

supplies at Cape Sardinia, while returning to St. Lawrence Bay across the ice in a blinding snow storm, was carried out to sea and lost, notwithstanding all efforts to rescue him.

It appears by the Secretary's report, that the available naval force of the United States consists of 37 cruisers, 14 torpedo monitors, built during the rebellion, and a few of smooth bore guns and parrot rifles, and 87 rifled cannon. The cruising vessels should be gradually replaced by iron or steel ships. The monitors by modern armored vessels, and the armament by high power rifled guns. The reconstruction of our navy, which was recommended in my last message, was begun by Congress authorizing, in its recent act, the construction of two large unarmored steel vessels of the character recommended by the late Naval Advisory Board, and subject to the final approval of a new Advisory Board to be organized as provided by that act. I call your attention to the recommendation of the Secretary and the Board, that authority be given to construct two more cruisers of smaller dimensions and one fleet despatch vessel, for which appropriations have been made for the torpedo service and for other harbor defenses. Pending the consideration by Congress of the policy to be hereafter adopted in conducting the eight large navy yards and their extensive establishments, it is recommended that reduction of expenditures therefor to the lowest possible amounts.

For the purpose of affording the officers and seamen of the navy opportunities for exercise and discipline in their profession under appropriate control and direction, the Secretary advises that the light house service and coast survey be transferred to the Navy Department, and he also suggests for the reasons which he assigns that a similar transfer may wisely be made of the cruising revenue vessels. The Secretary forcibly depicts the intimate connection of the navy and the commercial marine, and invites attention to the continued decadence of the latter and the corresponding transfer of our growing commerce to foreign bottoms. This subject of one of the utmost importance to the national welfare. Methods of improvement in our ship building and of restoring the United States flag in the Ocean carrying trade should receive the immediate attention of Congress. We have mechanical skill and abundant material for the manufacture of modern iron steamships in competition with our commercial rivals. Our disadvantage in building ships is the greater cost of labor and in sailing them, higher taxes and greater interest on capital, while the ocean highways are already monopolized by our formidable competitors. These conditions should be overcome and for our rapid communication with foreign lands we should not continue to depend wholly on vessels built in the yards of other countries and sailing under foreign flags. With no United States steamers on the principal ocean routes, our commercial empire is greatly restricted. While the nations which build, sail the ships and carry the mails and passengers obtain thereby conspicuous advantages in increasing their trade.

The report of the Postmaster General gives evidence of the satisfactory condition of this Department, and contains many valuable data and accompanying suggestions which cannot fail to be of interest. The information which it affords that the receipts for the fiscal year have exceeded the expenditures must be very gratifying to Congress and to the people. House Representatives for the reduction of letter postage to the rate of two cents per half ounce. I have given much study and reflection to this subject, and am thoroughly persuaded that such a reduction would be for the interest of the Government. It has been the policy of the Government from its foundation to defray, as far as possible, the expenses of carrying the mails by a direct tax in the form of postage. It has never been claimed, however, that this service ought to be productive of a revenue. Unless some change is made in the existing laws, the profits of the postal service will, in a very few years, swell the revenues of the Government many millions of dollars. The time seems auspicious therefore for some reduction in the rates of postage. In what shall that reduction consist? The review of the legislation which has been had upon this subject during the past thirty years discloses that domestic letters constitute the only class of mail matter which has never been favored by a substantial reduction of rates. I am convinced that the burden of maintaining the service is borne unequally upon that class, and that more than any other it is entitled to present relief. That such relief may be extended without detriment to other public interests will be discovered upon a review of the results of former reductions. Immediately prior to the act of 1845 the postage upon a letter composed of a single sheet of 50 miles or less 6 cents, between 30 and 80 miles 10 cents, between 80 and 150 miles 12 cents, between 150 and 400 miles 25 cents. By the act of 1845 the postage upon a single letter conveyed for any distance under 300 miles was fixed at 5 cents, and for any greater distance at 10 cents. By the act of 1851, it was provided that a single letter prepaid should be carried a distance of three cents, and letters not prepaid should be carried a distance of three cents, and any greater distance for six cents. It will be noticed that both of these reductions were of a radical character and relatively quite as important as that which is now proposed. In fact, such a reduction would be a temporary loss of revenue, but a permanent and salutary gain to the public.

The results which have thus far attended the enforcement of the act of 1851 are as follows: If conveyed 30 miles or less 6 cents, between 30 and 80 miles 10 cents, between 80 and 150 miles 12 cents, between 150 and 400 miles 25 cents, over 400 miles the postage upon a single letter conveyed for any distance under 300 miles was fixed at 5 cents, and for any greater distance at 10 cents. By the act of 1851, it was provided that a single letter prepaid should be carried a distance of three cents, and letters not prepaid should be carried a distance of three cents, and any greater distance for six cents. It will be noticed that both of these reductions were of a radical character and relatively quite as important as that which is now proposed. In fact, such a reduction would be a temporary loss of revenue, but a permanent and salutary gain to the public.

three years. Unless the experience of past legislation in this country and elsewhere goes for naught, it may be safely predicted that the stimulus of 50 per centum reduction in the tax for carriage would at once increase the number of letters sent to the mails. The volume of postal business would lead to a very general substitution of sealed packets for postal cards and open circulars, and in divers other ways the volume of first class matter would be enormously augmented. Such an increase amounted in England in the first year after the reduction to the postage to more than 125 per cent. As a result of careful estimates, the details of which cannot be here set out, I have become convinced that the deficiency of the first year after the proposed reduction would not exceed 7 per cent. of the expenditures of 1849, while the deficiency after the reduction of 1845, was more than 14 per cent, and after that of 1851 was 27 per cent. Another interesting comparison is afforded by statistics furnished me by the Post-Office Department. The act of 1845 was passed in a year of depression, and a deficiency of more than \$300,000. That of 1851 was encouraged by the slight surplus of \$132,000. The excess of revenue in the next fiscal year is likely to be \$550,000. If Congress should approve these suggestions it may be deemed desirable to supply to some extent the deficiency which must for a time result by increasing the charge for carrying merchandise which is now only sixteen cents per pound. But even without such an increase I am confident that the receipts under the diminished rates would equal the expenditures after the lapse of three or four years.

The report of the Department of Justice brings anew to your notice the necessity of enlarging the present system of Federal jurisprudence so as effectually to answer the requirements of the ever increasing litigation with which our people are daily confronted. The Attorney General renews the suggestions of his predecessor that in the interests of justice better provision than the existing law affords should be made in certain judicial districts for fixing the fees of witnesses.

In my message of December last I referred to pending criminal proceedings growing out of alleged frauds in what is known as the Star route service of the Postoffice Department, and advised you that I had enjoined upon the Attorney General and associate counsel, to whom the case was referred, to report to me the result of their investigation. The duty of prosecuting with the utmost vigor of the law all persons who might be chargeable with such offenses. A trial of one of these cases has since occurred. It occupied for many weeks the attention of the Supreme Court of this district, and was conducted with great zeal and ability. It resulted in a disagreement of the jury, but the cause has been again placed upon the calendar and will shortly be retried. If any guilty persons should be able to escape punishment for their offenses, it will be for lack of sufficient and earnest efforts on the part of the prosecution.

I trust that some agreement may be reached which will speedily enable Congress, with the concurrence of the Executive, to afford the commercial community the benefits of a national bankruptcy law.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior, with its accompanying documents, presents a full statement of the varied operations of that department. In respect to Indian affairs nothing has occurred which has changed or seriously modified the views which I have expressed in a former communication to Congress. I renew the recommendations therein contained as to extending to the Indian protection of the law, allotting lands in severalty to such as desire it, and making suitable provision for the education of the young of such tribes. Such provision the Secretary forcibly maintains will prove unavailing unless it is broad enough to include all those who are able and willing to make use of it, and should not solely relate to intellectual training, but also to instruction in such manual labor and other arts and industries as may be made practically available. Among other important subjects which are included within the Secretary's report and which will doubtless furnish occasion for Congressional action, may be mentioned the neglect of the railroad companies to which large grants of land were made by the acts of 1862 and 1864 to take title thereto, and their consequent inequitable exemption from local taxation. No survey of our national condition can fail to suggest inquiries as to the moral and intellectual progress of the people, and the report of the Postmaster General shows that there is now a very considerable surplus in his department, and that henceforth the receipts are not likely to increase at a much greater ratio than the necessary expenditures. Unless some change is made in the existing laws, the profits of the postal service will, in a very few years, swell the revenues of the Government many millions of dollars. The time seems auspicious therefore for some reduction in the rates of postage. In what shall that reduction consist? The review of the legislation which has been had upon this subject during the past thirty years discloses that domestic letters constitute the only class of mail matter which has never been favored by a substantial reduction of rates. I am convinced that the burden of maintaining the service is borne unequally upon that class, and that more than any other it is entitled to present relief. That such relief may be extended without detriment to other public interests will be discovered upon a review of the results of former reductions. Immediately prior to the act of 1845 the postage upon a letter composed of a single sheet of 50 miles or less 6 cents, between 30 and 80 miles 10 cents, between 80 and 150 miles 12 cents, between 150 and 400 miles 25 cents. By the act of 1845 the postage upon a single letter conveyed for any distance under 300 miles was fixed at 5 cents, and for any greater distance at 10 cents. By the act of 1851, it was provided that a single letter prepaid should be carried a distance of three cents, and letters not prepaid should be carried a distance of three cents, and any greater distance for six cents. It will be noticed that both of these reductions were of a radical character and relatively quite as important as that which is now proposed. In fact, such a reduction would be a temporary loss of revenue, but a permanent and salutary gain to the public.

I cannot doubt that a careful survey of Territorial legislation would be of the highest utility. Life and property would be more secure; the liability of outbreaks between Indians and whites would be lessened; the public domain would be more carefully guarded, and better progress made in the instruction of the young.

Alaska is still without any form of civil government. If means were provided for the education of its people and for the protection of their lives and property, the immense resources of the region would invite permanent settlements and open new fields for industry and enterprise.

The report of the Commissioner of Agriculture presents an account of the labors of that department during the past year, and includes a full and valuable summary of the general condition of the forests of the country and the wasteful manner in which their destruction is taking place, giving cause for serious apprehension. Their action in protecting the earth's surface, in modifying the extremes of climate and in regulating and maintaining the flow of springs and streams, is now well understood, and their importance in relation to the growth and prosperity of the country cannot be safely disregarded. They are fast disappearing before destructive fires, an legitimate requirement of our rapidly growing population, and their total extinction cannot be long delayed unless better methods than now prevail shall be adopted for their protection and cultivation. The attention of Congress is invited to the necessity of additional legislation to protect the valuable forests remaining on the public domain, especially in the extreme western States and Territories, where the necessity for their preservation is greater than in less mountainous regions, and where the prevailing dryness of the climate renders their rapid destruction more likely to be destroyed, well high impossible.

The communication which I made to Congress at its first session in December last contained a somewhat full statement of my sentiments in relation to the principles and rules which ought to govern appointments to public service. Referring to the various plans which had theretofore been the subject of discussion in the National Convention, plans which, in the main, were modeled upon the system which obtains in Great Britain, but which lacked certain of the prominent features whereby that system is distinguished, I felt bound to intimate my doubts whether they or any of them would be adequate to guard against the evils which they aimed to correct. I declare nevertheless, that if the proposed measures should prove acceptable to Congress, they would receive the unhesitating support of the Executive. Since these suggestions were submitted for your consideration there has been no increase in the public interest in that subject, and the people of the country, apparently without distinction of party, have in various ways and upon frequent occasions given expression to their confidence in the prompt and decisive action. In my opinion such action should no longer be delayed. I may add that my own sense of its pressing importance has been quickened by observation of a practical phase of the matter, to which attention has more than once been called by my professional colleagues. The civil list now comprises about one hundred thousand persons, the larger part of whom must under the terms of the Constitution, be selected by the President, either directly or through his own appointments.

Hop Bitters are the Purest and Best Bitters Ever Made.

They are compounded from Hops, Malt, Buchu, Mandrake and Dandelion,—the oldest, best and most valuable medicines in the world and contain all the best and most curative properties of all other remedies, being the greatest Blood Purifier, Liver Regulator, and Life and Health Restoring Agent on earth. No disease or ailment can possibly long exist where these Bitters are used, so varied and perfect are their operations.

They give new life and vigor to the aged and infirm. To all whose employments cause irregularity of the bowels, or urinary organs, or who require the Appetizer, Tonic and mild Stimulant, Hop Bitters are invaluable, being highly curative, tonic and stimulating, without intoxicating.

No matter what your feelings or symptoms are, what the disease or ailment is, use Hop Bitters. Don't wait until you are sick, but if you only feel bad or miserable, use Hop Bitters at once. I may save your life. Hundreds have been saved by so doing. \$500 will be paid for a case they will not cure or help.

Do not neglect or let your friends suffer, but use and urge them to use Hop Bitters.

Remember, Hop Bitters is no vile, drugged, drunken nostrum, but the Purest and Best Medicine ever made; the "Invalid's Friend and Hope," and no person or family should be without them. Try the Bitters to-day.

A Western Blaze.

St. PAUL, Nov. 29.—A Mandan T. special says a fire which commenced in the Northern Pacific restaurant has spread to the Commercial hotel, the Pacific House and the Mandan House, all of which will be burned. This deprives 150 men of their boarding places, besides entailing other serious losses. The buildings already burned involve a loss of over \$12,000.

A Voice from the Press.

I take this opportunity to bear testimony to the efficacy of your "Hop Bitters." Expecting to find them nauseous and bitter, and composed of bad whiskey, we were greatly surprised at their mild taste, just like a cup of tea. A Mrs. Crosswell and Mrs. Connor, friends, had likewise tried, and pronounced them the best medicine they have ever taken for building up strength and toning up the system. I was troubled with constiveness, headache, and want of appetite. My ailments are now all gone. I have a yearly contract with a doctor to look after the health of myself and family, but I need him no more.

S. GILLILAND,  
People's Advocate, Pittsburg, Pa.  
July 25, 1878.

Who is this ferocious looking man? He is foreign in his origin, but in his habits he is a true American. He gets paid for throwing men down stairs when they come to lick the Editor, and putting wrong dates at the head of the Paper. He can pin me type in fifteen minutes than seven printers can set up in two weeks. He is not for him the Paper would be pretty well every week. Everything would be left out of the Live Add—would be left out.

What Women Should Use.

Dyspepsia, weak back, despondency, and other troubles caused me by suffering, but Parker's Ginger Tonic made me feel like a new being. A great remedy. Every woman should use it. Mrs. Garitz, Pittsburg.

A New York bride received among other presents an order for many tons of coal, which leads an exchange to remark that the time when a young woman needs twenty tons of coal is during the courtship. After that the young man, unless he is entirely destitute of relations, is supposed to furnish the fuel.

I was troubled with Chronic Catarrh and gathering in my head, was very deaf at times, and had discharge from my ears, besides being unable to breathe through my nose. Before the second bottle of Ely's Cream Balm was exhausted I was cured, and to-day enjoy good health. C. J. CORRIG, 923 Chestnut St., Field Manager Philadelphia Pub. House, Pa.

Cow Boys.

FORT WORTH, November 29.—A gang of drunken cow boys boarded a train at Sweet Water Grove yesterday, drove the passengers off at the point of the revolver, bound the conductor and engineer back to back and then ran the train to this place and left it.

Forbidden intoxicating nostrums and use of Parker's Ginger Tonic in your family. This delicious remedy never intoxicates, is a true blood and brain food, and aiding all the vital functions never fails to invigorate.

A correspondent of the Scientific American, writing from Arizona, says, "nothing there is so brilliant as that you see mountains at a distance of several miles. Oh, goodness! I can beat that right here in Pennsylvania. From here we can see clear to the moon."

It is no exaggeration. Ely's Cream Balm is a cure for Catarrh, Hay Fever and Cold in head. Many cures have been made among my customers. No other remedy has ever equaled the Balm in good results. A. J. OENWELDER, Druggist, Easton, Pa.

In Cuba, the coffin is rarely buried with the body, so the one gets in for many funerals, being sometimes used for months every day.

In two years a boy can learn as much Latin as he can forget in six months after he goes to work for a living.

The ground upon which Cincinnati stands was purchased by J. C. Symmes, about ninety years ago, for 67 cents per acre.

They have a queer sort of a trap in Australia, which sticks to a mouse and with quite a fatal effect to animals and human beings.

"You have lovely teeth, Ethel," said "George," she fondly replied; "they were a Christmas present from Aunt Grace."

Suffering itself does not less afflict the senses than the fear of suffering.

Poetry conveys nearer the vital truth than history.

You should be a savings bank.

Never put off till to-morrow what can be done to-day.

FOR SALE!  
AT  
A BARGAIN!  
A farm containing one hundred and fifty acres of new smooth, level land, well improved with good buildings, and all the modern conveniences, for sale at a bargain. Apply to  
NOAH SCOTT,  
Urbana, Pa.

WANTED, SALESMAN  
The undersigned desires a person to sell his goods in the following places:—Pittsburg, Pa., and all the surrounding territory. Salary and expenses paid. No commission. Apply to  
S. G. GILBERT, General, N. Y.

Agents Wanted  
The undersigned desires to sell his goods in the following places:—Pittsburg, Pa., and all the surrounding territory. Salary and expenses paid. No commission. Apply to  
S. G. GILBERT, General, N. Y.

1883.  
Harper's Weekly.  
ILLUSTRATED.

Harper's Weekly stands at the head of American periodicals. It is a valuable and reliable source of information. It is published weekly, except on Sundays and public holidays. Its circulation is the largest of any American periodical. It is published by Harper & Brothers, New York.

Per Year.  
HARPER'S WEEKLY..... \$4 00  
HARPER'S MAGAZINE..... 4 00  
HARPER'S BAZAR..... 4 00  
HARPER'S YOUNG PEOPLE..... 4 00  
HARPER'S FRANKLIN SQUARE LIBRARY, ONE CENT PER COPY.  
HARPER'S PAPER BOOKS, ONE CENT PER COPY.  
Postage free to all subscribers in the United States and Canada.

1883.  
Harper's Magazine.  
ILLUSTRATED.

Harper's Magazine begins its sixtieth year with the issue of January 1st. It is not only the most popular literary periodical in America, but is also the most valuable. It is published by Harper & Brothers, New York.

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HARPER'S BAZAR..... 4 00  
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HARPER'S PAPER BOOKS, ONE CENT PER COPY.  
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1883.  
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HARPER'S BAZAR..... \$4 00  
HARPER'S WEEKLY..... 4 00  
HARPER'S MAGAZINE..... 4 00  
HARPER'S YOUNG PEOPLE..... 4 00  
HARPER'S FRANKLIN SQUARE LIBRARY, ONE CENT PER COPY.  
HARPER'S PAPER BOOKS, ONE CENT PER COPY.  
Postage free to all subscribers in the United States and Canada.

1883.  
Harper's Young People  
An Illustrated Weekly—16 Pages.

Harper's Young People begins its sixtieth year with the issue of January 1st. It is not only the most popular literary periodical in America, but is also the most valuable. It is published by Harper & Brothers, New York.

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HARPER'S YOUNG PEOPLE..... \$4 00  
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The undersigned desires to sell his goods in the following places:—Pittsburg, Pa., and all the surrounding territory. Salary and expenses paid. No commission. Apply to  
S. G. GILBERT, General, N. Y.

RAILROAD SCHEDULE  
SOMERSET & CAMBRIA  
On and after June 12, 1883

The Long and Short of the story, as told by our cut this week, is that we are fully prepared to meet every exigency occasioned by odd sized people, and have in stock Clothing to fit the Fat as well as the Lean man.

A. C. YATES & CO.,  
Lumber Building, Chestnut and Sixth Streets, PHILADELPHIA.

WANTED!  
Persons, reliable men to sell Fruit Trees. Write for particulars to F. L. LARK, 907-708, Rochester, N. Y.

HEADACHES  
Can be cured by using the Health Restorer. It is a powerful and reliable remedy. It is published by Harper & Brothers, New York.

NOTICE  
Having associated with me in the practice of medicine Dr. C. W. HARDY, of this city, I have no objection to his consulting with me in any case. F. M. LOUHER, St. Louis, Mo., 1882.

THE  
WHITE  
IS KING  
Lightest Running Shuttle Machine  
A SELF-SETTING NEEDLE!  
A DOUBLE-STEEL FEED!  
Automatic Bobbin Winder  
F. W. CLARK,  
WHOLESALE PRODUCERS  
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MUSIC BOOKS A SPECIALTY.  
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The Greatest Discoverer  
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Most Torturing  
Disease.  
It is Advertised to do Only  
What it Has Been Known  
to do in Hundreds of  
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Give it a Trial and be Convinced  
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Somerset, Pa.