The Somerset Herald.

ESTABLISHED 1827.

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The Somerset Herald.

ESTABLISHED 1827.

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SOMERSET, PA.

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Furnished on Short Notice.
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My work is made out of Thoroughly Seasoned Wood, and the best Iron and Steel, substantially Constructed, Neatly Finished, and Warranted to give Satisfaction.
Employ Only First Class Workmen.
Repairing of All Kinds in My Line Done on Short Notice. Prices REASONABLE, and
All Work Warranted.
Call and Examine my Stock, and Learn Prices ! No Wagon work, and furnish Selves for Wind Mill. Remember the place, and call in.
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CUT TO ORDER.
Address
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No. 30 Baltimore St., Cumberland, Md.

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USES
Rheumatism, Bruises, Sprains and Swellings.
FOR MAN OR BEAST.
For sale by all Druggists. Price, 25c., 50c., and $1 per bottle.
W. B. BENN, Mf'g., Allegheny, Pa. 1 year

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TO BUY YOUR
DRUGS AND MEDICINES
OF
JOHN N. SNYDER,
SUCCESSOR TO
BIESECKER & SNYDER.

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PRESCRIPTIONS & FAMILY RECEIPTS
filled with care. Our prices are as low as any other first-class house and on many articles much lower.

The people of this county seem to know this, and have given us a large share of their patronage, and we shall still continue to give them the very best goods for their money. Do not forget that we make a specialty of
FITTING TRUSSES.
We guarantee satisfaction, and, if you have had trouble in this direction, give us a call.
SPECTACLES AND EYE-GLASSES
in great variety: A full set of Test Lenses. Come in and have your eyes examined. No charge for examination, and we are confident we can suit you. Come and see us.

Respectfully,
JOHN N. SNYDER.

STOP! LOOK! LISTEN!
EVERYONE WANTS TO KNOW
WHERE TO GET THE MOST OF OF THIS WORLD'S GOODS FOR THE LEAST MONEY?
WE HAVE THEM.
Dish es.
WHITE, YELLOW, GLASS, AND ROCKINGHAM WARE,
IN GREAT VARIETY.
BASKETS, LOOKING-GLASSES, HANGING LAMPS, STAND LAMPS
Lamps of all Descriptions.

Novelties and Oddities in China
THE PLACE FOR
FANCY & STAPLE GROCERIES
IS AT THE STORE OF
ED. B. COFFROTH,
SOMERSET, PA

—THE—
WHITE
IS KING OF
SEWING MACHINES.
It was Crowned so when it took the First Premium at the Cincinnati Centennial in 1880, at the Great Contest, but more so when it took the
GOLD MEDAL
At the Universal Exhibition at Paris, France, in 1889, for being the
Best Family Sewing Machine
In the world. It is applauded as such by the
800,000
Sold since its introduction in 1877. Its superiority is acknowledged, though with many regrets, by thousands who had bought other new
SEWING MACHINES
Before they had seen the merits of the
WHITE
Ladies will find it greatly to their advantage to examine the merits of "THE WHITE" before buying a Sewing Machine.
"THE BEST IS ALWAYS CHEAPEST"
in the end. An inferior Sewing Machine is a poor investment at any price.
JOS. CRIST,
Of Jenner X Roads, is the authorized agent for it in this County. Write him, and tell him to bring one to your house for examination.

FACTS

Two	years old Pure Rye	$2.00	per gallon.
Three	" " " "	2.50	" "
Four	" " " "	2.50	" "
Six	" " " "	2.50	" "
Ten	" " " "	2.50	" "
Fifteen	" " " "	3.50	" "
Twenty-one	" " " "	7.50	" "

That I sell the following goods at the very low prices:

All from the best known distillers. California 5 year-old pure Wines, all kinds at $1.50 per gallon. Port Wines, direct importations, in glass. Pure imported Brandies, wine of the lowest figures. Call or send for specialprice list. Mail orders Promptly attended to. No extra charge for packing and boxing.

A. ANDRIESSEN,
72 Federal Street, Allegheny, Pa.

You can fool some of the people all the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you can't fool all the people all the time.—LINCOLN.

The people who have been accustomed to paying outlandish prices for Notions, such as are used every day, Fancy Goods, such as every lady needs and buys, and Ladies' Furnishing Goods, such as all must have, will appreciate the truth of the above quotation more after they have visited

Mrs. Kate B. Coffroth's New Store

and ascertained her prices, and then compare them with those they have been paying. You are commencing to think about the Holidays, and what you shall buy for Christmas presents. You would like to buy something useful as well as ornamental, and can find just what you want among my stock. Remember, I do not keep anything in stock outside of the lines mentioned, but what I do keep is of the very best, and will be sold at prices that will please you. I have a fine line of Embroidery Silks that are worth examining.

KATE B. COFFROTH,
Somerset, Pa.

PUBLIC SALE
—OF—
Valuable Real Estate.

BY VIRTUE of a valid order of the Orphans' Court of Somerset Co., to the undersigned Administratrix directed, she will expose to public sale on the premises, on

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1890

at 1 o'clock p. m., the following described real estate, late the property of Simon Young, dec'd, viz:

No. 1. The homestead, a tract of land situate in Jefferson Twp., Somerset Co., Pa., containing 104 acres, more or less, 200 acres clear and 100 acres well timbered with spruce, Oak, Chestnut, Poplar, &c., adjoining lands of Henry Pile, Abe Barron, Nicholas Beeson, Jacob Lauver and others, with a large bank barn,

—Dwelling House,—

and outbuildings thereon erected. The farm is in a good neighborhood, well watered, and in a good state of cultivation, with an abundance of fruit trees, consisting of apples, cherries, peaches, &c. Water running to the house and to the barn yard. Also, a Sugar Camp, with Sugar Vessels that will go with the farm.

No. 2. A tract of land adjoining the above homestead, containing 27 acres and 135 perches, upon which there is a saw mill and other outbuildings. There is an apple orchard, and other fruit trees thereon. The above will be sold separate or as a whole, to suit purchasers.

TERMS:

One-third cash on the 1st of April, 1890, at which time the deeds will be delivered; the balance in four equal annual payments from April 1, 1890, without interest, all due. After the debts and expenses are all paid, the widow shall receive the interest on the remaining one-third during her lifetime, and at her death the principal to be paid to the heirs of the deceased. Payments to be secured by judgment bonds on the premises. $500 of the hand money to be paid on day of sale, or secured to be paid.

PHEBE YOUNG,
Administratrix and Trustee.

For further information call on J. H. Uhl, Esq., Attorney for the estate.

THE PANSY.
1891.
ISABELLA M. ALDEN, } EDITORS.
R. ALDEN, }

THE PANSY for 1891 will be brimful of good things for the boys and girls.

Pansy has Prepared a New Serial,

TWENTY MINUTES LATE.

PANSY'S Golden Text Stories will be under the general title, "The Exact Truth."

Margaret Sidney will write about "THE FRISBIE SCHOOL." A stirring tale.

Mrs. C. M. Livingston will continue the deservedly popular "Baby's Corner."

Dr. Felix L. Oswald has prepared a series of articles: "Health Hints."

"Sunday Afternoon" will be a new corner in *THE PANSY.*

"The Kaleidoscope" will contain twelve stories, by Margaret Sidney, Prof. Frederick Starr, Mrs. C. M. Livingston, Emily Huntington Miller, Faye Huntington, and others.

The J. S. C. E., which letters mean, as you have all come to know, "Junior Society of Christian Endeavor," and "The Bible Band Readings," will be continued as heretofore.

As to the other features—Sparks from History, P. S. Corner, All Along the Line, and the Missionary Department—these will be made better than ever before.

THE PANSY is $1.00 a year. The new volume begins with the November number.

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D. LOTHROP CO., Publishers,
BOSTON, MASS.

Our Little Men and Women
For Youngest Readers at Home and in School.
1891.
Each number will be very fresh and interesting. A strong attraction will be the twelve-chapter serial story,
LADY GAY,
By Mrs. George Archibald, illustrated by Virginia Gerson. "Lady Gay" is a real little girl, with many delightful cousins and friends, boys and girls, some big, some little, but all real children, living to day.

There will be several other sets of stories: "The Little Freighter," by Jennie Stanley, a story about two "little men" in the far Southwest; "Kitty's Pace," by Anna Hannah—true stories told to Kittie by her papa's mother; "Fruits of Sunny Lands," by Anna M. Henderson, who has seen the fruits she tells about growing in their own clime.

Besides, there will be short stories, little articles in history, natural history, botany, etc., and poems and jingles—all beautifully pictorial. January begins the new volume.

One Dollar a Year, postpaid.

D. LOTHROP CO., Boston.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Estate of Henry A. Shaffer, late of Lincoln township, Somerset county, Pa., deceased.

Letters of Administration having been granted by the proper authority, to the undersigned, on the estate of Henry A. Shaffer, late of Lincoln township, somerset county, Pa., deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and those having claims against the same will present them duly authenticated for settlement at the residence of the deceased on Saturday January 10, A. D. 1890.

FREEMAN J. HOFFMAN.
MARY M. SHAFFER.
Administrators.

A Great Event

In life's life is the discovery of a remedy for some long-standing malady. The poison of Scrofula is in your blood. You inherited it from your ancestors. Will you transmit it to your offspring? In the great majority of cases, both Consumption and Catarrh originate in Scrofula. It is supposed to be the primary source of many other derangements of the body. Begin at once to cleanse your blood with the standard alterative,

Ayer's Sarsaparilla

"For several months I was troubled with scrofulous eruptions over the whole body. My appetite was bad, and my system so prostrated that I was unable to work. After trying several remedies in vain, I resolved to take Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and did so with such good effect that less than one bottle

Restored My Health

and strength. The rapidity of the cure astonished me, as I expected the process to be long and tedious."—Frederico Marta Fernandez, Villa Nova de Gaya, Portugal.

"For many years I was a sufferer from scrofula, until about three years ago, when I began the use of Ayer's Sarsaparilla, since which the disease has entirely disappeared. A little child of mine, who was troubled with the same complaint, has also been cured by this medicine."—H. Brandt, Avoca, Nebr.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla
PREPARED BY
DR. J. C. AYER & CO., Lowell, Mass.
Sold by Druggists. $1, six $5. Worth $6 a bottle.

—THE—
FIRST NATIONAL BANK
—OF—
Somerset, Penn'a.

DEPOSITS RECEIVED IN LARGE AND SMALL AMOUNTS, PAYABLE ON DEMAND.

ACCOUNTS MERCHANTS, FARMERS, STOCK DEALERS, AND OTHERS SOLICITED.

—DISCOUNTS DAILY.—

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John R. Scott, Geo. R. Scull,
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Edward Scull, : : : : : President
Valentine Hay, : : Vice President
Andrew Parker, : : : : : Cashier.

The funds and securities of this bank are securely protected in a celebrated Corliss Burglar-proof Safe. The only Safe made absolutely Burglar-proof.

Somerset County National Bank
OF SOMERSET, PA.
Established, 1877. Organized as a National, 1890
CAPITAL $50,000.
Chas. J. Harrison, Pres't
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Customers of this Bank will receive the most liberal treatment consistent with safe banking.

Parties wishing to send money east or west can be accommodated by draft for any amount.

Money and valuables secured by one of Diebold's celebrated Safes with most approved time lock.

Collections made in all parts of the United States. Charges moderate.

Accounts and Deposits Solicited. mar1-dm

EXECUTORS' NOTICE

In the matter of the Estate of Susanna Storm, late of Lincoln Twp., Somerset Co., Pa.

Letters testamentary on the above estate have been granted the undersigned by the proper authority, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and those having claims against the same will present them duly authenticated for settlement on Saturday, the 31 day of Jan'y., '91, at the residence of the Executor in said Twp.

BENJAMIN FISHER,
Executor.

Prof. W. Biesecker, Attorney.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

In the matter of the Estate of Sam'l S. Swank, dec'd., late of Quemahoning Township, Somerset Co., Pa.

Letters of Administration on the above estate having been granted to the undersigned by the proper authority, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and those having claims or demands against the same will present them duly authenticated for settlement on Saturday, Dec. 20, 1890, at the office of Scott & Ogle, in Somerset Bor.

SARAH FUHRE,
Executrix.

nov12.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.

Estate of Dr. R. H. Patterson, late of Stoystown Boro., Somerset Co., Pa., dec'd.

Letters testamentary having been issued to the undersigned by the proper authority in the above estate, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and all parties having claims against said estate to present them to the Executor duly authenticated for settlement on Saturday, the 27th day of Dec. 1890, at the office of Spiker Heffley, in Stoystown, Somerset Co., Pa.

NOTICE.—I expect to be in Stoystown on Saturday, December 27th, 1890, to stay for a few days. All persons owing my father's estate either on book account or on note, will please meet me at Spiker Heffley's office, in Stoystown, on that date, as the meantime, payment of money due my father may be made to Augustus Heffley, Esq., at Stoystown, or to Geo. R. Scull, Esq., at Somerset.

R. F. PATTERSON,
Executor of the last Will and Testament of Dr. R. H. Patterson, Dec'd.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Estate of John Wright, late of Jefferson township Somerset county, Pa., deceased.

Letters of Administration on the above estate having been granted to the undersigned by the proper authority, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to the said estate to make immediate payment, and those having claims against the same to present them duly authenticated for settlement at the office of J. A. Berkey, Esq., in Somerset, Pa., Jan. 8, 1891, at 10 o'clock A. M.

SAMUEL WRIGHT,
Administrator.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Estate of Lloyd D. Stutt, late of Jenner Twp., Somerset Co., Pa., dec'd.

Letters of Administration on the above estate having been granted to the undersigned by the proper authority, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and those having claims against the same will present them duly authenticated for payment to the undersigned.

LUCY M. STUTT,
Administratrix.

dec'o.

HER NAME.

ANNA P. BURNHAM.

"I'm losted! Could you find me, please?"
Poor little frightened baby!
The wind had tossed her golden fleece,
The stones had scratched her dimpled knees,
I stooped and lifted her with ease,
And softly whispered, "Maybe."

"Tell me your name, my little maid,
I can't find you without it."
"My name is Shiny eyes," she said;
"Yes, but your last?" She shook her head;
"Up to my house 'ey never said
A single fing about it."

"But, dear," I said, "what is your name?"
"Why, didn't you hear me tell you?
Dust Shiny-eyes." A bright thought came;
"Yes, when you're good; but when they blame
You, little one—is it the same
When mamma has to scold you?"

"My mamma never scolds," she moans,
A little blush ensuing,
"Cept when I've been a-frowing stones,
And then she says"—the culprit owns—
"'Mehitable Sapphira Jones,
What has you been a-doing?'"

THE PRESIDENT TO THE PEOPLE.

A SYNOPSIS OF HIS ANNUAL MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

President Harrison delivered to Congress his annual message last Monday. He introduced it with the statement that the vast business of the Government has been transacted by the several departments during the year with faithfulness, energy and success. The revenues, amounting to about $450,000,000, have been collected without revealing a single case of defalcation or embezzlement. This good work, the President says, is not his, but is shared by the heads of the several departments with the great body of faithful officers and employes who serve under them.

NO CHIPS ON ANY SHOULDER.

The President notes the friendly relations of our country with other nations, and refers to the recent conferences held in Washington by the representatives of Central and South American countries as making an interesting and influential epoch in the history of the Western Hemisphere. A noteworthy feature of the Pan American Congress, he says, was that Brazil, invited under an imperial form of government, shared as a Republic in the deliberations and the results of the conference.

Toward the end of the past year the only independent monarchial government on the Western Continent—that of Brazil—ceased to exist and was succeeded by a Republic. Diplomatic relations were at once established with the new Government, but it was not completed or recognized until an opportunity had been afforded to ascertain that it had popular approval and support. When the course of events had yielded assurance of this fact no time was lost in extending to welcome into the family.

The President refers to the killing of General Barrundia, on board the United States steamer Acquilo, and says United States Minister Mezner exceeded his authority in granting a provisional order to Gautamalian officers to take General Barrundia from a vessel, in defending which action Barrundia lost his life, and announces that Minister Mezner has been recalled from his post.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

The revenues of the Government from all sources for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 1890, were $463,965,080.55, and the total expenditures for the same period were $358,618,584.52.

The postal receipts have not heretofore been included in the statement of these aggregates, and for the purpose of comparison the sum of $60,882,097.92 should be deducted from both sides of the account. The surplus for the year, including the amount applied to the sinking fund, is $105,344,496.03. The receipts for 1890, were $16,080,923.79, and the expenditures $15,732,871 in excess of those of 1889. The customs receipts increased $45,835,842.88 and the receipts from internal revenue $11,725,191.80, while on the side of expenditures, that for pensions was $19,312,075.46 in excess of the preceding year.

The Treasury statement for the current fiscal year, partly actual and partly estimated, is as follows; Receipts from all sources, $406,000,000; total expenditures, $354,000,000, leaving a surplus of $52,000,000, not taking the postal receipts into the account on either side. The loss of revenue from customs for the quarter is estimated at $25,000,000, but from this is deducted a gain of about $16,000,000, realized during the first four months of the year.

For the year 1892 the total estimated receipts are $373,000,000, and the estimated expenditures, 357,852,209, leaving an estimated surplus of $15,147,790.58, which with a cash balance of $52,000,000 at the begining of the year, will be $67,147,790.58 as the sum available for the redemption of outstanding bonds or other uses. The estimates of receipts and expenditures for the Post-office Department being equal, are not included in this statement on either side.

The act directing the purchase of silver bullion and the issue of Treasury notes thereon, the President says, has been administered by the Secretary of the Treasury with the earnest purpose to get into circulation at the earliest possible dates the full amounts of treasury notes contemplated by its provisions and at the same time to give to the market for silver bullion support as the law contemplates.

The recent depreciation in the price of silver, the President believes, is partly the result of speculaon and is part of the recent monetary disturbances, and some months of futher trial will be necessary to determne the permanent effect of the recent legislation upon silver values, but it is gratifying to know that the increased circulaon secured by the act has exerted and will continue to exert beneficial influence upon business and general values. On the subject of international conference laking to an agreement touching the free use of silver for coinage at a uniform ratio the President says a close observatio has been taken of any change in the situation abroad, and no opportunity will be lost to promote this result, which he believes would confer a very large benefit upon the commerce of the world.

INCREASE OF MONEY CIRCULATION.

The President says he efforts of the cretary of the Tressiy to increase the volume of money in circulation have been in a high degree successful, and in quoting from the Secretary's report shows that the increase of money in circulation during the nineteen months of his administration has been in the aggregate $93,856,813, or about $1 50 per capita, and of this increase only $7,100,000 was due to the recent silver legislation. That this substantial and needy aid given to commerce resulted in an enormous reduction of the public debt, and of the annual interest charge, is a matter of increased satisfaction.

There have been purchased and redeemed since March 4, 1889, 4 and 4½ per cent. bonds to the amount of $211,832,450, at a cost of $246,620,741, resulting in a reduction of the annual interest charge of $8,867,609, and a total saving of interest of $51,576,706.

THE RECENT MONETARY CRISIS.

The depression in the prices of agricultural products had been greatly relieved, and a buoyant and hopeful tone was beginning to be felt by all our people. These promising influences have been in some degree checked by the surprising and very unfavorable monetary events which have recently taken place in England. It is gratifying to know that these did not grow in any degree out of the financial relations of London with our people, or out of any discredit attached to our securities held in that market. The return of our bonds and stocks was caused by a money stringency in England, not by any loss of value or credit in the securities themselves. We could not, however, wholly escape the ill-effects of a foreign monetary agitation accompanied by such extraordinary incidents as characterized this. It is not believed, however, that these evil incidents which have for the time unfavorably affected values in this country can long withstand the strong, safe, and wholesome influences which are operating to give our people profitable returns in all branches of legitimate trade and industry.

UNDER THE NEW CENSUS.

The decennial enumeration of the people of the United States, the President says, has been completed and the duty now devolves upon Congress of making a new apportionment of the Representatives among the several States.

The President calls attention to the fact that during the last session of Congress he vetoed several bills providing for the erection of public buildings, and says that no class of legislation is more liable to abuse or to degenerate into an unseemly scramble about the public treasury, and recommends that a wise economy be exercised and an impartial examination be made in each case.

OUR FRIENDSHIP FOR MEXICO.

The President calls the attention of Congress to various subjects under discussion with other nations which are pending in a friendly manner, and, continuing, says:

and Mexico, born of close neighborhood and strengthened by many considerations of intimate intercourse and reciprocal interest, has never been more conspicuous than now, nor more hopeful of increased benefi to both nations. The intercourse of the two countries by rail, already great, is making constant growth. The established lines and those recently projected add to the intimacy of traffic and offer new channels of access to fresh areas of demand and supply. The importance of the Mexican railway system will be further enhanced to a degree almost impossible to forecast if it should become a link in the projected international railway. I recommend that our mission in the City of Mexico be raised to the first class.

THE QUESTION OF RECIPROCITY.

The cordial character of our relations with Spain, the President says, warrants the hope that by the continuance of the methods of friendly negotiation much may be accomplished in the direction of and adjustment of the pending questions and of the increase of our trade. The extent and development of our trade with the Island of Cuba invest the commercial relations of the United States and Spain with a peculiar importance. It is not doubted that a special arrangement in regard to commerce, based upon the reciprocity provision of the recent Tariff act, would operate most beneficially for both governments. This subject is now receiving attention.

From the time of my induction into office the duty of using every power and influence given by law to the Executive Department for the development of larger markets for our products, and especially our farm products, has been kept constantly in mind, and no effort has been or will be spared to promote that end. We are under no disadvantage in any foreign market except that we pay our workmen and workwomen better wages than are paid elsewhere—better abstactly, better relatively to the cost of the necessaries of life. I do not doubt that a very largely increased foreign trade is accessible to us without bartering for it either our home market or such products of the farm and shop as our own people can supply, or the wages of our working people.

In many of the products of wood and iron and in meats and breadstuffs we have advantages that only need better facilities of intercourse and transportation to secure for them large foreign markets. The reciprocity clause of the Tariff act wisely and effectively opens the way to secure a large reciprocal trade in exchange for the free admission to our ports of certain products. The right of independent nations to make special reciprocal trade concessions is well established, and does not impair either the comity due to other powers or what is known as the "favored nation clause," so generally found in commercial treaties. What is given to one for an adequate agreed consideration cannot be claimed by another freely. The state of the revenues was such that we could dispense with any import duties upon coffee, tea, hides, and the lower grades of sugar and molasses.

That the large advantage resulting to the countries producing and exporting these articles by placing them on the free list entitled us to expect a fair return in the way of custom concessions upon articles exported by us to them was so obvious that to have gratuitously abandoned this opportunity to enhance our trade would have been an unpardonable error.

There were but two methods of maintaining control of this question open to Congress: To place all of these articles upon the dutiable list, subject to such treaty agreements as could be secured, or to place them all presently upon the free list, but subject to the re-imposition of specified duties if the countries from which we receive them should refuse to give to us suitable reciprocal benefits.

This latter method, I think, possesses great advantages. It expresses in advance the consent of Congress to reciprocity arrangements affecting these products which must otherwise have been delayed and unascertained until such treaty was ratified by the Senate and the necessary legislation enacted by Congress. Experience has shown that some treaties looking to reciprocal trade have failed to secure a two-thirds vote in the Senate for ratification, and others having passed that stage, have for years awaited the concurrence of the House and Senate in such modifications of our revenue laws as were necessary to give effect to their provisions.

We now have the concurrence of both Houses in advance in a distinct and definite offer of free entry to our ports of specific articles. The Executive is not required to deal in conjecture as to what Congress will accept. Indeed, this reciprocity provision is more than an offer. Our part of the bargain is complete. The delivery has been made, and when the countries from which we receive sugar, coffee, tea, and hides have placed on their free list such of our products as shall be agreed upon, as on equivalent for our concession, a proclamation of that fact completes the transaction, and, in the meantime, our own people have free sugar, coffee, tea, hides.

The indications thus far given are very hopeful of early and favorable action by the countries from which we receive our large imports of coffee and sugar, and it is confidently believed that if steam communications with these countries can be promptly improved and enlarged, the next year will show a most gratifying increase in our exports of breadstuffs and provisions, as well as of some important lines of manufactured goods.

THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

The report of the Secretary of Agriculture, the President says, deserves special attention in view of the fact that the year has been marked in a very unusual degree by the agitation and organization among the farmers looking to an increase in the profits of their business. It will be found that the efforts of the Department have been intelligently and zealously devoted to the promotion of the interests intrusted to its care. A very substantial improvement in the market prices of the leading farm products during the year is noticed. The price of wheat advanced from 81 cents in October, 1889, to $1.00 in October, 1890; corn from 31 cents to 50 cents; oats from 19½ cents to 43 cents, and barley from 63 cents to 75 cents.

Meats shows a substantial but not so large an increase. The export trade in

increase. The export trade in beef and dairy products was very largely increased, the increase in the article of butter alone being from 15,504,978 pounds to 29,748,042 pounds, and the total increase in the value of meat and dairy products exported being $34,000,000. This trade, so directly helpful to the farmer, it is believed will be yet further and very largely increased when the system of inspection and sanitary supervision now provided by law is brought fully into operation.

The Civil Service law has, the President says, been executed with fidelity and impartiality, and the service has been increasing satisfactorily. The President congratulates Congress and the country upon the passage at the first session of the Fifty-first Congress of an unusual number of laws of high importance. The results of this legislation will be the quickening and enlargement of our manufacturing industries, larger and better markets for our breadstuffs and provisions, and more constant employment and better wages for our working people.

The general trade and industrial conditions throughout the country have, the President says, shown marked improvement. The President, in further speaking of the business prosperity, says the production of pig iron, always a good gauge of the general prosperity, is shown by a recent census bulletin to have been 153 per cent. greater in 1890 than in 1880, and the production of steel 250 per cent. greater. Mining in coal has had no limitation except that resulting from deficient transportation. The general testimony is that labor is everywhere fully employed, and the reports for the last year show a smaller number of employes affected by strikes and lockouts than in any year since 1884.

DANGERS OF TARIFF AGITATION.

The President says that the apprehension that our Tariff may again and at once be subjected to important general changes would undoubtedly have a depressing influence of the most serious character. The general tariff act has only partially gone into operation, some of its important provisions being limited to take effect at dates yet in the future. The general provisions of the law have been in force less than sixty days. Its permanent effect upon trade and prices still largely stands in conjecture.

It is curious to note that the advance in prices of articles wholly unaffected by the Tariff act was by many hastily ascribed to that act. Notice was not taken of the fact that the general tendency of the market was upwards from influences wholly apart from the recent Tariff legislation. The enlargement of our currency under the silver bill undoubtedly gave an upward tendency to trade and had a marked effect on prices; but this natural and desired effect of the silver legislation was by many erroneously attributed to the Tariff act.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The President favors the passage of the Federal Elections bill, believing it would have a salutary restraining influence. He very highly compliments Mr. Wanamaker on the business methods enforced in the Postoffice Department, resulting in a large economy in expenditure and a great increase in receipts. He concurs in the recommendations of the Secretary of the Navy, and refers favorably to the progress in the construction and equipment of new ships. He endorses the efforts made to do justice to all deserving soldiers under the Disability Act but thinks the liberal enlargement of the general law should suggest a more careful scrutiny of bills for special relief. The enactment of a National Bankrupt law the President still regards as being very desirable.

The message is concluded with another reference to the Federal Elections law which the President regards as of great importance. The present law, he says, is good, but it does not go far enough. The need of a law which would insure honest elections in all parts of the country has manifested itself, and its wholesome restraints and penalties would be useful.

State Tax Revision.

PHILADELPHIA, December 3.—The commission appointed to revise the revenue laws of Pennsylvania under concurrent resolutions of the General Assembly, approved May 25, 1890, met this afternoon in parlor C of the Lafayette hotel, Auditor General McCamant in the chair. There were also present Col. John A. Wright and Giles D. Pierce, of Erie; Prof. Bolles, W. Martin, Leonard Rhone, Austin L. Taggart and Samuel M. Wherry. The commission has been sitting at various places in the State since its appointment and has heard the views of a large number of experts on taxation, whose testimony will be presented to the Legislature, along with the official report of the commission.

The business of this meeting, as stated by the Chairman, was the hearing of the report of the Commission previous to its presentation to the Legislature, and also to hear the reports of the minority which dissented from the bill drafted by Mr. Pierce. The Secretary read the general report of the Commission, to which all the members attached their signature when Giles D. Pierce laid before the Commission a printed copy of the majority report, which is signed by Messrs. Pierce, Martin, Wherry, Taggart and Rhone.

This report is addressed to the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and contains a complete explanation of the act to be submitted to the Legislature by the Commission, and in its opening statement says:

"We have confined our efforts to the revision of our local tax laws, without disturbing our present system of State revenues, for prudential reasons, stated in the general report of the Commission. The gross annual earnings or incomes from trades, professions, occupations or investments of money or capital, not in excess of $300 for each natural person, shall constitute Class 5, this constituting a section in the classification of property for taxation.

This section could subject incomes to the same rate of taxation as property. The more advanced students of the subject of taxation believe that the taxation of incomes will be the only source of public revenue in the future. However, this we believe, that our present taxing machinery is not adapted to the thorough system, nor do we believe that public sentiment is now ready for such a sweeping reform. We think it more prudent to make it auxiliary to a general property tax until the people become familiar with it.

Experience has shown that it is well nigh as difficult to make a perfect equalization of values on real estate as it is to secure a full and fair return of personal property. In this connection we respectfully submit this proposition: If the objections to a general property tax are well taken, then all laws taxing personal property should be repealed; if these objections are not well taken, then all personal property should be taxed.

All lunatic asylums, houses of refuge, reform schools, literary, scientific, benevolent and charitable institutions, together with the surrounding land and buildings used for, and necessary for such purposes, not exceeding five acres to any one of such institutions, and also the furniture, books, apparatus picture necessary for and used therein, providing such institutions are supported wholly or in part by State or municipal appropriations or private contributions, and which are maintained primarily for public charity or benefit, and from which the corporators, trustees, directors, managers, clerks and other assistants shall receive no profit or remuneration except a salary and which salary, either of one officer, or of every officer or employe in the aggregate, shall not be so great as to diminish or subvert the purpose for which such institution was founded by the absorption of its revenues for private gain, should be exempt from taxation.

Mr. Pierce argued that the following sentence in the report be made in some way even more strict than as stated:

Whenever the Board of Public Charities shall suggest, or an examination of its accounts shall show, that it is subverting its public object to private gain, the property of such institution shall no longer be exempt from the taxation imposed upon the like classes of property by this act unless otherwise decreed by the courts.

He urged the necessity of preventing the absorption by private individuals of the grants of the State, and the endowments by which the institutions were supported. The report closes by saying:

No act could be framed that would exactly meet the views of all who want our tax laws revised. The majority of the Tax Commission have met each other in a spirit of concession, and the bill here presented is the result of compromise. We present it to the Legislature, not as a perfect measure, but as the best result obtainable from a conference of various, and in some respects, conflicting interests of opinions.

At the conclusion of the reading, Mr. Pierce arose and stated that he had some corrections which he wished to add to the report. Mr. Rhone also said that he had several changes to suggest. At the suggestion of the Chairman the corrections were laid over until a future meeting, both gentlemen promising to draw up their suggestions in writing.