

was illustrated by the fact that since 1790, not less than thirty millions of acres have been applied to this object.

The annual message of last year, in reference to grants of land in aid of the construction of railroads, were less full and explicit than the magnitude of the subject and subsequent developments would seem to render proper and desirable.

Of the soundness of the principle then asserted with regard to the limitation of the power of Congress, I entertain no doubt; but its application it is not enough that the value of land in a particular locality may be enhanced that, in fact, a large amount of money may probably be received, in a given time, for alternate sections, than could have been realized for all the sections, without the impulse and influence of the proposed improvements.

A prudent proprietor, looks beyond limited sections of his domain, beyond present limits, to the ultimate effect which a particular line of policy is likely to produce upon his possessions, and interests in the government, which he trusts in this matter for the people of the States, is bound to take the same wide and comprehensive view.

Even admitting the right of the public to Congress to be unquestionable; is it quite clear that the proposed grants would be productive of good, and not evil? The different projects are confined, for the most part, to ten States of this Union, and to a few of the States.

Does the spirit which has produced such results, need to be stimulated or checked? Is it not the better rule to leave all the most important enterprises, regulated, and when expedient, aided, by the co-operation of States?

But independently of these considerations, where is the accurate knowledge, the comprehensive intelligence, which shall discriminate between the relative claims of these twenty-eight proposed roads in eleven States and one Territory? Who are you to begin, and who are you to end? If to enable these companies to execute their proposed works, it is necessary that the aid of the general government be primarily given, the policy will present a problem so comprehensive in its nature, and so important in its results, that it is difficult to see how it can be solved without the most careful re-examination and rigid scrutiny.

My former recommendations, in relation to suitable provisions for various objects of interest to the inhabitants of the District of Columbia, are renewed. Many of these objects partake largely of a national character, and are important independently of their local interest to the inhabitants of the District of Columbia, are renewed. Many of these objects partake largely of a national character, and are important independently of their local interest to the inhabitants of the District of Columbia, are renewed.

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and to repel it from our own never to shrink from war when the rights and the honor of the country call us to arms, but to cultivate in preference the arts of peace, seek enlightenment of the rights of neutrality, and elevate and liberalize the intercourse of nations; and by such just and honorable means, and such only, as will exalt the condition of the Republic, to secure to the legitimate influence and the benign authority of a great example amongst all the powers of Christendom.

### AMERICAN VOLUNTEER.

JOHN B. BRATTON, Editor & Proprietor.  
CARLISLE, PA., DEC. 14, 1854.

To learn the Printing business, will be taken at this office. The education by made none but a smart, active, intelligent, good boy, and possessing a good education, need apply.

To the exclusion of our usual variety, we publish in our paper to-day President Pierce's second Annual Message. It is a State paper that will be perused with more than ordinary interest by every man who feels an honest pride in our free and expanding country.

The recommendations of the President in regard to our foreign and domestic policy, are so wise, patriotic and reasonable, that Congress will, we doubt not, readily accede to his suggestions. All in all, the Message is a most able and patriotic document, creditable alike to the head and heart of its distinguished author.

Admitted to Practice.—We omitted stating at the time, that CHRISTIAN P. HENNING, Esq., was on motion of A. B. Sharp, Esq., admitted, at our last regular Court of Common Pleas, to practice law in the several courts, of this county.

THE TUTOR AND PUPIL.—The above is the title of a very handsome and interesting periodical, devoted to the interest of education, morality, general intelligence, &c. It is published monthly, at Chambersburg, Pa., and is furnished at the low price of 50 cents per year.

THE FARM JOURNAL for December closes the volume, and as the January number commences a new one, a favorable opportunity is afforded those who wish to subscribe. This we believe, is the only agricultural journal published in Pennsylvania. It has a large number of the best farmers in the State among its contributors, and in their experience and opinions, contain spread in its pages, it can scarcely happen that some fact of value may not be gleaned by every one engaged in agricultural pursuits.

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR THE SHAREHOLDERS IN PERHAM'S THIRD GIFT ENTERPRISE.—It will be seen by reference to advertisement in this paper of to-day, that the Committee appointed by the Shareholders at their last meeting, have issued a call for a final meeting of all interested, to get their instructions in reference to the distribution of the Gift property. We were pleased to find the matter so near a consummation, and hope that Mr. Perham will receive the patronage he so well deserves for the liberality and energy displayed in getting up and prosecuting this stupendous enterprise. Orders for tickets should be sent in immediately. There are fortunes in reserve for somebody.

THE PHILADELPHIA LEDGER, one of the ablest and most influential papers in the Union, says: "The President's Message is very generally commended by the press for its support of sound principles of international policy, its genuine American sentiments, its moderation and firmness. It is an excellent State paper, both in its spirit and its suggestions, and does great credit to the Administration."

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The rich glories of Autumn are gone, and the shrill whistle of Jack Frost, as he blows it at the key and chimney tops, reminds us that winter is here. We regard it, with varied emotions. Our school books represented winter as a fierce old monster with icicles hanging round his head; but we hailed him with pleasure for all that, for he carried thinking bells in one hand, and skates and sleds in the other. And now we see scores of ruddy cheeks, bright-eyed lads and lassies looking longingly in the windows of confectionaries and toy shops, while their little hearts swell with the anticipated joys of the Christmas holidays.

Sentimentalists may talk about the beauty and poetry of snow-drops, but we doubt whether the shivering houseless appreciates their rhapodies. And in a snug parlour a man may speak feelingly of the comforts of home and the cheerfulness of the roaring fire; but he knows nothing of it, who hears the wind whistling through the crevices of his rags.

Mon. Law.—In the town of Tuskegee, Ala., lately, a Col. Benjamin W. Walker was sent to jail for refusing to obey an order of the Court directing him to pay over \$17,000, which he held as trustee of an estate. At the next session of the same Court, some of his friends broke open the jail, took him out, and carried him into Court, where he demanded a re-hearing.

AGAIN, the vice versa manner is certainly as democratic as the voting by ballot, if not more so. Democratic Virginia has always adhered to the vice versa system, and we want no better Democrats than those of the Old Dominion.

THE NEW YORK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE on Thursday evening adopted a resolution requesting the President of the Board of Trade to prepare a memorial to Congress, requesting an appropriation of a sufficient sum to offer, man, supply, equip, and to purchase, if necessary, a steam propeller and a storeroom, for the purpose of exploring the North Sea.

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