Bradford Reporter

Towanda, Thursday, Dec. 4, 1873.

EDITORS:

E. O. GOODRICH. S. W. ALVORD.

THE MESSAGE.

We print to-day the annual message of President GRANT. The document is not long and we commend it to the perusal of every reader.

THE VIRGINIUS AFFAIR

Seems now to be definitely settled—the Spanish government having acceded to all our demands in the premises.

CONGRESS.

Both branches of the national legislature met and organized on Monday last. Mr. BLAINE was re-elected Speaker of the House and Mr. MCPHERSON Clerk.

The democrats voted for FERNANDO WOOD, one of the worst salary-grabbers; but the republican caucus adopted resolutions demanding the repeal of the back-pay law. Bills were introduced in the Senate and House, by republicans, for the repeal of the law.

TERRIBLE DISASTER AT SEA.

News has been received of a terrible disaster to the steamship Ville du Havre, which left New York on the 15th ult. with over three hundred passengers, two hundred and twenty-six of the number were lost. The cause of the disaster was a collision with an iron ship, on the 22d of Nov. Ten minutes after the accident the ill-fated steamer, with its freight of precious lives, went down. Many members of the recent Evangelical Alliance were among the lost.

THE SPEAKERSHIP.

It is gratifying to us, in common with the republicans of this county, to learn that Mr. MYER's prospects for the Speakership are very flattering. His ability and fitness for the position are admitted even by those who do not advocate his election, while many of the ablest and soundest republicans in the State are sanguine that he will succeed. The contest from present appearances will be between M'CORMICK, of Allegheny, and Mr. MYER. While we would not in the least detract from the good qualities of the gentleman from Allegheny, we do insist the section of the State from which he hails is not entitled to the position, as the west will have several other important offices in the House. We trust the claims of Mr. MYER and the staunch Republican county he represents will receive in this matter the consideration to which they are entitled. Mr. MYER's election, as we have said before, would be an honor to the State and reflect credit upon the members of the House.

[For the REPORTER]

I will vote against the Constitution for the following reasons:

Because, 1st: The increase of the members of the legislature is objectionable. It will enlarge the expense to the State, and will increase and not suppress corruption. Special legislation in this form is done away with, but there is some left. There is no need of a greater number of members. Two hundred and fifty will not be more pure than 133.

2d. The representation of the minority as provided for in the election of county commissioners and auditors, and the Judges of the Supreme Court, is in conflict with the foundation of our idea of government, viz: that the majority should rule. The convention which place candidates in nomination will elect in part, instead of the people. That will be the practical working of it.

3d. The court of *Nisi Prius* has been abolished. That court was originally established so that the judges of the Supreme Court should have practice before them—that they might be kept [illegible] that practice, andbe in sympathy and knowledge with the Courts below.

4th. The Associate Judges, not learned in the law, are done away with. This is the only element in our courts *direct from the people*. Lawyers become judges, and by their habit of thought and manner of life, are not always in accord with the sentiments of the people. The associate judges are a check in this respect.

5th. The work of the Supreme Court will be largely increased. It was unnecessary for the convention to increase the number of judges, as the legislature had the power to increase the number under the old constitution.

6th. There is no provision made when the new judges of the Supreme Court are to commence their term, or how the Prothonotaries of the Supreme Court are to be appointed or elected, or for what term.

7th. It nearly doubles the number of judges of the courts of common pleas. Thereby imposing great additional burdens on the people. The judiciary article as a whole, is not as good as the one in the old constitution.

8th. The convention seemed to regard themselves rather as a legislative body, than as a body to make a constitution. And, hence it will be necessary for some provision to be made to put the constitution in a compact form so that every person can have a copy of it with him, wherever he may be, to see whether, in sitting down or standing up, he is within the provisions.

9th. Every ballot voted shall be numbered in the order in which it shall be received. To me this is one of the most objectionable features in the proposed constitution. The whole election board will know how each man voted, and *every body else will ascertain.*

10th. For not submitting the constitution to us in sections, so we could vote for those we liked, and against those we disliked. The reason for not doing it, was they knew a great majority of the sections would be defeated, so they gave it to us all together. In fact most of the commendable parts have been copied from the old constitution. And even then they made careless mistakes.

CITIZEN.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

The year that has passed since the submission of my last message to Congress has, especially during the latter part of it, been an eventful one to the country. In the midst of great national prosperity, a financial crisis has occurred that has brought low fortunes of gigantic proportions; political partizanship has almost ceased to exist, especially in the agricultural regions, and, finally, the capture, upon the high seas, of a vessel bearing our flag, has for a time threatened the most serious consequences, and has agitated the public mind from one end of the country to the other, but this, happily now, is in the course of satisfactory adjustment, honorable to both nations concerned. The relations of the United States, however, with most of the other powers, continue to be friendly and cordial. With France, Germany, Russia, Italy, and the minor European powers, with Brazil and most of the South American Republics, and with Japan, nothing has occurred during the year to demand especial notice.

The correspondence between the department of State and various diplomatic representatives, in or for those countries, is transmitted herewith. In executing the will of Congress, as expressed in its joint resolution of 14th of February last, and in accordance with the provisions of the resolution, a number of practical artisans of scientific men and of honorary commissions, were authorized to attend the Exposition at Vienna as commissioners on the part of the United States.

It is believed that we have obtained the object which Congress had in view, when it passed the joint resolution, in order to enable the people of the United States to participate in the advantages of an international exhibition of the products of agriculture, manufactures, and the fine arts, to be held at Vienna. I take pleasure in adding that the American exhibitors have received a gratifying number of diplomas and of medals. During the Exposition, a conference was held at Vienna for the purpose of consultation on the systems prevailing in different countries for the perfection of inventions. I authorized a representative from the Patent Office to be present at Vienna at the time when this conference was to take place, in order to aid as far as he might, in securing any possible additional protection to American inventors in Europe. The report of this agent will be laid before Congress.

It is my pleasant duty to announce to Congress that the Emperor of China on attaining his majority, received the diplomatic representatives of the Western powers in person. An account of these ceremonies, and of the interesting discussions which preceded them, will be found in the documents transmitted herewith. The accompanying papers show that some advance, although slight, has been made during the past year towards the suppression of the infamous Chinese Coolie trade. I recommend Congress to inquire whether additional legislation be not needed on this subject.

The money awarded to the United States by the tribunal of arbitration at Geneva was paid by Her Majesty's government a few days in advance of the time when it would have become payable according to the terms of the treaty. In compliance with the provisions of the act of March 3, 1873, it was at once paid into the Treasury and used to redeem so far as it might the public debt of the United States, and the amount so redeemed was invested in a five per cent. registered bond of the United States for fifteen million five hundred thousand dollars, which is now held by the Secretary of State subject to the future disposition of Congress. I renew my recommedation, made at the opening of the last session of Congress, that a commission be created for the purpose of auditing and determining the amounts of the several direct losses growing out of the destruction of vessels and their cargoes by the Alabama, the Florida or the Shenandoah, after leaving Melbourne, which the sufferers have received, being equivalent or compensatory, of ascertaining the names of persons entitled to receive compensation for the same, making the computations on the basis indicated by the tribunal of arbitration at Geneva, and the payment of such losses be authorized to an extent not to exceed the awards of the tribunal at Geneva.

By an act approved on the 14th day of February last, Congress made provision for completing, jointly with an officer or commissioner to be named by her Britannic Majesty, the determination of such of the boundary line between the territory of the United States and the possessions of Great Britain, as was left uncompleted by the commissioners appointed under the act of Congress of August 11, 1865. Under the provisions of this act, the northwest water boundary of the United States has been determined and marked in accordance with the award of the Emperor of Germany. A protocol and copy of the map upon which the line was thus marked are contained in the papers submitted herewith.

I also transmit a copy of the report of the Commissioners for marking the northern boundary between the United States and the British possessions west of the Lake of the Woods, and of the operations of the Commission during the past season, surveys have been made to a point 496 miles west of Lake of the Woods, leaving about 350 miles to be surveyed, the field work of which can be completed next season. The Mixed Commission organized under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington for settling and determining the claims of citizens of either power against the other, arising out of acts committed against their persons or property during the period between April 13, 1861, and April 9, 1865, made its final award on the 25th day of September last. It was awarded that the Government of the United States should pay to the Government of her Britannic Majesty within twelve months from the date of the award the sum of $1,929,819 in gold. The Commission disallowed or dismissed all other claims of British subjects against the United States. The amount of the claims presented by the British Government, but disallowed or dismissed, is understood to be $93,000.

It also disallowed all the claims of citizens of the United States against Great Britain, which were referred to it. I recommend the early passage of an act appropriating the amount necessary to pay this award against the United States.

I have caused to be communicated to the government of the King of Italy the thanks of this government for the eminent services rendered by Count Corti, as the third Commissioner of this Commission. With dignity, learning and impartiality, he discharged the duties requiring great labor and constant patience, to the satisfaction I believe of both governments.

I recommend legislation to create a special court, to consist of three judges, who shall be employed to hear and determine all claims of aliens upon the United States arising out of the acts committed against their persons or property during the insurrection.

The recent conference under the Treaty of Washington was confined to claims of British subjects, arising during the period named in the treaty, but it is understood that there are other British claims of a similar nature, arising after the 9th of April, 1865, and it is known that other claims of a like nature are advanced by citizens or subjects of other powers. It is desirable to have these claims, also, examined and disposed of.

Official information being received from the Dutch government of a state of war between the King of the Netherlands and the Sultan of Acheen, the officers of the United States who were near the seat of war were instructed to observe an impartial neutrality. It is believed that they have done so.

The joint commission under the convention with Mexico of 1868, having again been legally prolonged, has resumed its business, which it is hoped may be brought to an early conclusion. The distinguished representative of Her Britannic Majesty at Washington has kindly consented, with the approval of this government, to assume the arduous and responsible duties of umpire in this commission, and to lend the weight of his character and name to such decisions as may not receive the acquiescence of both the arbitrators appointed by their respective governments.

The commissioners appointed, pursuant to the authority of Congress, to examine into the nature and extent of the forays by trespassers from that country upon the herders of Texas, have made a report which will be submitted for your consideration.

The Venezuelan government has been apprised of the sense of Congress in regard to the award of the joint commission under the convention of the 25th of April, 1866, as expressed in the act of the 25th of February last. It is apprehended that that government does not realize the character of its obligations under that Convention. As there is reason to believe, however, that its hesitancy in recognizing them springs, in part at least from the real difficulty in discharging them in connection with its obligations to other governments, the expediency of further forbearance on our part, is believed to be worthy of your consideration.

The Ottoman government and that of Egypt have latterly shown a disposition to relieve foreign consuls of the judicial powers which heretofore they have exercised in the Turkish dominions, by the organization of other tribunals. As Congress, however, has by law, provided for the discharge of judical functions by the consuls of the United States in that quarter, under the treaty of 1830, I have not felt at liberty formally to accept the proposed change without the assent of Congress, whose decision upon the subject at as early a period as may be convenient is earnestly requested.

I transmit herewith for the consideration and determination of Congress an application of the Republic of Santo Domingo to this government to exercise a protectorate over that Republic.

Since the adjournment of Congress the following treaties with foreign powers have been proclaimed: A naturalization convention with Mexico for renewing the claims commission; a convention of friendship, commerce and extradition with the Orange Free State, and a naturalization convention with Ecuador.

I renew a recomendation made in my message of December, 1870, that Congress authorize the Postmaster General to issue all commissions to officials appointed through his department.

I invite the earnest attention of Congress to the existing laws of the United States respecting expatriation and the election of nationality by individuals. Many citizens of the United States reside permanently abroad with their families. Under the provisions of the act of February 10th, 1855, the children of such persons are to be deemed and taken to be citizens of the United States, but the rights of citizenship are not to decend to persons whose fathers never resided in the United States. It thus happens that persons who have never resided within the United States have been enabled to put forward a pretention to the protection of the United States against the claim of millitary service of the government, under whose protection they were born and and have been reared. In some cases even naturalized citizens of the United States have returned to the land of their birth with intent to remain there, and their children, the issue of a marriage contracted there after their return, and who have never been in the United States, have laid claim to our protection, when the lapse of many years have imposed upon them the duty of millitary service to the only government which had ever known them personally.

Until the year 1868, it was left embarrassed by the conflicting opinions of the courts and jurists to determine how far the doctrine of perpetual allegiance, derived from our former colonial relations with Great Britain, was applicable to Americans. Congress then wisely swept these doubts away by enacting, that any declaration, order or decision of any officer of this government, which denies, restricts, impairs or questions the right of expatriation, as inconsistent with the fundamental principles of the government. But Congress did not indicate in that statute, nor has it since done so, what acts are to be deemed the work of expatriation.

For my own guidance in determining such question, I required, under the provisions of the constitution, the opinion in writing of the principal officer in each of the executive departments, upon certain questions relating to this subject. The result satisfied me that further legislation has become necessary. I therefore commend the subject to the careful consideration of Congress; and I transmit here with copies of the several opinions of the principal officers of the executive departments, together with other correspondence and prominent information on the same subject.

The U. S., who led the way in the overthrow of the feudal doctrine of perpetual allegiance, are among the last to indicate how their own citizens may elect another nationality. The papers submitted herewith indicate what is necessary to place us on a par with other leading nations in liberality of legislation on this international question. We have already in our treaties assented to the principles which would need to be embodied in laws intended to accomplish such results.—We have agreed that citizens of the United States may cease to be citizens and may voluntarily render allegiance to other powers.—We have agreed that a residence in a foreign land, without intent to return, shall of itself work expatriation. We have agreed, in some instances, upon the length of time necessary for such intent. I invite Congress now to mark out and define when and how expatriation can be accomplished, to regulate by law the condition of American women marrying forigners, to fix the status of chirldren born in a foreign country of American parents residing more or less permanently abroad, and to make rules for determining such other kindred points as may seem best to Congress.

In compliance with the request of Congress I transmitted to the American Minister at Madrid with instructions to present it to the Spanish government, the joint resolution approved on the 3d of March last, tendering to the people of Spain, in the name and on behalf of the American people, the congratulations of Congress upon the efforts to consolidate in Spain the principles of universal liberty in a Republican form of government The existence of this new Republic was inaugurated by striking the fetters from the slaves in Porto Rico. This beneficent measure was followed by the release of several thousand persons illegally held as slaves in Cuba. Next the Captin General of that colony was deprived of the power to set aside the orders of his superiors at Madrid, which had pertained to the office since 1825.

The sequestered estates of American citizens, which had been the cause of long and frequent correspondence, were ordered to be restored to their owners. All these liberal steps were taken in the face of violent opposition, directed by the reactionary slaveholders of Havana, who are vainly striving to stay the march of the idea which has terminated slavery in Christendon, Cuba only excepted. Unhappily, however, this baneful influence has thus far succeeded in defeating the efforts of all liberal-minded men in Spain to abolish slavery in Cuba and in preventing the promised reforms in that island. The struggle for political supremacy continues. The proslavery and aristocracy in Cuba is equally gaining itself more and more upon the hostility of the home government, while it maintains a political connection with the Republic in the peninsula; and although usurping and defying the authority of the home government, wherever such usurpation or defence tends in the direction of oppression or of the maintainence of abuse, it is still a power in Madrid and recognized by the government, and thus an element more dangerous to continued colonial relations between Cuba and Spain, than that which inspired the insurrection of Yars. An element opposed to granting any relief from misrule and abuse, with no aspiration after freedom. commanding sympathies in generous breasts, aiming to rivet still stronger the shackles of slavery and oppression, has seized many of the emblems of power in Cuba, and under professions of loyalty to the mother country is exhausting the resources of the land, and is doing acts which are at variance with those principles of justice, of liberality and of right, which give nobility of character to a republic. In the interests of humanity, of civilization and progress, it is to be hoped that this evil influence may be soon averted.

The steamer Virginius was on the 26th day of September, 1870, duly registered at the principal port of the commercial marine of the United States. On the 4th of October, 1870, having received the certificate of her register in the usual legal form, she sailed from the port of New York and has not since been within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States. On the 31st day of October last, while sailing under the flag of the United States, on the high seas, she was forcibly seized by the Spanish gunboat Tornado, and was carried into the port of Santiago de Cuba, where many of her passengers and crew were inhumanly, and so far, at least, as relates to those who were citizens of the United States, were, without due process of law, put to death. It is a well-established principle, asserted by the United States from the beginning of her national independence, recognized by Great Britain and other maritime powers, and stated by the Senate in a resolution passed unanimously on the 16th of June, 1858, that American vessels on the high seas, in the time of peace, bearing the American flag, remain under the jurisdiction of the country to which they belong, and therefore any visitation, molestation or detention of such vessel by force, or by the exhibition of force, on the part of a foreign power is in derogation of the sovereignty of the United States. In accordance with this principle the restoration of the Virginius and the surrender of the survivors of her passengers and crew, and a due reparation to the flag and the punishment of the authorities who had been guilty of the illegal acts of violence, were demanded. The Spanish government has recognized the justice of the demand, and has arranged for the immediate delivery of the vessel, for the surrender of the survivors of the passengers and crew, and for a salute to the flag, and for proceedings looking to the punishment of those who may be proved to have been guilty of illegal acts of violence towards citizens of the United States, and also towards indemnifying those who may be shown to be entitled to indemnity.

A copy of the protocol of a conference between the Secretary of State and the Spanish Minister, in which the terms of this arrangement were agreed to will be transmitted herewith. The correspondence on this subject with the legation of the United States was in cypher and by cable, and needs the verification of the actual text of the correspondence. It has seemed to me to be due to the importance of the case not to submit this correspondence until the acurate text can be received by mail. It is expected shortly, and will be submitted when received.

In taking leave of this subject, for the present, I wish to renew the expression of my conviction that the existance of African slavery in Cuba is the principal cause of the lamentable condition of the island. I do not doubt that Congress shares with me the hope that it will soon be made to disappear, and that peace and prosperity may follow its abolition. The embargoing of American estates in Cuba, the cruelty to American citizens detected in no act of hostility to the Spanish government, the murdering of prisoners taken with arms in their hands; and, finally, the capture upon the high sea of a vessel sailing under the United States flag and bearing a United States registry, has culminated in an outburst of indignation, that has seemed for a time to threaten war. Pending negotiations between the United States and the government of Spain on the subject of this capture, I have authorized the Secretary of the Navy to put our Navy on a war footing, to the extent at least of the entire annual appropriation for that branch of the service, trusting to Congress and the public opinion of the American people to justify my action.

Assuming from the action of the last Congress, in appointing a committee on Privileges and Elections, to prepare and report to this Congress a constitutional amendment to provide a better method of electing the President and Vice President of the United States, and also from the necessity of such an amendment, that there will be submitted to the State legislatures for ratification such an improvement in our constitution, I suggest two others for your consideration;

First—To authorize the Executive to approve of so much of any measure passing the two houses of Congress as his judgment may dictate without approving the whole, the disapproved portion or portions to be subject to the same rules as now, to wit, to be referred back to the House in which the measure or measures originated, and if passed by a two-thirds vote of the two houses, then to become a law without the approval of the President. I would add to this a provision that there should be no legislation by Congress during the last twenty-four hours of its sitting, except upon vetoes, in order to give the Executive an opportunity to examine and approve or disapprove bills understandingly.

Second—To provide by amendment that when an extra session of Congress is convened by Executive proclamation, the legislation during such extra session shall be confined to such subjects as the executive may bring before it from time to time in writing.

The advantages to be gained by these two amendments are obvious. One session in each year is provided for by the constitution, in which there is no restriction as to the subjects of legislation by Congress. If more is required it is always in the power of Congress, during their term of office, to provide for sessions at any time. The first of the amendments would protect the public against the many abuses and waste of public moneys which creep into appropriation bills and other important measures passing during the expiration hours of Congress, to which otherwise due consideration cannot be given.

The receipts of the government from all sources for the last fiscal year were $333,738,204, and the expenditures on all accounts $290,345,245, thus showing an excess of receipts over expenditures of $43,393,959. But it is not probable that this favorable exhibit will be shown for the present fiscal year. Indeed, it is very doubtful whether, except with great economy on the part of Congress in making appropriations, and the same economy in administering the various departments of the government, the revenues will not fall short of meeting the actual expenses, including the interest on the public debt.

I commend to Congress such economy, and point out two sources where it seems to me it might commence, to wit, in the appropriations for public buildings in many cities where work has not been commenced, in the appropriations for river and harbor improvements in those localities where the improvements are of but little benefit to general commerce, and for fortifications. There is still a more fruitful source of expenditure, which I shall point out later in this message, I refer to the easy method of manufacturing claims for losses incurred in suppressing the late rebellion. I would not be understood here as opposing the erection of good, substantial, and even ornamental buildings by the government, wherever such buildings are needed. In fact, I approve of the government owning its own buildings in all sections of the country, and hope the day is not far distant when it will not only possess them but will erect in the capital suitable residences for all persons who now receive commutation for quarters or rent at government expense, and for the Cabinet—thus setting an example to the States, which may induce them to erect buildings for their Senators. But I would have this work conducted at a time when the revenues of the country would abundantly justify it.

The revenues have materially fallen off for the first five months of the present fiscal year from what they were expected to produce, owing to the general panic now prevailing, which commenced about the middle of September last. The full effect of this disaster, if it should not prove a blessing in disguise, is yet to be demonstrated. In either event it is your duty to heed the lesson, and provide by wise and well considered legislation, as far as it lies in your power, against its recurrence, and to take advantage of all the benefits that may have accrued My own judgment is that, however much individuals may have suffered, one long step has been taken toward specie payments; that we can never secure permanent prosperity until a specie basis is reached, and that a specie basis cannot be reached and maintained until our exports, exclusive of gold, pay for our imports, interest due abroad and other specie obligations, or so nearly so as to leave an appreciable accumulation of the precious metal in the country. From the products of our mines, the development of the mines of precious metals during the past year and the prospective development of them for years to come, are gratifying in their results.

Could one-half of the gold extracted from the mines be retained at home, our advance towards specie payments would be assured and help to increase our exports. Sufficient currency is required to keep all the industries of the country employed. Without this, national as well as individual bankruptcy must ensue. Undue inflation, on the other hand, while it might give temporary relief, would only lead to inflation of prices, the impossibility of competing in our own markets for the products of home skill and labor, and repeated renewals of the present experience. Elasticity to our circulating medium, therefore, and just enough of it to transact the legitimate business of the country and to keep all industries employed, is what is most desired.

The exact medium is specie, the recognized medium of exchange the world over. That obtained, we shall have a currency of an exact degree of elasticity. If there be too much of it for the legitimate purposes of trade and commerce, it will flow out of the country; if too little, the reverse will result. To hold what we have and to appreciate our currency to that standard, is a problem deserving of the most serious consideration of Congress.

The experience of the present panic has proved that the currency of the country, based as it is upon the credit of the country, is the best that has ever been devised. Usually in times of such trials currency has become worthless, or so much depreciated in value as to inflate the values of all the necessaries of life as compared with the currency, and every one holding it has been anxious to dispose of it on any terms. Now we witness the reverse. Holders of currency horde it as they did gold in former experiences of a like nature.

It is patent to the most casual observer, that much more currency or money is required to transact the legitimate trade of the country during the fall and winter months, when the vast crops are being removed, than during the balance of the year. With our present system the amount in the country remains the same throughout the entire year, resulting in an acumulation of all the surplus capital of the country in a few centers, when not employed in the moving of crops, tempted thereby by offers of interests on call loans. Interest being paid, this surplus capital must earn the interest paid with a profit. Being subject to call, it cannot be loaned only in par, at best, to the merchant or manufacturer for a fixed term. Hence, no matter how much currency there might be in the country, it would be absorbed, prices keeping pace with its volume, and panics, stringency and disasters would ever be recurring with the autumn. Elasticity in our monetary system, therefore, is the object to be attained. First and next to that, as far as possible, a prevention of the use of other peoples money in stock and other species of speculation. To prevent the latter, it seems to me that one great step would be taken by prohibiting the national banks allowing interest on deposits, by requiring them to hold their reserves in their own vaults, and by forcing them into resumption, though it would be in only legal tender notes. For this purpose I would suggest the establishment of clearing houses for your consideration.

To secure the former [illegible]

During [illegible] the country has been [illegible] operate [illegible] million [illegible] have been [illegible] capital [illegible] ties have [illegible] Spain. [illegible] his wages [illegible] greater [illegible] pockets [illegible]

These suggestions are [illegible] for your consideration [illegible]

[illegible] Congress can [illegible]

[illegible] ship building [illegible] commercial [illegible] very [illegible] the amount [illegible] which has taken place, it may reasonably be hoped that this change will be maintained and even increased. However, as we pay about $80,000,000 per annum to foreign vessels for the transportation of our surplus products to market, thus increasing the balance of trade against us to this amount, the subject is one worthy of your serious consideration.

Cheap transportation is a subject that has attracted the attention of both producers and consumers for the past few years, and has contributed to, if it has not been the direct cause of the recent panic and stringency. As Congress at its last session appointed a special committee to investigate this whole subject during the vacation and report at this session, I have nothing to recommend until their report is ready.

There is one work, however, of a national character in which the greater portion of the east and the west, the north and the south, are equally interested, to which I will invite your attention. The State of New York has a canal connecting Lake Erie with tide water in the Hudson river. The State of Illinois has a similar canal connecting Lake Michigan with the navigable waters of the Illinois River, thus making a water connection inland between the east and the west and south.— These great artificial water-courses are the property of the States through which they pass, and pay tolls to these States. Would it not be wise statesmanship to pledge these States, that if they will open these canals for the passage of large vessels, the government will look after and keep in navigable condition the great public highway with which they connect, to wit: the overslaugh on the Hudson, the St. Clair flats and the Illinois and Mississippi rivers. This would be a national work—one of great value to the producers of the West and South, in giving them cheap transportation for their produce to the seabord and a market, and to the consumers in the east in giving them cheaper food, particularly those articles of food which do not find a foreign market, and the prices of which therefore are not regulated by foreign demands. The advantages of such a work are too obvious for argument. I submit the subject to you, therefore, without further comment.

In attempting to regain our lost commerce and carrying trade, I have heretofore called attention to the States south of us, offering a field where much might be accomplished.— To further this object I suggest that a small appropriation be made, accompanied with authority for the Secretary of the Navy to fit out a naval vessel to ascend the Amazon river to the mouth of the Madeira, thence to explore that river and tributaries into Bolivia, and to report to Congress at its next session, or as soon as is practicable, the accessibility of the country by water, its resources and the population so reached. Such an exploration will cost but little. It can do no harm, and may result in establishing a trade of value to both nations.

In farther connection with the Treasury Department I would recommend a revision and codification of the tariff laws and the opening of more mints for coining, with authority to coin for such nations as may apply.

The attention of Congress is invited to the recommendations in the report of the Secretary of War, herewith accompanying. The apparent great cost of supporting the academy is fully explained in the report, and it will receive your attention. While inviting your attention to all the recommendations made by the Secretary of War, there are two which I would especially invite you to consider. First, the importance of preparing for war in time of peace, by providing a proper armament for our sea coast defences. A proper armament is of vastly more importance than fortifications. The latter can be supplied very speedily for temporary purposes, when needed, but the former cannot.

The second is the necessity of re-opening promotion in the staff corps of the army. Particularly is this necessity felt in the medical and ordinance departments. At this time it is necessary to employ contract surgeons to supply the necessary medical attention required by the army. With the present force of the pay department it is now difficult to make the payments to the troops provided for by law. Long delays in payment are productive of desertions and demoralizations, and the law prohibits the payment of troops by other than regular army paymasters. There are now sixteen vacancies in the ordinance department, thus leaving that branch of the service without sufficient officers to conduct the business of the different arsenals on a large scale, if ever required.

During the past year our navy has been reduced by the sale of some vessels no longer fit for naval purposes and by the dismantling of others not disposed of. This, however, has been more than compensated for by the repair of six of the old wooden ships and by the building of the eight new sloops of war authorized by the last Congress. The building of the latter has occurred at a doubly fortunate time. They are being completed when they will possibly be much needed, and the work upon them has not only given direct employment to thousands of men, but has no doubt been the means of keeping open establishments for other work at a time of great financial distress.

Since the commencement of the last month, however, the distressing occurrences which have taken place in the waters of the Carribean Sea, almost on our very seaboard, while they illustrate most forcibly the necessity always existing that a nation, situated as ours is, should remain in a state of efficiency a navy adequate to its responsibilities, have at the same time demanded that all the effective force we really have shall be put in immediate readiness for warlike service. This has been and is being done promptly and effectually, and I am assured that all the available ships and every authorized man of the American Navy, will be ready for whatever action is required for the safety of our cities or the maintenance of our honor. This, of course, will render the expenditure, in a short time, of some of the appropriations which were calculated to extend through the fiscal year; but Congress will I doubt not, understand and appreciate the emergency, and will provide adequately, not only for the present preparations, but for the future maintenance of our naval force.

The Secretary of the Navy has, during the past year, been quietly putting some of our most entensive monitors in condition for service, and thus the exigence finds us in a much better condition for service than we could possibly have been without his action.

A complete exhibit is presented in the accompanying report of the Postmaster General of the operations of the Post Office Department during the year. The ordinary revenues for the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1873, amounted to $22,996,741 75, and the expenditures of all kinds to $29,084,945 67. The increase in revenues in 1872 was $1,081,145 20, and the increase in expenditure, $215,573 38. Independent of the payments made from the special appropriations for the mail steamship lines the amount drawn from the general treasury to meet the deficiency was $5,265,475. The constant and rapid extension of our postal service, particularly upon the railways, and the improved facilities for the collection, transmission, distribution and delivery of the mails, which are constantly being provided, account for the increased expenditures of this popular branch of the public service.

The total number of post offices in operation on the 30th of June, 1873, was 33,244, a net increase of 1,381 over the number reported the preceding year. The number of Presidential offices was 1,639, an increase of 16 during the year. The total length of the railroad mail service at the close of the year was 63,457 miles, an increase of 5,516 miles over the year 1872. Fifty-nine railway post office lines were in operation on the 30th of June, 1873, extending over 14,866 miles of railroad routes, and performing an aggregate service of 34,925 miles daily. The number of letters exchanged with foreign countries was 27,459,185, an increase of 3,096,685 over the previous year, and the postage thereon amounted to $2,021,310 86. The total weight of the correspondence exchanged in the mails with European countries exceeded 912 tons, an increase of 92 tons over the previous year.

The total cost of the United States ocean mail steamship service, including $725,000 paid from special appropriations to the subsidized lines of mail steamers was $1,047,271 67. New and additional postal coventions have been concluded with Sweeden, Norway, Belgium, Germany, Canada, New Foundland and Japan, reducing the postal rates on correspondence exchanged with those countries, and further efforts have been made to conclude a satisfactory postal convention with France but without success.

I invite the favorable consideration of Congress to the suggestions and recommendations of the Postmaster General for an extension of the free delivery system in all cities having a population of not less than 10,000 for the prepayment of postage on newspapers and other printed matter of the second class; for a uniform postage and limit of weight on miscellaneous matter, for adjusting the compensation of postmasters not appointed by the President by the old method of commissions on the actual receipts of the office instead of the present mode of fixing the salary in advance upon special returns, and especially do I urge favorable action by Congress on the important recommendation of the Postmaster General for the establishment of United States postal savings depositories.

Your attention is also again called to a consideration of the question of postal telegraphs and the arguments adduced in support thereof, in the hope that you may take such action in connection therewith as in your judgment will most contribute to the best interests of the country.

Affairs in Utah require your early and special attention. The Supreme Court of the United States in the case of [illegible] vs Engelbrecht, decided that the United States Marshal of that Territory could not lawfully summon jurors for the District Courts, and those Courts hold that the Territorial Marshal cannot faithfully perform that duty, because he is elected by the Legislative Assembly and not appointed as provided for in the act organizing the Territory.

All proceedings at law are practically abolished by these decisions, and there have been but few or no jury trials in the District Courts of that Territory since the last session of Congress. Property is left without protection by the courts and crimes go unpunished. To prevent anarchy there it is absolutely necessary that Congress provide the courts with some mode of obtaining jurors, and I recommend legislation to that end, and also that the probate courts of the Territory, which now assume to issue writs of injunction and habeas corpus, and to try criminal cases and questions as to land titles, be denied all jurisdiction not possessed ordinarily by courts of that description.

I have become impressed with the belief that the act approved March 2d, 1867, entitled an act to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy through the United States, is productive of more evil than good at this time. Many considerations might be urged for its total repeal, but this is not considered advisable. I think it will not be seriously questioned that those portions of said act providing for what is called involuntary bankruptcy, operate to increase the financial embarrassments of the country. Careful and prudent men very often become involved in debt in the transaction of their business, and though they may possess ample property, if it could be made available for that purpose, to meet all their liabilities, yet on account of the extraordinary scarcity of money they may be liable to meet all their pecuniary obligations as they become due, in consequence of which they are liable to be prostrated in their business by proceedings in bankruptcy at the instance of unrelenting creditors.

People are now so easily alarmed as to momentary matters that the mere filing of a petition in bankruptcy by an unfriendly creditor, will necessarily embarrass and often times accomplish the financial ruin of a responsible business man. Those who otherwise might make lawful and just arrangement to relieve themselves from difficulties produced by the present stringency in money, are prevented by their constant exposure to attack and disappointment by proceedings in bankruptcy; and besides the law is made use of in many cases by creditors to frighten or force debtors into a compliance with their wishes, and into acts of injustice to other creditors and to themselves. I recommend that so much of said act as provides for involuntary bankruptcy, on account of the suspension of payments, be repealed.

Your careful attention is invited to the subject of claims against the government and the facilities afforded by existing laws for their prosecution. Each of the Departments of State, Treasury and War, have demands for many millions of dollars upon their files, and they are rapidly accumulating. To these may be added those now pending before Congress, the Court of Claims, and the Southern Claims Commission, making, in the aggregate, an immense sum.

Most of these grew out of the rebellion and are intended to indemnify persons on both sides for their losses during the war, and not a few of them are fabricated and supported by false testimony. Projects are on foot, it is believed, to induce Congress to provide for new classes of claims, and to revive old ones thro' the repeal or modification of the statute of limitation, by which they are now barred. I presume the schemes, if proposed, will be received with little favor by Congress, and I recommend that persons having claims against the U. S. recognizable by any tribunal or department thereof, be required to present them at an early day, and that legislation be directed, as far as practicable, to the defeat of unfounded and unjust demands upon the government; and I would suggest as a means of preventing fraud, that witnesses be called upon to appear in person to testify before these tribunals having said claims before for adjudication. Probably the largest saving to the national treasury can be secured by timely legislation on these subjects of any of the economic measures that will be proposed.

You will be informed of the operations of the department of justice by the report of the Attorney General, and I invite your attention to the amendments of existing laws suggested by him, with a view of reducing the expenses of that department and the department of the interior.

The policy inaugurated towards the Indians at the beginning of the last administration, has been steadily pursued, and I believe with beneficial results. It will be continued with only such modifications as time and experience may demonstrate as necessary. With the encroachment of civilization upon the Indian reservation and hunting grounds, disturbances have taken place between the Indians and whites during the past year, and probably will continue to do so until each race appreciates that the other has rights which must be respected.

The policy has been to collect the Indians as rapidly as possible within what is known as the Indian Territory, and to teach them the arts of civilization and self-support. When found off their reservations, and endangering the peace and safety of the whites, they have been punished, and will continue to be for like offences.

The Indian Territory south of Kansas and west of Arkansas is sufficient in area and agricultural resources to support all the Indians of the Rocky Mountains. In time, no doubt, all of them, except a few who may elect to make their homes among the white people, will be collected there. As a preparatory step for this consummation, I am now satisfied that a territorial form of government should be given them, which will secure by treaty the rights of the original settlers and protect their homesteads from alienation for a period of twenty years.

The operations of the Patent Office are growing to such magnitude and the accumulation of material is becoming so great, that the necessity for more room is becoming obvious day by day. I respectfully invite your attention to the reports of the Secretary of the Interior and Commissioner of Patents on this subject.

The business of the general land office exhibits a material increase in all its branches during the last fiscal year. During that time there was disposed out of the public lands 13,030,606 acres more than was disposed of the preceding year. Of the amount disposed of 1,626,266 acres were sold for cash, 214,940 acres were located with military land warrants, 3,793,612 acres were taken for homesteads, 653,446 acres were located with agricultural college scrip, 6,083,536 acres were certified by railroads, 76,576 acres were granted to wagon roads, 238,548 acres were approved to States as swamp lands, 138,681 acres were certified for agricultural colleges, common schools, universities and seminaries, 190,775 acres were approved so States for internal improvements, and 14,222 acres were located with Indian scrip.

The cash receipts during the same time were $3,408,515 50, being $126,115 50 in excess of the receipts of the previous year. During the year 30,488,132 acres of public lands were surveyed, an increase of the amount surveyed the previous year of 1,037,193 acres, and added to the area previously surveyed, aggregates 626,354,895 acres which have been surveyed, leaving 1,918,443,565 acres of the public land still unsurveyed.

The increased and steadily increasing facilities for reaching our unoccupied public domain, and for the transportation of surplus products, enlarge the available field for desirable homestead localities, thus stimulating settlement and extending year by year, in a gradually increasing ratio, the area of occupation and cultivation.

The expressed desire of the representatives of a large colony of citizens of Russia to emigrate to this country, as is understood with the consent of their government, if certain concession can be made to enable them to settle in a compact colony, is of a great interest, as going to show the light in which our institutions are regarded by an industrious, intelligent, and wealthy people, desirous of enjoying civil and religious liberty; and the acquisition of citizens of a superior class, would without doubt be of substantial benefit to the country. I invite attention to the suggestions of the Secretary of the Interior in this behalf.

There was paid during the last fiscal year for pensions, including the expenses of disbursements, $29,185,289 62, being an amount less by $984,050 98 than was expended for the same purpose the preceding year. Although this statement of expenditures would indicate a natural reduction in amount compared with the preceding year, it is believed that the changes in the pension laws at the last session of Congress will absorb that amount the current year.

At the close of the last fiscal year there were on the pension rolls 99,804 invalid military pensioners, and 112,088 widows, orphans, and dependant widows of deceased soldiers, making the total of that class 211,892; 18,266 survivors of the war of 1812, and 5,053 widows of the war, pensioned under the act of Congress of Feb. 14, 1871, making a total of that class of 23,319; 1,430 invalid navy pensioners, and 1,770 widows and orphans and dependant relatives of deceased officers, sailors and marines of the navy, making a total of naval pensioners of 3,200, and a grand total of pensioners of all classes of 238,411, showing a net increase during the last fiscal year of 6,212. During the last fiscal year the names of 16,405 pensioners were added to the rolls, and 10,223 names were dropped therefrom for various causes.

The system adopted for the detection of frauds against the government in the matter of pensions, has been productive of satisfactory results, but legislation is needed to provide if possible against the perpetration of such frauds in future.

The evidently increasing interest in the cause of education is a most economizing feature in the general progress and prosperity of the country, and the Bureau of Education is in earnest in its efforts to give proper direction to the new applicants and increased facilities which are being offered to aid the education of the country.

The ninth census has been completed, and the report thereof published and distributed, and the working force of the bureau disbanded. The Secretary of the Interior renews his recommendation for a census to be taken in 1875, to which subject the attention of Congress is invited. The original suggestion in that behalf has met with the general approval of the country, and even if it be not deemed advisable at the present to provide for a regular quinquiennial census, a census taken in 1875, the report of which could be completed and published before the one hundredth anniversary of our independence, would be especially interesting and valuable as showing the progress of the country during the first century of our national experience.

It is believed, however, that a regular census every five years would be of substantial benefit to the country, inasmuch as our growth hitherto has been so rapid that the results of the decennial census are necessarily unreliable as a basis of estimates for the later years of a decennial period.

Under the very efficient management of the Governor and the Board of Public Works of this district, the city of Washington is rapidly assuming the appearance of a capital of which the nation may well be proud. From being a most unsightly place three years ago, disagreeable to pass through in summer, in consequence of the dust arising from unpaved streets, and almost impassable in the winter from the mud, it is now one of the most sightly cities in the country, and can boast of being the best paved. The work has been done systematically, the plans, grades, location of sewers, water and gas mains being determined upon before the work was commenced, thus securing permanency when completed.

I question whether so much has ever been accomplished before in any American city for the same expenditures. The government having large reservations in the city and the nation at large having an interest in their capital, I recommend a liberal policy toward the District of Columbia, and the government should bear its just share of the expense of these improvements. Every citizen visiting the capital feels a pride in its growing beauty, and that he too is part owner in the investments made here.

I would suggest to Congress the propriety of promoting the establishment in this District of an institution of learning or a university of the highest class, by the donation of lands. There is no place better situated for such an institution than the national capital, and there is no other place in which every citizen is so directly interested.

In three successive messages to Congress I have called attention to the subject of civil service reform. Action has been taken so far as to authorize the appointment of a board to devise rules governing the methods of making appointments and promotions, but there never has been any action making these rules or any rules binding, or even entitled to observance, where persons desire the appointment of a friend or the removal of an official who may be disagreeable to them. To have any rules effective they must have the acquiescence of Congress as well as the Executive.

I recommend therefore the subject to your attention and suggest that a special committee of Congress might confer with the civil rights board during the present session, for the purpose of devising such rules a can be maintained, and which will secure the services of honest and capable officials, and which will also protect them in a degree of independence while in office. Proper rules will protect Congress as well as the Executive from much needless precaution, and will prove of great value to the public at large.

I would recommend for your favorable consideration the passage of an enabling act for the admission of Colorado as a State in the Union. It possesses all the elements of a prosperous State, agricultural, and mineral, and I believe has a population to justify such an admission.

I would also recommend the encouragement of a canal for the purpose of irrigation, from the eastern step of the Rocky Mountains to the Missouri river. As a rule, I am opposed to the donation of public lands for internal improvements to be owned and controlled by private corporations, but in this instance I would make an exception.

Between the Missouri river and the Rocky Mountains there is an arid belt of public land from 300 to 500 miles in width, perfectly valueless for the occupation of man, far want of sufficient rain to strengthen the growth of any products. An irrigating canal would make productive a belt as wide as the supply of water could be made to spread over across this entire country, and would secure a cordon of settlements, connecting the present population of the mountain and mining regions with that of the older states, and all the land reclaimed would be clear gain. If alternate sections were retained by the government, I would suggest that the retained sections be thrown open to entry under the homestead laws or sold to actual settlers for a very low price.

I renew my previous recommendation to Congress for a general amnesty. The number engaged in the late rebellion and lately laboring under disabilities, is very small, but enough to keep up a constant irritation, and no possible danger can accrue to the government by restoring them to elegibility to hold office.

I suggest for your consideration the enactment of a law to better secure the civil rights which freedom should secure, but has not effectually secured to the enfranchised slave.

U. S. GRANT.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, Dec. 1, 1873.

New Advertisements.

HEADQUARTERS

FOR

WATCHES, JEWELRY

AND

SILVERWARE!

M. HENDELMAN

Has opened a

NEW JEWELRY STORE, ON BRIDGE STREET

In the building formerly occupied by Young & Titus, with a large assortment of Gold and Silver

American and Swiss Watches,

Fine Gold Jewelry, Gold Sets,

CHAINS AND RINGS,

CHAIN BRACELETS.

BUTTONS, PINS, &c. &c. &c. &c.

A full line of SOLID SILVER and plated ware;

SPECTACLES AND EYE GLASSES

Of all kinds—Gold, Silver and Steel.

CLOCKS

From the cheapest to the best, and many other articles too numerous to mention, but to be seen by calling. M. HENDELMAN.

N. B. Watches, Clocks and Jewelry repaired by practical workmen, and warranted.

Towanda, Nov. 10. '73

WICKHAM & BLACK

HAVE THE BEST STOCK OF

CROCKERY,
GLASSWARE,
CHINA,
LAMPS,
CHIMNEYS,
STONE WARE,
WOOD WARE,
SILVER PLATED BRITANNIA
AND
GERMAN SILVER WARE,
FANCY GOODS,
KNIVES AND FORKS,
SPOONS,
BIRD CAGES,
TOILET SETS,
LANTERNS,
GLOBES,

TOYS, TOYS, TOYS.

AT

WICKHAM & BLACK'S.

Towanda Dec 3 '73.

ELIE LAVOIE

Offers an immense stock of

HUMAN HAIR,

At great reductions. Now is the time for bargains in

HAIR WORK,

AT MRS. J. D. HILL'S FANCY STORE, BRIDGE STREET, TOWANDA, PA.—LAVOIE'S BRANCH HAIR PALACE, OF ELMIRA, N. Y.

Nov. 25, '73.

SCHOLARSHIP FOR COMMERCIAL COURSE IN KINGSTON COLLEGE FOR SALE.—Ten dollars can be saved to any one desiring such a Scholarship. For further particulars call at this office, or address

F. T. CAMP,
Ballibay, Bradford Co., Pa.

Nov. 26-w3*

Miscellaneous.

"A WOLF
IN SHEEP CLOTHING."

JULIUS WOLF

Begs to inform his numerous customers, and all who desire to avail themselves of an opportunity to supply themselves with

THE BEST WINTER CLOTHING,

AT VERY LOW PRICES,

That he has just opened the best stock of Goods for

MENS' AND BOYS' WEAR

Ever displayed in the market.

REMEMBER that my goods are all FIRST-CLASS and WARRANTED WELL MADE.

One door South of FOX & MERCUR'S.

JULIUS WOLF.

Oct. 1, 1873.

DRY GOODS

AT

REDUCED PRICES!

TAYLOR & Co.

Invite the attention of the trade to their large and new stock of

WINTER GOODS,
DRESS GOODS.
WOOLENS,
SHAWLS,
FURS,
HOSIERY,
NOTIONS,
FLANNELS.
SHIRTINGS.
SHEETINGS,
CALICOES. &c.

A GREAT REDUCTION has been made in ALL our departments, and we respectfully invite customers to examine our stock before purchasing.

TAYLOR & Co.

Towanda, Nov. 12, 1873.

NEW FURNITURE STORE.

JOSEPH HINES

Has now opened a new Furniture Store on

BRIDGE STREET, TOWANDA,

Where he will keep on hand

A GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF FURNITURE,

Which will be sold

AT PRICES THAT CANNOT FAIL TO PLEASE

All who may favor him with their patronage.

Whatever may be wanted in the Furniture line,

CALL ON HINES

and examine goods and prices before purchasing elsewhere. May 21, 1873.

AYER'S CATHARTIC PILLS,

FOR ALL THE PURPOSES OF A FAMILY PHYSIC,

Curing Costiveness, Jaundice, Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Dysentery, Foul Stomach and Breath, Erysipelas, Headache, Piles, Rheumatism, Eruptions and Skin Diseases, Billiousness, Liver Complaint, Dropsy, Tetters, Tumors and Salt Rheum, Worms, Gout, Neuralgia, as a Dinner Pill, and Purifying the Blood, are the most congenial purgative yet perfected. Their effects abundantly show how much they excel all other Pills. They are safe and pleasant to take, but powerful in cure. They purge out the foul humors of the blood; they stimulate the sluggish or disordered organ into action; and they impart health and tone to the whole being. They cure not only the every day complaints of every body, but formidable and dangerous diseases. Most skilful physicians, most eminent clergymen, and our best citizens, send certificates of cures performed and of great benefits they have derived from these Pills. They are the safest and best physic for children, because mild as well as effectual. Being sugar coated, they are easy to take; and being purely vegetable they are entirely harmless.

PREPARED BY

DR. J. C. AYER & CO., LOWELL, MASS.,
Practical and Analytical Chemists.
Sold by all Druggists and Dealers in Medicine.

August 28

FOX & MERCUR do not deal in Shoddy Goods. Jan. 28, 1873.

New Advertisements.

CODDING, RUSSELL & Co.,

TOWANDA, PA.,

Would say to their customers that, although there has been no change in price with manufacturers, that they have made considerable reductions in the prices of several patterns of stoves, so that buyers will always consult their own interests by purchasing of them. They sell the

TRIBUNE,
MAGIC SHIELD,
ROYAL ARCH
DIRECTOR,
AMERICAN,
MERRY CHRISTMAS,
MONITOR,
EXCELSIOR RANGE,
CABINET RANGE,
SPEARS ANTI CLINKER,
ARGAND,
AMERICAN BASE BURNER,
FAVORITE,
GLOBE.
ILLUMINATOR.
AMERICAN PARLOR OVEN,
PARLOR HEATERS,
BALTIMORE HEATERS.

These are the leading stoves of the day; besides which they also have many other patterns, from eight dollars upward.

REYNOLDS,
ORIENTAL
AND
BOYNTON
HEATERS,

Cornells Shellers,
Blood's Shellers,
Iron Shellers,

DEXTER,
CHAFFEE
AND GALE
FEED CUTTERS.

PARKER'S SHOT GUNS,
RIFLES,
REVOLVERS,
CARTRIDGES,
ALLENTOWN LIME.
COPLAY CEMENT,
The best in use.
KEROSENE LAMPS,
CHIMNEYS,
WOODEN WARE
COAL HODS,
POKERS,
LANTERNS,
CLOTHES WRINGERS,
POLISHING BRICK,
BRASS KETTLES,
COPPER KETTLES.

Gas Pipe Plumbing, Tin work, and all kinds of repairing on short notice.

CODDING, RUSSELL & Co.

Towanda, Nov. 18, '73.

Miscellaneous.

FROST & SONS

Would invite the Public to call and examine their

NEW STYLES OF FURNITURE

OF THEIR OWN MANUFACTU

They have now on hand the

LARGEST AND BEST

ASSORTMENT OF GOODS

EVER IN TOWANDA,

Which will be sold at Wholesale prices.

We are also prepared to do

UNDERTAKING

on the most reasonable terms.

We also keep in store and make to order

SASH,
BLINDS,
DOORS,
MOULDINGS,
FLOORINGS, &c.

J. O. FROST & SONS.

Oct. 1, 1873.

FALL, 1873.

EVANS & HILDRETH

CALL THE ATTENTION OF BUYERS OF

DRY GOODS

To their large and varied assortment of

FALL AND WINTER GOODS.

EVERY DEPARTMENT COMPLETE,

AND EVERY ARTICLE AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICE.

Please call and examine Qualities and Prices, at

EVANS & HILDRETH,
Bridge Street.

Towanda, Sept 24, 1873