

**The Post,**  
MIDDLEBURG, DEO. 7, 1871.

J. CROUSE, Editor and Proprietor.

FOR GOVERNOR IN 1872,  
MON. JOHN E. PACKER,  
OF SUNBURY.

**The Message.**

The President's Message was received too late for this week's *Post* but we will give it in full next week. It is long, but not so long when the importance of the subjects treated is considered. It is a model business paper and every voter ought to read it. Its main grain features are thus briefly etched by the Philadelphia Press:

First. General Grant—and Pennsylvania thanks him therefore—takes a bold and decided stand on the question of Protection. His financial policy having resulted in a reduction of the debt so gratifying that it call for a reduction of taxation, the President recommends that in readjusting the tariff it be done so as not to disturb home production or to reduce the wages of the American laborer. For this recommendation the President will be remembered in the workshops and the fire-sides of hundreds of thou-sands of grateful men.

Second. The President stands now, as in the past, on his tried old platform of "Enforcement of the Laws." The Ku Klux of Carolina and the polygamists of Utah alike must render obedience to the United States statutes, no matter how local custom, or passion, or pride may conflict.

Third. The President presses in a variety of shapes his already historic policy of Retirement and Economy. The national debt has been reduced during the year eighty-two millions, and by this reduction of principle and the refunding of a portion of the ban annual interest account has been lessened nearly seventeen millions. This magnificent exhibit alone should satisfy the country on this point, but the message throughout abounds in practical and pregnant suggestions and recommendations in the way of economical management and the saving of cash and of force.

Fourth. The President makes haste to lift from the shoulders of the people the burdens of the war. The message recommends, in view of the rapid diminution of the debt, the abolition of all internal revenue taxes, save those on liquors, tobacco, and stamps. This sweeps away the income tax—the tax on the bonds and securities of corporations, which transmutes the investment of personal property, the blood of the nation—and simplifies at a dash the whole system sweeping away nearly the entire cumbersome machinery of war taxation. Another term of Grant, and we may almost hope to extinguish the fatal legacy of the dying Democratic party.

Fifth. General Grant carries the flag of Radical Reform. Nearly every paragraph reveals how its author is instinct with the life of progress. He declares:

For stringent legislation providing against the dealing in or ownership of slave property by American citizens in any country;

For the more practical recognition of the brotherhood of man in our diplomatic relations with the Asiatic races;

For the postal telegraph reform; and

For civil service reform, which he declares "shall have a fair trial."

Could there be any better evidence that our political chief, now as when leading the army, is heading the advance of the country?

**Col. Cathoum.**

There is something manly and soldierly in the following address of Col. A. R. Cathoum, resigning his post as Commander of the Department of Pennsylvania of the Grand Army of the Republic, and no one can read these frank and honest words without believing him still worthy of the confidence and affection of his countrymen:

HEADQUARTERS G. A. R.,  
DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA.  
PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 22, 1871.  
To the Council of Administration, Department of Pennsylvania, G. A. R.  
COMMANDER: I hereby tender my resignation as Commander of the Department of Pennsylvania, Grand Army of the Republic.

The command of the department will, therefore, devolve from this date on Colonel Howard J. Reed, Senior Vice Commander, headquarters, Easton, Pennsylvania.

I deem it proper before closing this letter to state briefly the motive that induced me to surrender a position of so much honor, and so indicative of your confidence, which for two years I have held by the almost unanimous voice of the department through its representatives.

In our order there are thousands of men who differ from me in politics, many of whom have held, like myself, public positions of well-deserved honor and trust, by election or appointment. In April 1869, the President saw fit to appoint me pension agent at Philadelphia. My duty was to pay the mothers, widows, fathers, and children of my fallen comrades in this State, and to the best of my abilities I have faithfully done this work; for I never saw old mother coming to me for her money that she did not suggest a brave boy sleeping on a Southern battlefield, where he died for principles. Every widow and child called to mind a manly form striken down for country, by hunger, the bullet, or disease. I could do no wrong to the living so near to the presence of the dead.

Having tried, in this my adopted home, to make myself known as one whose past record for principle could not be tarnished by any present love for gain, I disbursed to the best of my ability nearly four million of Government money since I came into office.

During this time I was mainly instrumental in changing the payments to quarterly instead of semi-annually, and in making the government pay the fees from which I derive my salary, and not the poor pensioners. This doubled my work without increasing my pay. I gave, since being in office four hundred thousand security in two bonds.

My first bond was broken up by the withdrawal of a prominent gentleman in this State, last January, who "wished," as he said, "to limit his obligations." While making my second bond, my funds became exhausted but to help the widows and orphans friends. Our revolutionary fathers were indebted to Gathering the Second for diplomatic recognition, and from that day to this there has been no interruption of kindly relations. During the Slaveholders' Rebellion Russia's sympathies were with the North, and steadily resisted all efforts on the part of other European powers to have her take an unfriendly stand. Hence the young prince will receive a cordial greeting, because of the steady friendship of the great Empire he represents.

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