susan Coolidge, Sarah Winter Kellogg, Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, Louisa Alcott, Lucretia P. Hale, Celia Thaxter, Mary Mapes Dodge, and many others. There will be also "*Twelve Sky Pictures*," by Professor Proctor, the Astronomer, with maps, showing "The Stars of Each Month," which will be likely to surpass in interest any series on popular science recently given to the public.

Amusement and instruction, with fun and frolic, and wit and wisdom, will be mingled as heretofore, and St. Nicholas will continue to delight the young and give pleasure to the old.

The London Literary World says: "There is no Magazine for the young that can be said to equal this choice production of Scribner's press. All the articles, whether in prose or rhyme, are throbbing with vitality. * * * The literature and artistic illustrations are both superb."

The London Daily News says: "We wish we could point out its equal in our own periodical literature."

Good news for boys and girls. To meet the demand for a cheaper *St. Nicholas* Gift-Book, the price of vols. I and II has been reduced to $3 each. The three volumes, in an elegant library case, are sold for $10 (in full gilt $15), so that all may give their children a complete set. These volumes contain more attractive material than fifty dollars' worth of the ordinary children's books.

Subscription price, $3 a year. The three bound volumes and a subscription for this year, only $12. Subscribe with the nearest newsdealer, or send money in check, or P. O. money order, or in registered letter, to

SCRIBNER & CO., 743 Broadway, N. Y.

SCRIBNER'S MONTHLY.

An Unrivaled Illustrated Magazine.

When Scribner issued its famous Midsummer Holiday Number in July, a friendly critic said of it: "We are not sure but that Scribner has touched high-water mark. We do not see what worlds are left to it to conquer." But the publishers do not consider that they have reached the *ultima thule* of excellence—they believe "there are other worlds to conquer, and they propose to conquer them."

The prospectus for the new volume gives the titles of more than fifty papers (mostly illustrated), by writers of the highest merit. Under the head of "FOREIGN TRAVEL," we have "A Winter on the Nile," by Gen. McClellan; "Saunterings about Constantinople," by Charles Dudley Warner; "Out of My Window at Moscow," by Eugene Schuyler; "An American in Turkistan," etc. Three serial stories are announced: "NICHOLAS MINTURN," by Dr. Holland the Editor, whose story of "Sevenoaks" gave the highest satisfaction to the readers of the Monthly.

The scene of this latest novel is laid on the banks of the Hudson. The hero is a young man who has been always "tied to a woman's apron strings," but who, by the death of his mother, is left alone in the world,—to drift on the current of life,—with a fortune, but without a purpose.

Another serial, "His Inheritance," by Miss Trafton, will begin on the completion of "That Lass o' Lowrie's," by Mrs. Hodgson Burnett. Mrs. Burnett's story, begun in August, has a pathos and dramatic power which have been a surprise to the public.

There is to be a series of original and exquisitely illustrated papers of 'Popular Science," by Mrs. Herrick, each paper complete in itself.

There are to be, from various pens, papers on "HOME LIFE AND TRAVEL." Also, practical suggestions as to town and country life, village improvements, etc., by well known specialists.

Mr. Barnard's articles on various industries of Great Britain include the history of "Some Experiments in Co-operation," "A Scottish Loaf Factory" in the November number, and "Toad Lane, Rochdale," in December. Other papers are, "The British Workingman's Home," "A Nation of Shopkeepers," "Ha' penny a Week for the Child," etc.

A richly illustrated series will be given on "American Sports by Flood and Field," by various writers, and each on a different theme. The subject of "HOUSEHOLD AND HOME DECORATION" will have a prominent place, whilst the latest productions of American humorists will appear from month to month. The list of shorter stories, biographical and other sketches, etc., is a long one.

The editorial department will continue to employ the ablest pens both at home and abroad. There will be a series of letters on literary matters, from London, by Mr. Welford. The pages of the Magazine will be open, as heretofore, so far as limited space will permit, to the discussion of all themes affecting the social and religious life of the world, and especially to the freshest thought of the Christian thinkers and scholars of this country. We mean to make the magazine sweeter and purer, higher and nobler, more genial and generous in all its utterances and influences, and a more welcome visitor than ever before in homes of refinement and culture.

FIFTEEN MONTHS FOR $4. Scribner for December, now ready, and which contains the opening chapters of "Nicholas Minturn," will be read with eager curiosity and interest. Perhaps no more readable number of this magazine has yet been issued. The three numbers of Scribner for August, September, and October, containing the opening chapters of "That Lass o' Lowrie's," will be given to every subscriber (who requests it), and whose subscription begins with the present volume, *i. e.*, with the November number. Subscription price, $4 a year—35 cents a number. Special terms on bound volumes. Subscribe with the nearest bookseller, or send a check or P. O. money order to

SCRIBNER & CO., 743 Broadway, N. Y.

Subscriptions taken at the JOURNAL Store.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In submitting my eighth and last annual message to Congress, it seems proper that I should refer to and, in some degree, recapitulate the events and official acts of the past eight years.

RETROSPECTION.

It was my fortune or misfortune to be called to the office of Chief Executive without any previous political training.—From the age of seventeen, I had never even witnessed the excitement attending a Presidential campaign but twice antecedent to my own candidacy, and at but one of them was I eligible as a voter. Under such circumstances, it is but reasonable to suppose that errors of judgment must have occurred; even had there not, differences of opinion between the Executive, bound by an oath to the strict performance of his duties, and writers and debators must have arisen. It is not necessarily an evidence of a blunder on the part of the Executive, because there are these differences of view. Mistakes have been made, as all can see, and I admit; but it seems to me oftener in the selections made of the assistants appointed to aid in carrying out the various duties of administering the Government, in nearly every case selected without a personal acquaintance with the appointee, but upon recommendations of Representatives chosen directly by the people. It is impossible, where so many trusts are to be allotted, that the right parties should be chosen in every instance. History shows that no Administration, from the time of Washington to the present, has been free from these mistakes; but I leave comparisons to history, claiming only that I have acted in every instance from a conscientious desire to do what was right, constitutional within the law and for the very best interests of the whole people. Failures have been errors of judgment, not of intent.

THE "FIRE IN THE REAR."

My civil career commenced, too, at a most critical and difficult time. Less than four years before, the country had emerged from a conflict such as no other nation had ever survived. Nearly one-half of the States had revolted against the Government, and of those remaining faithful to the Union a large percentage of the population sympathized with the rebellion and made an enemy in the rear almost as dangerous as the more honorable enemy in the front. The latter committed errors of judgment, but they maintained them openly and courageously. The former received the protection of the Government they would see destroyed, and reaped all the pecuniary advantage to be gained out of the then existing state of affairs, many of them by obtaining contracts and by swindling the Government in the delivery of their goods. Immediately on the cessation of hostilities, the then noble President, who had carried the country so far through its perils, fell a martyr to his patriotism at the hands of an assassin.—The intervening time to my first inauguration was filled up with wranglings between Congress and the new Executive as to the best mode of reconstruction, or, to speak plainly, as to whether the control of the Government should be thrown immediately into the hands of those who had so recently and persistently tried to destroy it, or whether the victors should continue to have an equal voice with them in this control. Reconstruction, as finally agreed upon, means this and only this, except that the late slave was enfranchised, giving an increase, as was supposed, to the Union-loving and Union-supporting vote. If free in the full sense of the word, they would not disappoint this expectation; hence, at the beginning of my first administration, the work of reconstruction, much embarrassed by the long delay, virtually commenced. It was the work of the legislative branch of the Government; my province was wholly in approving their acts, which I did most heartily, urging the Legislatures of the States that had not yet done so to ratify the Fifteenth amendment to the Constitution. The country was laboring under an onerous debt, contracted in the suppression of the rebellion, and to the nation was so oppressive as to discourage production. Another danger also threatened us—a foreign war. This last difficulty had to be adjusted, and was adjusted without a war, and in a manner highly honorable to all parties concerned.

REDUCTION OF TAXATION.

Taxes have been reduced within the last seven years nearly three hundred millions of dollars, and the national debt has been reduced in the same time over four hundred and thirty-five millions of dollars. By refunding the six per cent. bonded debt for bonds bearing five and four and one-half per cent. interest respectively, the annual interest has been reduced from over one hundred and thirty millions of dollars in 1869 to but little over one hundred millions of dollars in 1876. The balance of trade has been changed from over one hundred and thirty millions against the United States in 1869 to more than one hundred and twenty millions of dollars in our favor in 1876.—It is confidently believed that the balance of trade in favor of the United States will increase, not diminish, and that the pledge of Congress to resume specie payment in 1879 will be easily accomplished, even in the absence of much desired further legislation on the subject.

THE INDIAN POLICY.

A policy has been adopted toward the Indian tribes inhabiting a large portion of the territory of the United States which has been humane, and has substantially ended Indian hostilities in the whole land, except in a portion of Nebraska and Dakota, Wyoming and Montana Territories, the Black Hills region and the approaches thereto. The hostilities there have grown out of the avarice of the white man, who has violated our treaty stipulations in his search for gold. The question might be asked, Why has not the Government enforced obedience to the terms of the treaty prohibiting the occupation of the Black Hills region by the whites? The answer is simple; the first immigrants to the Black Hills were removed by troops, but rumors of rich discoveries of gold took into that region increased numbers. Gold has actually been found in paying quantity, and an effort to remove the miners would only result in the desertion of the bulk of the troops that might be sent there to remove them. All difficulty in this matter has, however been removed, subject to the approval of Congress, by a treaty ceding the Black Hills and approaches to settlement by citizens. The subject of our Indian policy and treatment is so fully set forth by the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and my views so fully expressed therein, that I refer to their reports and recommendations as my own.

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS.

The relations of the United States with foreign powers continue on a friendly footing. Questions have arisen from time to time in the foreign relations of the Government, but the United States have been happily free during the past year from the complications and embarrassments which have so surrounded some of the foreign powers. The diplomatic correspondence submitted herewith contains information as to certain of the matters which have occupied the Government. The cordiality which attends our relations with the powers of the earth have been plainly shown by the general participation of foreign nations in the Exhibition which has just closed, and by the exertions made by distant powers to show their interest in and friendly feelings toward the United States in the commemoration of the centennial of the nation. The Government and people of the United States have not only fully appreciated this exhibition of kindly feeling, but it may be justly and fairly expected that no small benefits will result both to ourselves and other nations from a better acquaintance and a better appreciation of our mutual advantages and mutual wants.

Congress, at its last session, saw fit to reduce the amount usually appropriated for foreign intercourse, by withholding appropriations for representatives of the United States in certain foreign countries, and for certain consular officers, and by reducing the amounts usually appropriated for certain other diplomatic posts, and thus necessiating a change in the grade of the representatives. For these reasons, immediately upon the passage of the bill making appropriations for the diplomatic and consular service for the present fiscal year, instructions were issued to the representatives of the United States at Bolivia, Ecuador and Columbia, and to the consular officers for whom no appropriation had been made, to close their respective legislations and consulators and close from the performance of their duties; and in like manner steps were immediately taken to substitute charges d'affaires for ministers resident in Portugal, Denmark, Greece, Switzerland and Paraguay. While thoroughly unpressed with the wisdom of sound economy in the foreign service, as in other branches of the Government, I cannot escape the conclusion that in some instances the withholding of appropriations will prove an expensive economy, and that the small retrenchment secured by a change of grade in certain diplomatic posts is not an adequate consideration for the loss of influence and importance which will attend our foreign representatives under this reduction. I am of the opinion that a re-examination of the subject will cause a change in some instances in the conclusions reached on these subjects at the last session of Congress.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

The Court of Commissioners of Alabama Claims, whose functions were continued by an act of the last session of Congress until the 1st day of January, 1877, has carried on its labors with diligence and general satisfaction. By a report from the clerk of the court, transmitted herewith, bearing date November 14th, 1876, it appears that within the time now allotted by law the Court will have disposed of all the claims presented for adjudication.—This report also contains a statement of the general results of the labors of the court to the date thereof. It is a cause of satisfaction that the method adopted for the satisfaction of the classes of claims submitted to the court, which are of long standing and justly entitled to early consideration, should have proved successful and acceptable.

OUR NORTHWESTERN BOUNDARY.

It is with satisfaction that I am enabled to state that the work of the Joint Commission for determining the boundary between the United States and the British Possessions from the northwest angle of the Lake of the Woods to the Rocky Mountains, commenced in 1872, has been completed. The final agreements of the commissioners, with the maps, have been duly signed, and the work of the commission is complete. The fixing of the boundary upon the Pacific Coast by the protocal of March 10, 1873, pursuant to the award of the Emperor of Germany, by Article XXXIII of the treaty of Washington, with the termination of the work of this commission adjusts and fixes the entire boundary between the United States and the British Possessions, except as to the portion of territory ceded by Russia to the United States under the treaty of 1867.—The work entrusted to the commission and the officers of the army attached to the commission has been well and satisfactorily performed. The original of the final agreement of the commissioners, signed upon the 29th of May, 1876, with the original list of astronomical stations observed, the original official list of monuments marking the international boundary line, and the maps, records and general reports relating to the commission, have been deposited in the Department of State. The official report of the commission on the part of the United States, with the report of the chief astronomer of the United States, will be submitted to Congress within a short time.

EXTRADITION.

I reserve for a separate communication to Congress a statement of the condition of the questions which lately arose with Great Britain respecting the surrender of fugitive criminals under the treaty of 1842.

NEW TREATY OF COMMERCE WITH TURKEY

The Ottaman Government gave notice, under date of January 15, 1874, of its desire to terminate the treaty of 1862, concerning commerce and navigation, pursuant to the provisions of the twenty-second article thereof. Under this notice the treaty terminated upon the 5th day of June, 1876. That Government has invited negotiations towards the conclusion of a new treaty. By the act of Congress of March 23, 1874, the President was authorized when he should receive satisfactory information that the Ottoman Government or that of Egypt had organized new tribunals likely to secure to citizens of the United States the same impartial justice enjoyed under the exercise of judicial functions by the diplomatic and consular officers of the United States, to suspend the operation of the act of June 22, 1860, and to accept for citizens of the United States the jurisdiction of the new tribunals. Satisfactory information having been received of the organization of such new tribunals in Egypt, I caused a proclamation to be issued upon the 27th of March last, suspending the operation of the act of June 22, 1860, in Egypt, according to the provisions of the act. A copy of the proclamation accompanies this message.—The United States have united with the other powers in the organization of these courts. It is hoped that the jurisdiction questions which have arisen may be readily adjusted, and that this advance in judicial reform may be hindered by no obstacles.

THE CONVENTION WITH HAWAII.

The necessary legislation to carry into effect the convention respecting commercial reciprocity concluded with the Hawaiian Islands in 1875 having been had, the proclamation to carry into effect the convention as provided by the act approved August 15, 1876, was duly issued upon the ninth day of September last. A copy thereof accompanies this message.

OUR CLAIMS AGAINST COLUMBIA SETTLED.

The Government of the United States of Columbia has paid the award in the case of the steamer Montrjo, seized by the authorities of that Government some years since, and the amount has been transferred to the claimants.

It is with satisfaction that I am able to announce that the joint commission for the adjustment of claims between the United States and Mexico, under the convention of 1868, the duration of which has been several times extended, has brought its labors to a close. From the report of the agent of the United States, which accompanies the papers transmitted herewith, it will be seen that within the time limited by the Commission, one thousand and seventeen claims on the part of citizens of the United States against Mexico were referred to the Commission. Of these claims, eight hundred and thirty-one were dismissed or disallowed, and in one hundred and eighty-six cases awards were made in favor of the claimants against the Mexican Republic, amounting in the aggregate to four million one hundred and twenty-two dollars and twenty cents. Within the same period nine hundred and ninety-eight claims on the part of citizens of the Mexican Republic against the United States were referred to the commission. Of these claims eight hundred and thirty-one were dismissed or disallowed, and in one hundred and sixty-seven cases awards were made in favor of the claimants against the United States, amounting in the aggregate to one hundred and fifty thousand four hundred and ninety eight dollars and forty-one cents. By the terms of the convention the amount of these awards is to be deducted from the amount awarded in favor of our citizens against Mexico, and the balance only to be paid by Mexico to the United States, leaving the United States to make provisions for their proportion of the awards in favor of its own citizens. I invite your attention to the legislation which will be necessary to provide for their payment. In this connection, I am pleased to be able to express the acknowledgements due to Sir Edward Thornton, the umpire of the commission; who has given to the consideration of the large number of claims submitted to him much time, unwearied patience and that fairness and intelligence which are well known to belong to the accomplished representative of Great Britain, and which are likewise recognized by the representative in this country of the republic of Mexico.

VENEZUELAN PAYMENTS.

Monthly payments of a very small part of the amount due by the Government of Venezuela to citizens of the United States on account of claims of the latter against that Government continue to be made with reasonable punctuality. That Government has proposed to change the system which it has heretofore pursued in this respect, by issuing bonds for part of the amount of the several claims. The proposition, however, could not, it is supposed, properly be accepted, at least without the consent of the holders of certificates of the indebtedness of Venuzuela. These are so much dispersed that it would be difficult if not impossible to ascertain their disposition on the subject.

FRAUDULENT NATURALIZATION.

In former messages I have called the attention of Congress to the necessity of legislation with regard to fraudulent legislation, and to the subject of expatriation and the election of nationality. The number of persons of foreign birth seeking a home in the United States, the case and facility with which the honest emigrant may, after the lapse of a reasonable time, become possessed of all the privileges of citizenship of the United States, and the frequent occasions which induce such adopted citizens to the country of their birth, render the subject of naturalization and the safeguards which experience has proved necessary for the protection of the honest naturalized citizen of paramount importance. The very simplicity in the requirements of the law on this question afford opportunity for fraud, and the want of uniformity in the proceedings and records of the various courts and in the forms of the certificates of naturalization issued afford a constant source of difficulty. I suggest no additional requirements to the acquisition of citizenship beyond those now existing; but I invite the earnest attention of Congress to the necessity and wisdom of some provisions in regard to uniformity in the records and certificates, and providing against the frauds which frequently take place, and for the vacating of a record, of naturalization obtained in fraud. These provisions are needed in aid and for the protection of the honest citizen of foreign birth, and for the want of which he is made to suffer not infrequently. The United States has insisted upon the right of expatriation, and has obtained, after a long struggle, an admission of the principle contended for by the acquiescence therein on the part of many foreign powers, and by the conclusion of treaties on that subject. It is, however, but justice to the Government to which such naturalized citizens have formerly owed allegiance, as well as to the United States, that certain fixed and definite rules should be adopted governing such cases, and providing how expatriation may be accomplished. While emigrants in large numbers become citizens of the United States, it is also time that persons, both nativeborn and naturalized, once citizens of the United States, either by formal acts or as the effect of a series of facts and circumstances, abandon their citizenship and cease to be entitled to the protection of the United States, but continue on convenient occasions to assert a claim to protection.

In the absence of provisions on these questions, and in this conviction, I again invite your attention to the necessity of legislation concerning the marriages of American citizens contracted abroad, and concerning the status of American women who may marry foreigners, and of children born of American parents in a foreign country. The delicate and complicated questions continually arising with reference to naturalization, expatriation and the status of such persons as I have above referred to, induce me to earnestly direct your attention again to these subjects.

CLAIMS OF ALIENS.

In like manner I repeat my recommendation that some means be provided for the hearing and determination of the first and subsisting claims of aliens upon the Government of the United States within a reasonable limitation, and of such as may hereafter arise. While by existing provisions of law the Court of Claims may, in certain cases, be resorted to by an alien claimant, the absence of any general provisions governing all such cases upon recognized, fixed and settled principles, either provides no remedy in many deserving cases, or compel a consideration of such claims by Congress or the executive departments of the Government. It is believed that other Governments are in advance of the United States upon this question, and that the practice now adopted is entirely unsatisfactory.

COLORADO A STATE.

Congress, by an act approved the 3d day of March, 1875, authorized the inhabitants of the Territory of Colorado to form a State government, with the name of the State of Colorado, and therein provided for the admission of said State, when formed, into the Union upon an equal footing with the original States. A Constitution having been adopted and ratified by the people of that State, and the acting Governor having certified to me the facts, as provided by said act, together with a copy of such Constitution and ordinances provided for in the said act, and the provisions of the said act of Congress having been duly complied with, I issued a proclamation upon the 1st of August, 1876, a copy of which is hereto annexed.

THE MILITARY SERVICE.

The report of the Secretary of War shows that the army has been actively employed during the year in subduing, at the request of the Indian Bureau, certain wild bands of the Sioux Indian nation, and in preserving the peace at the South during the election. The commission constituted under the act of July 24, 1876, to consider and report on the whole subject of reform and reorganization of the army, met in August last, and has collected a large mass of statistics and opinions bearing on the subject before it. These are now under consideration, and their report is progressing. I am advised, though, by the President of the Commission, that it will be impracticable to comply with the clause of the act requiring the report to be presented through me to Congress on the first day of this session, as there has not yet been time for that mature deliberation which the importance of the subject demands; therefore I ask that the time for making the report be extended to the 29th day of January, 1877. In accordance with the resolution of August 15, 1876, the army regulations prepared under the act of March 1, 1875, have not been promulgated, but are held until after the report of the above-mentioned commission shall have been read and acted on.

By the act of August 15, 1876, the cavalry force of the army was increased by 2,500 men, with the proviso, That they should be discharged on the expiration of hostilities. Under this authority the cavalry regiments have been strengthened, and a portion of them are now in the field pursuing the remnants of the Indians with whom they have been engaged during the summer.

The estimates of the War Department are made up on the basis of the number of men authorized by law, and their requirements as shown by years of experience, and also with the purpose, on the part of the bureau officers to provide for all contingencies that may arise during the time for which the estimates are made. Exclusive of engineer estimates presented in accordance with acts of Congress calling for surveys and estimates for improvements at various localities, the estimates now presented are about six millions in excess of the appropriations for the years 1876 77, and 1875-76. This increase is asked in order to provide for the increase cavalry force, should their services be necessary; to prosecute economically work upon important public buildings; to provide for the armament of fortifications and small arms, and to replenish the working stock in the supply departments. The appropriations for these last named have for the past few years been so limited that the accumulation in store will be entirely exhausted during the present year, and it will be necessary to at once begin to replenish them.

I invite your special attention to the following recommendations of the Secretary of War: First, that the claims under the act of July 4, 1864, for supplies taken by the army during the war be removed from the offices of the Quartesmaster and Commissary General and transferred to the Southern Claims Commission. These claims are of precisely similar nature to those now before the Southern Claim Commission, and the War Department bureaus have not the clerical force for their examination nor the proper machinery for investigating the loyalty of the claimants. Second, that Congress sanction the scheme of an annuity fund for the benefit of the families of deceased officers, and that it also provide for the permanent organization of the signal service, both of which were recommended in my last annual message. Third that the manufacturing operations of the Ordinance Department be concentrated at three arsenals and an armory, and that the remaining arsenals be sold and the proceeds be applied to this object by the Ordinance Department.

RIVER AND HARBOR IMPROVEMENTS.

The appropriations for river and harbor improvements for the current year were $5,015,000. With my approval, the Secretary of War directed that of this amount $2,000,000 should be expended, and no new works should be begun and none prosecuted which were not of national importance. Subsequently this amount was increased to $2,237,600, and the works are now progressing on this basis. The improvement of the South Pass of the Mississippi river, under James B. Eads and his associates, is progressing favorably. At the present time there is a channel of twenty and three tenths feet in depth between the jetties at the mouth of the pass, and eighteen and one-half feet at the head of the Pass. Neither channel, however, has the width required before payments can be made by the United States. A commission of engineer officers is now examining these works, and their reports will be presented as soon as received.

THE NAVY.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy shows that branch of the service to be in a condition as effective as it is possible to keep it with the means and authority given the department. It is, of course, not possible to rival the costly and progressive establishments of the great European powers with the old material of our navy, to which no increase has been authorized since the war, except the eight small cruisers built to supply the place of others which had gone to decay; yet the most has been done that was possible with the means at command, and by substantially rebuilding some of our old ships with durable material, and completely repairing and refitting our monitor fleet, the navy has been gradually so brought up that though it does not maintain its relative position among the progressive navies of the world, it is now in a condition more powerful and effective than it ever has been in time of peace.—The complete repairs of our five heavy iron clads are only delayed on account of the inadequacy of the appropriations made last year for the working beureaus of the department, which were actually less in amount than those made before the war, notwithstanding the greatly enhanced price of labor and materials, and the increase in the cost of the naval service, growing out of the universal use and great expense of steam machinery. The money necessary for these repairs should be provided at once, that they may be completed without further unnecessary delay and expense.—When this is done, all the strength that there is in our navy will be developed and useful to its full capacity, and it will be powerful for purposes of defense, and also for offensive action, should the necessity for that arise within a reasonable distance from our shores. The fact that our navy is not more modern and powerful than it is, has been made a cause of complaint against the Secretary of the Navy, by persons who, at the same time, criticise and complain of his endeavors to bring the navy that we have to its best and most efficient condition; but the good sense of the country will understand that it is really due to his practical action that we have at this time any efficient naval force at command.

THE POSTAL SERVICE.

The report of the Postmaster General shows the excess of expenditures, including expenditures on account of previous years, over the receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1876, to be $4,151,988 66. The estimated expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1875, are $36,723,432-43; the estimated revenue for the same period is $30,645,165 00, leaving an estimated excess of expenditure to be appropriated as a deficiency of $6,078,267 43. The Postmaster General, like his predecessor, is convinced that a change in the basis of adjusting salaries of postmasters of the fourth class is necessary for the good of the service, as well as for the interests of the Government, and urgently recommends that the compensation of the class of postmasters above mentioned be based on the business of their respective offices, as ascertained from the sworn returns to the auditors.

A few postmasters in the Southern States have expressed great apprehension of their personal safety, on account of their connection with the postal service, and have specially requested that their reports of apprehended danger should not be made public, lest it should result in the loss of their lives; but no postive testimony of interference has been submitted, except in the case of a mail messenger at Spartanburg in South Carolina, who reported that he had been violently driven away while in charge of the mails, on account of his political affiliations. An assistant superintendent of the railway mail service investigated this case, and reported that the messenger had disappeared from his post, leaving his work to be performed by a substitute. The Postmaster General thinks this case sufficiently suggestive to justify him in recommending that a more severe punishment should be provided for the offense of assaulting any person in charge of the mail, or of retarding or otherwise obstructing the service by threats of personal injury.

A very gratifying result is presented in the fact that the deficiency in this department during the last fiscal year was reduced to $4,081,790 18, as against $6,169,938 88 the preceding year. The difference can be traced to the large increase in its ordinary receipts, which greatly exceeded the estimates therefor, and a slight decrease in its expenditures. The ordinary receipts of the Postoffice Department for the past seven fiscal years have increased at an average of over eight per cent. per annum, while the increase of expenditures for the same period has been but about five fifty per cent. per annum, and the decrease of the deficiency in the revenues has been at the rate of nearly two per cent. per annum.

OUR ADVANCE IN AGRICULTURE.

The report of the Commissioner of Agriculture, accompanying this message, will be found one of interest, making, as it does, the great progress of the last century in the variety of products of the soil, increased knowledge and skill in the labor of producing, saving and manipulating the same to prepare them for the use of man, in improvements in machinery to aid the agriculturist in his labors, and in knowledge of those scientific subjects necessary to a thorough system of economy in agricultural productions, namely: chemistry, botany, entomology, etc. A study of this report by those interested in agriculture and deriving their support from it will find it of value in pointing out those articles which are raised in greater quantity than the needs of the world require, and must sell, therefore, for less than the cost of production, and those which command a profit over the cost of production. I call special attention to the need of the department for a new gallery for the reception of the exhibits returned from the Centennial Exhibition, including the exhibits donated by very many foreign nations, and to the recommendations of the Commissioner of Agriculture generally.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The reports of the District Commissioners and the Board of Health are just received, too late to read them and to make recommendations thereon, and are herewith submitted.

THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

held in Philadelphia this year, in commemoration of the one hundreth anniversary of American Independence, has proven a great success, and will no doubt be of enduring advantage to the country. It has shown the great progress in the arts, sciences and mechanical skill made in a single century, and demonstrated that we are but little behind older nations in any one branch, while in some we scarcely have a rival. It has served, too, not only to bring the peoples and products of skill and labor from all parts of the world together, but in bringing together people from all the States of our own country, which must prove a great benefit in the information imparted, and in the pride of country engendered.

It has been suggested by scientists interested in and connected with the Smithsonian Institution, in a communication herewith, that the Government exhibit be removed to the Capital and a suitable building be erected or purchased for its accommodation as a permanent exhibit. I earnestly recommend this; and believing that Congress would second this view, I directed that all the Government exhibits at the Centennial Exhibition should remain where they are, except such as might be injured by remaining in a building not intended as a protection in inclement weather, or such as may be wanted by the department furnishing them, until the question of a permanent exhibition is acted on.

Although the moneys appropriated by Congress to enable the participation of the several executive departments in the International Exhibition of 1876 were not sufficient to carry out the undertaking to the full extent at first contemplated, it gives me pleasure to refer to the very efficient and creditable manner in which the board appointed from these several departments to provide an exhibition on the part of the Government have discharged their duties with the funds placed at their command. Without a precedent to guide them in the preparation of such a display, the success of their labors was amply attested by the sustained attention which the contents of our Government building attracted during the period of the exhibition, from both foreign and native visitors. I am strongly impressed with the value of the collection made by the Government for the purposes of the exhibition, illustrating as it does the mineral resources of the country, the statistical and practical evidences of our own growth as a nation, and the uses of the mechanical arts and the applications of applied science in the administration of the affairs of Government. Many nations have voluntarily contributed their exhibits to the United States to increase the interest in any permanent exhibition Congress may provide. For this act of generosity they should receive the thanks of the people, and I respectfully suggest that a resolution of Congress to that effect be adopted.

CHANGE IN METHOD OF ELECTING PRESIDENT.

The attention of Congress cannot be too earnestly called to the necessity of throwing some greater safe-guard over the method of choosing and declaring the election of a President. Under the present system there seems to be no provided remedy for contesting the election in any one State. The remedy is partially, no doubt in the enlightenment of the electors. The compulsory support of the free schools; and the disfranchisement of all who cannot read and write the English language after a fixed probation would meet my hearty approval. I would not make this apply however, to those already voters, but I would to all becoming so after the expiration of the probation fixed upon. Foreigners coming to the country to become citizens, who are educated in their own language, would acquire the requisite knowledge of ours during the necessary residence to obtain naturalization. If they did not take enough interest in our language to acquire sufficient knowledge of it to enable them to study the institutions and laws of the country intelligently, I would not confer upon them the right to make such laws nor to select those who do.

PAST RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONGRESS.

I append to this message for convenient reference a synopsis of administrative events and of all recommendations to Congress made by me during the last seven years. Time may show some of these recommendations not to have been wisely conceived, but I believe the larger part will do no discredit to the administration. One of these recommendations met with the united opposition of one political party in the Senate, and with a strong opposition from the other namely—the treaty for the annexation of Santo Domingo to the United States, to which I will specially refer, maintaining as I do that if my views had been concurred in, the country would be in a more prosperous condition to-day, both politically and financially. Santo Domingo is fertile, and upon its soil may be grown just those tropical products of which the United States used so much, and which are produced or prepared for market now by slave labor almost entirely namely, sugar, coffee, dye woods, mahogany, tropical fruits, tobacco, etc. About seventy-five per cent. of the exports of Cuba are consumed in the United States; a large percentage of the exports of Brazil also find the same market. These are paid for almost exclusively in coin, legislation, particularly in Cuba, being unfavorable to a mutual exchange of the products of each country. Flour shipped from the Mississippi river to Havana can pass by the very entrance to the city on its way to a port in Spain, then pays a duty fixed upon articles to be re-exported, transferred to a Spanish vessel and brought back almost to the point of starting, paying a second duty, still leave a profit over what would be received by direct shipment. All that is produced in Cuba could be produced in Santo Domingo. Being a part of the United States, commerce between the island and the main land would be free; there would be no export duties on her shipment, nor import duties on those coming here. There would be no import duties upon the supplies of machinery, etc., going from the States. The effect that would have been produced upon Cuban commerce with these advantages to a rival is observable at a glance. The Cuban question would have been settled long ago in favor of free Cuba; hundreds of American vessels would now be advantageously used in transporting the valuable woods and other products of the soil of the island to a market, and in carrying supplies and emigrants to it. This island is but sparsely settled while it has an area sufficient for the profitable employment of several millions of people. The soil would have soon fallen into the hands of United States capitalists. The products are so valuable in commerce that emigration there would have been encouraged, the emancipated race of the South would have found there a congenial home, where their civil rights would not be disputed, and where their labor would be so much sought after that the poorest among them could have found the means to go. Thus, in cases of great oppression and cruelty, such as has been practiced upon them in many places within the last eleven years, whole communities would have sought refuge in Santo Domingo. I do not suppose the whole race would have gone, nor is it desirable that they should go. Their labor is desirable, indispensible almost, where they now are; but the possession of this territory would have left the negro master of the situation, by enabling him to demand his rights at home on pain of finding them elsewhere. I do not present these views now as a recommendation for a renewal of the subject of annexation, but I do refer to it to vindicate my previous action in regard to it.

With the present Congress my official life terminates. It is not probable that public affairs will ever again receive attention from me, further than as a citizen of the republic, always taking a deep interest in the integrity and prosperity of the whole land.

U. S. GRANT

EXECUTIVE MANSION, December 5, 1876.