

ira, irregular attendance, the co-operation of parents and directors. So a general thing directors will get together and decide on what wages they will give for such and such schools, then will seek for the teacher that will teach for the least money, never saying anything about the kind of school they would like to have, only that they can get them for as small wages as they can. Then the teacher is to get to school, as if a starved child would go for something to eat) for some place to stay over Sunday, after which they are to find where the school-house stands in which they are to reign the next three months, with no one to tell them what to do now. It must be that we are thought of as laborers from the hand of God, as no other class but have overseers or counselors. Once in the school-room there is no always the poorest, you must set yourself to work to educate the young of the district for what you have been hired, with from thirty to forty pairs of eyes watching every movement. That is the trying time. Yes, once get started and there is no trouble, especially if we get a right one; and then is the time to get a right start. But with as many different dispositions as faces, it is often difficult to strike the right chord, and if you miss, what then? Why, the pattern is to be made, not from hearsay; for, mind you, not one of these people have entered your workshop. Urge as hard as you may, they always have something else of far more importance to occupy their time. Neither do the directors come to see us in the right path; so we are left to go on. If we get right again we are all right; if not, we go to the miserable unfortunate! Everyone is busy in making them the worst of teachers. It is to be commended, at least, that so many follow for a short time for an inexperienced person is not apt to like such neglect. Then add to this the style of boarding around, where some of the parents do not wish to teach a non-graduate. It is no wonder, then, that our would-be good teachers seek other employment—for we all like help, and ought to be helped one of another. No one can teach successfully without an intelligent and successful profession, and a profession of as much importance as teaching should be more perfect; for pupils might arrive at a much higher standard of qualification in the time they are allowed to be in school, if it were not for this lack of thoroughness on the part of teachers. It therefore behooves us as teachers to first qualify ourselves, and then enter the work which is to be commended. There are more successful teachers—yes, successful teachers; for a thorough teacher is a successful one. Then seek for a system of government disconnected with the domestic traditions of Europe; appeared to be a proper subject for the felicitations of Americans. Should the present struggle result in attaching the hearts of the French to our simpler forms of representative government, it will be the work of still further satisfaction to our people. While we make no effort to impose our institutions upon the inhabitants of other countries, and while we adhere to our traditional neutrality in civil contests elsewhere, we cannot be indifferent to the spread of American political ideas in a great and highly civilized country like France. We were asked by the new government to use our good offices to procure the ratification of the European powers in the interests of peace. Answer was made that the established policy and the true interests of the United States forbade them to interfere in European questions, jointly with Europe. I ascertained informally and unofficially that the government of North Germany was not then disposed to listen to such representations from any powers, and that they were wishing to see the blessings of peace restored to the belligerents, with all of whom the United States are on terms of friendship. I declined after the part of this Government to take any part in a contest which would result in injury to our true interests, without advancing the object for which our intervention was invoked. Should the time come when the action of the United States can hasten peace, that action will be heartily taken. I deemed it prudent, in view of the number of persons of German and French birth living in the United States, to issue soon after an official notice of a state of war has been received from both belligerents, a proclamation enjoining the duties of the United States, as a neutral power, and the obligations of persons residing within the territory to observe their laws and the laws of nations. This proclamation was followed by others, as circumstances seemed to call for them. The people thus acquainted in advance of their duties and obligations, have assisted in preventing violations of the neutrality of the United States.

**THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.**  
To the Senate and House of Representatives:  
A year of peace and grand progress has passed since the great assembly of Congress. We have, through a kind Providence, been blessed with abundant crops and have been spared from complications and war with foreign nations. It is to be regretted, however, that the peace of this year has been marred by violence and intimidation, denied to citizens in exceptional cases in several of the States lately in rebellion, and the verdict of the people has thereby been reversed and the States of Texas and Mississippi have been restored to representation in our national councils. Georgia, the only State now without representation, may eventually be expected to take her seat at the beginning of the new year; and then let us hope will be completed the work of reconstruction. With an acquiescence on the part of the people in the national obligation to pay the public debt contracted by our disabled soldiers and sailors, and the widows and orphans, and to the changes in the constitution, which have been rendered necessary by a great rebellion, we are not, in any manner, without advance in material prosperity and happiness as no other nation did, after so protracted and devastating a war.

Soon after the existing war broke out in Europe, the province of Alsace-Lorraine, which in 1871 was invaded in favor of the North German monarchy in French territory, instructions were issued to grant the protection requested. This has been followed by an extension of Saxony, Hesse and Saxe-Coburg, Gotha, and the Kingdom of Prussia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Chili, Paraguay and Venezuela. In Paris the change was an open one; and the exercise of patience, prudence and good judgment. It has been performed to the entire satisfaction of the Government, and I am officially informed by the government of Germany that the people of France had acquiesced in the change, the minister of the United States being notified by telegram to recognize it and to tender my congratulations and those of the people of the United States. The re-establishment in France of a system of government disconnected with the domestic traditions of Europe; appeared to be a proper subject for the felicitations of Americans. Should the present struggle result in attaching the hearts of the French to our simpler forms of representative government, it will be the work of still further satisfaction to our people. While we make no effort to impose our institutions upon the inhabitants of other countries, and while we adhere to our traditional neutrality in civil contests elsewhere, we cannot be indifferent to the spread of American political ideas in a great and highly civilized country like France. We were asked by the new government to use our good offices to procure the ratification of the European powers in the interests of peace. Answer was made that the established policy and the true interests of the United States forbade them to interfere in European questions, jointly with Europe. I ascertained informally and unofficially that the government of North Germany was not then disposed to listen to such representations from any powers, and that they were wishing to see the blessings of peace restored to the belligerents, with all of whom the United States are on terms of friendship. I declined after the part of this Government to take any part in a contest which would result in injury to our true interests, without advancing the object for which our intervention was invoked. Should the time come when the action of the United States can hasten peace, that action will be heartily taken. I deemed it prudent, in view of the number of persons of German and French birth living in the United States, to issue soon after an official notice of a state of war has been received from both belligerents, a proclamation enjoining the duties of the United States, as a neutral power, and the obligations of persons residing within the territory to observe their laws and the laws of nations. This proclamation was followed by others, as circumstances seemed to call for them. The people thus acquainted in advance of their duties and obligations, have assisted in preventing violations of the neutrality of the United States.

It is not so easy to see how this result is to be otherwise accomplished. The Canadian provinces have urged her adherence. Our depressed commerce is a subject which I called for your consideration at the last session, and approved that we will in the future have to look more to the countries south of us and to China and Japan for their revival. Our representatives on all these governments have exerted their influence to encourage trade between the United States and the countries to which they are accredited. But the fact exists that the carrying is done almost entirely on foreign bottoms, and while this state of affairs exists we cannot control our due share of the commerce of the world. That between the Pacific States and China and Japan is about all the carrying trade now conducted in American vessels. I would recommend a liberal policy towards that line of American steamers—one that will insure its success and even increased usefulness. The cost of building iron vessels, the only ones that can compete with foreign ships in the carrying trade, is much greater in our country than in foreign countries, that without assistance from the government they cannot be successfully built here. There will be severe and constant competition in the course of the present session looking for a remedy of this evil. Even if it should be at some cost to the national treasury, I hope such encouragement will be given to our domestic steamship-building at home.

The condition of the archives at the early action of Congress. The building now rented by the department is inadequate and inconveniently situated. It is ill adapted for the purpose for which it is used, has not sufficient capacity to accommodate the files and records of the department, its stowage, its disorderly condition, its lack of a supply of water in the neighborhood, leave but little hope of safety either for the building or its contents in case of fire. My recommendation is that the present building be replaced by one which is better adapted for the purpose for which it is used, and that the present building be replaced by one which is better adapted for the purpose for which it is used. I therefore recommend an appropriation for the construction of a building for the Department of State.

I recommend your reconsideration of the propriety of transferring to the Department of the Interior all the lands which seem more appropriately to belong, all the powers and duties in relation to the Territories which the Department of State is now charged by law to exercise, and from the Interior to the Department of War, the Pension Bureau so far as it regulates the payment of soldiers' pensions. I would further recommend that the payment of soldiers' pensions be transferred to one of the bureaus of the Navy Department.

The estimates for the expenses of the Government for the fiscal year are \$18,244,346.01 less than for the corresponding year. The appropriations for the present year, for some items \$8,072,127.56. In this estimate, however, is included \$22,338,278.37 for public works heretofore begun under Congressional authority, and which are now under the foundation of the Department of State. The average value of gold, as compared with silver, for the whole of the year 1869 was about 134, and for the eleven months of 1870 the same relative value has been about 115. The approach to a specie basis is very gratifying, and the fact that the money market is still in a state of depression, and tends to keep up prices to the detriment of trade. The evils of a depreciated and fluctuating currency are too great that more vigorous action should be taken to restore the value of gold to its normal level. It is estimated that the loss of gold has fallen so much, it would seem that the time has arrived when by wise and prudent legislation Congress should look to a policy which would result in a permanent and steady currency at par with gold at all distant points. The gold collected from the people has been reduced more than thirty millions of dollars since the beginning of the year. This has been due to the fact that the gold mine of California has been exhausted, and the gold mines of Colorado and Nevada have not yet been opened. The gold mines of California have been exhausted, and the gold mines of Colorado and Nevada have not yet been opened. The gold mines of California have been exhausted, and the gold mines of Colorado and Nevada have not yet been opened.

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