

J. CROUSE, Editor & Prop.

COMMANDEUR BLAINE telegraphs the navy department that an American man-of-war could silence all the batteries at Santiago de Cuba in one hour.

The annual report of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue discloses the interesting fact that the receipts from the distillation and sale of liquor amount to more than one half of the whole sum realized from internal revenue.

The Boston Advertiser says: "The reports from the manufacturing sections of the country, particularly from New England and other places, begin to be of a more cheering temper, and there is news of the resumption of business in several instances and of running the manufacturing on increased time."

Bloomfield, Perry county, was visited by a destructive fire on Friday evening, a week, and property to the amount of \$20,000 destroyed. Grier's Hotel and the building in which the Advocate and Press was published were among those burned. Mr. Shiebel, the owner of the Press, had an insurance of \$1,500 in the Lebanon company.

New York, Dec. 12.—Many large establishments in different departments of trade are still closed, while the majority of the others are working short-handed, or on reduced wages. Thousands of the poorer class of citizens are in utter destitution and must pass a terrible winter unless material help comes soon in the shape of a substantial stimulus to trade.

Evidently there is no overwhelming sentiment in Congress in favor of immediate specie payments. The House on Tuesday passed a bill authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to redeem the \$20,000,000 of bonds of 1873, either by paying coin or exchanging them for five per cent, according to the option of the holder.

General Indian Agents. We are afraid there is more truth than fancy in the following statement of the way in which some Indian Agents manage to fleece both the Indians and the government. The Delegate to Congress from Montana, Hon. Martin Magennis, tells the story. He says: "They (the Indian Agents) will take a barrel of sugar to an Indian and get a receipt for ten barrels; just so they will take one sack of flour and get a receipt for fifty. They will take 300 head of cattle, march them four times through the corral, get a receipt for 1,200, give part of them to the Indians, sell part to a white man, and steal as many back as possible. It is of no use to complain; they know how to do it."

Cuba. HAVANA, Dec. 11.—There are rumors of a severe engagement in the vicinity of Las Tunas. The journals are silent about it.

Captain General Jovellar to-night issued an address to the people of Cuba, saying: "The moment a treaty is signed between the Governments of Spain and the United States, my duty, although painful it may be, is to comply faithfully with its terms. For this I have received final orders. Failure to comply with the same would produce war, and with a great Power, without the aid of Spain. In the meanwhile obey the laws of necessity and the orders of the Government of the Spanish Republic. Let us deliver up the Virginias and the survivors of her passengers and crew. I have faith in the nobleness of your procedure in compliance with my word."

JOAQUIN JOVELLAR. New York, Dec. 10. A Washington special says news was received there yesterday that the Spanish cabinet had formally agreed to the demands of the United States as set forth in the protocol signed by Secretary Fish and Admiral Polo, and that the agreement had received the official signatures. The Virginias will be restored to the United States on Christmas day.

Free Transmission of Papers and Periodicals. On Thursday last Congressman Albright, of this state, introduced the following bill, "relating to the free transmission by mail of newspapers and periodicals." It was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads. It is entitled by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the publishers of newspapers and periodicals may send to each other from their respective offices of publication, free of postage, one copy of each publication; and may also send to each actual subscriber, inclosed in their publications, bills and receipts for the same, free of postage. The publishers of weekly newspapers may send to each actual subscriber within the county where their papers are printed and published, one copy thereof, free of postage. Sec. 2. That all laws and parts of laws inconsistent with the provisions of the foregoing section be, and the

The vessel. The crowded steamer... forbids our giving the... fire, but we give the most important parts:

Washington, December 2, 1873.—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 partisanship 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, preferable 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 special notice. * * * 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 millions five hundred thousand dollars, which is now held by the secretary of state, subject to the future disposition of congress.

In referring to the trouble with Spain the President says: "The steamer Virginias was on the 26th day of September, 1873, duly registered at the port of New York as a part of the commercial marine of the United States on the 4th of October 1873. 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 seen 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 carried into the port of Santiago de Cuba, where many of her passengers and crew were inhumanly treated, 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 their national independence, recognized by Great Britain and other maritime powers, and stated by the senate in a resolution passed on the 16th of June 1858 that American vessels on the high seas in time of peace bearing the American flag remain under the jurisdiction of the country to which they belong, and therefore any visitation, molestations or detention of such vessels by force or by the exhibition of force on the part of a foreign power, is in derogation of the United States. In accordance with this principle the restoration of the Virginias and the surrender of the survivors of her passengers and crew, and a due reparation to the authorities who had been guilty of the illegal acts or violence were demanded. The Spanish government has recognized the justice of the demand and has arranged for the immediate delivery of the vessel and of 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 have been shown to be entitled to indemnity.

"In taking leave of this subject for the present I wish to renew the expression of my conviction that the existence of African slavery in Cuba is a 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 embargo of American estates in Cuba, 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 seas, of a vessel sailing under the United States flag and bearing a United States registry, has culminated in an outbreak of indignations that has seemed for a time to threaten war. Pending negotiation 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 directing the 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 or any measure passing the two houses of

without approving the whole, approved portion or portions subjected to the same rules as to wit: 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 the law a provision that there should be no legislation by congress during the last twenty-four hours of its sitting, except upon vetoes or 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, legislation, during the continuance of such extra sessions, shall be confined to such subjects as the executive may bring before it from time to time in writing."

The President also suggests that greater economy be used in the appropriations for public service and the public buildings. He also acknowledges the necessity of some improvement in our currency, and suggests that national banks be forbidden to pay interest on deposits and required to hold a large reserve in their vaults. He also suggests other steps looking towards resumption, but says he has not reflected enough on the subject to make any positive recommendation. In referring to claims against the government the President says: "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 which were 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 through the repeal or modification of the statute of limitations by which they are now barred. I presume these schemes, if proposed will be received with little favor by congress, and I recommend that persons having claims against the United States, cognizable 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 treasury."

Referring to the report of the Post Master General the President says: "I invite 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 pre-payment 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 all postmasters not appointed by the President, by the methods of commissions on actual receipts of the office, instead of the present mode of paying by salary in advance upon special returns, and especially due I urge favorable action by congress, on the important recommendations of the postmaster-general for the establishment of the United States postal savings depositories.

Your attention is also again called to a consideration of the question of postal telegraph and the arguments 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."

The President recommends the repeal of so much of the bankrupt act as provides for involuntary bankruptcy. He also suggests the taking of the census every five years; the passing of an act for the admission of Colorado as a state in the union, and the building of a canal from the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountain to the Missouri river. He concludes his message with the following: "I renew my previous recommendation to congress for general amnesty. The number engaged in the late rebellion, yet laboring under disabilities, is very small, but enough to keep up a constant irritation. No possible danger can accrue to the government by restoring them to eligibility to hold office.

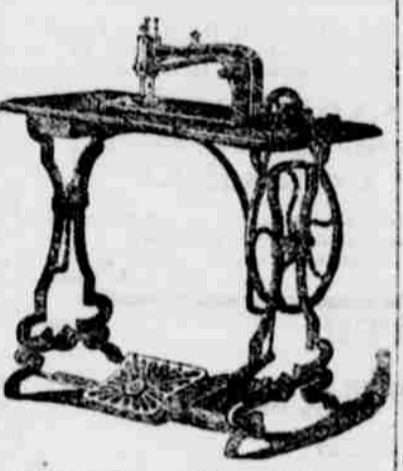
I suggest for your consideration the enactment of a law to better secure the civil rights which freedom should secure, but has not effectually secured to those enfranchised. (Signed) U. S. GRANT.

LONDON, Dec. 9. A dense fog hangs over this city. At this hour (2 P.M.) it is as dark as night. Locomotion is slow and hazardous. LATER.—The fog has increased to a density which is said to be almost without a precedent. It is impossible to transact business, and all traffic has ceased. The streets are filled with men and boys bearing torches to light pedestrians on their way.

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Being the Combined Stocks of ALL Departments,
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CLOTHING
FOR
Men, Youths & Boys,
AT STILL
LARGER DISCOUNT IN PRICE.
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Wanamaker & Brown desire to make it widely known that the whole of their stock of newly manufactured Men's, Youths' and Boys' Clothing, guaranteed to be of Reliable Material, Fashionable Cut and Substantial Make, is arranged for a
REALIZING SALE
At a new and lower scale of prices.
The improvements in our business the past year have enabled us to cheapen prices and increased in many ways the advantages of our customers.
IMPORTANT FACT.—We have abundant testimony every day that it is impossible for any other house to sell as cheaply, and no one now questions the superiority of our make of both Men's and Boys' Clothing, while
THE ASSORTMENT IS SIX-FOLD
LARGER THAN ANYWHERE ELSE.
This is a special opportunity.—Our re-arrangements require the immediate disposal of some hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of goods, and we are offering the most reasonable and fashionable overcoats and suits for both men and boys at
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And the people who have made purchases since the sale began are highly delighted with their bargains and are sending in their friends,
MEN'S OVERCOATS.—Splendid lots of blue and black beaver; Kerseys in dark olive, brown and London smoke colors.
An unusual cheap lot of Chinchillas and other fabrics that make very warm and comfortable garments.
Our Garrieks and Capes are the cheapest yet offered.
MEN'S SUITS FOR DRESS WEAR.—Very much under regular prices.—Every one expecting to buy a black or blue suit should avail himself of the great bargain lots now spread upon our counters.
Every day suits will be cleared out at astonishingly low prices considering the qualities and excellent make.
Particular lots of warm and long coats for business and street purposes are offered at excellent bargains.
Pants and vests rooms contain hundreds of patterns in variety of colors and qualities, to fit every size and pocket. Every one wanting good wearing garments may be sure to get them from our present stock.
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