

The Democrat.

BY HAWLEY & CRUSER.

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FAREWELL.

Farewell! my darling! the words must be spoken;
Now we are parting for ever and aye.
Tears may be flowing, and hearts may be broken;
Ah! let me tell you my love while I may.
Here is my arm, darling, cease your wild sobbing,
Silently lie with your face on my heart.
Listen, my own one, for you it is throbbing
Well nigh to bursting, because we must part.
All your fair gold hair about me is streaming,
And your soft white arms around me are pressed,
Down in your gray eyes the love light is gleaming
Bright as the jewels that flash on your breast.
What can I do, sweet? Our love dream is over,
Dark is the path I must travel alone;
Not one bright step shall I ever discover
When I have left you, my darling, my own!
Life is but made up of all such sweet seeming,
But it has sorrows that no time can quell;
Ours has just come to us—we have been dreaming
Too bright a dream of love—darling, farewell!
Farewell for ever!—no meeting to-morrow,
—Nothing but memory with us to stay;
Here I must leave you alone in your sorrow,
Weeping and lonely and I far away.
But you will think of me only and ever,
Breathing my name in each trusting prayer;
And when you bend your knee to the great Giver,
Darling, my spirit will surely be there!
Farewell! my own one! The words have been spoken,
Given and taken the last parting kiss;
Tears may be flowing and hearts may be broken,
But in the world love, what reck they of this?

Grant's Message.

WASHINGTON Dec. 5, 1876.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In submitting my eighth and last annual message to Congress, it seems proper that I should refer to and in some degree recapitulate the events and official acts of the past eight years. It was my fortune or misfortune to be called to the office of Chief Executive without any previous political training. From the age of 17 years I had never even witnessed the excitement attending a Presidential campaign, but twice antecedent to my own candidacy, and at but one of them was I eligible as a voter.

Under such circumstances it is but reasonable to suppose that errors of judgment must have occurred, even had they not differences of opinion between the Executive, bound by an oath to that strict performance of his duties, and writers and debaters must have arisen. It is not necessarily evidence of blunder on the part of the Executive because there are these differences of views. Mistakes have been made, as you can see and I admit, but it seems to me oftener in the selections made of the assistants appointed to aid in carrying out the various duties of administering the government in every case, selected without a personal acquaintance with the appointee, but upon recommendations of the representatives chosen directly by the people. It is impossible, where so many trusts are to be allotted, that the right parties should be chosen in every instance. History shows that administration from the time of Washington to the present has not been free from these mistakes. But I leave comparison to history, claiming only that I have acted in every instance from a conscientious desire to do what was right, constitutional, within the law, and for the very best interests of the whole people. Failures have been errors of judgment, not of intent.

My civil career commenced at a most critical and difficult time, less than four years before the country had emerged from a conflict such as no other nation had ever survived. Nearly one-half of the States had revolted against the government, and of those remaining faithful to the Union, a large per centage of the population sympathized with the rebellion and made an enemy in the rear almost as dangerous as the more honorable enemy in the front. The latter committed errors of judgment, but they maintained them openly and courageously. The former received the protection of the government they would see destroyed, and reaped all the pecuniary advantage to be gained out of the then existing state of affairs, many of them by obtaining contracts and by swindling the government in the delivery of their goods.

Immediately on the cessation of hostilities the then noble President, who had carried the country so far through its perils, fell a martyr to his patriotism, at the hands of an assassin. The intervening time to my first inauguration was filled up with wranglings between Congress

and the new Executive as to the best mode of reconstructing; or, to speak plainly, as to whether the control of the government should be thrown immediately into the hands of those who had so recently and persistently tried to destroy it, or whether the victors should continue to have an equal voice with them in this control. Reconstruction, as finally agreed upon, means this and only this, except that the late slave was enfranchised, giving an increase, as was supposed, to the Union loving and Union supporting voters. If free in the full sense of the word, they would not disappoint this expectation. Hence at the beginning of my first administration the work of reconstruction, much embarrassed by the long delay, virtually commenced. It was the work of the legislative branch of the government. My province was wholly in approving their acts, which I did most heartily, urging the legislatures of the states that had not yet done so to ratify the 15th amendment to the constitution. The country was laboring under an enormous debt, contracted in the suppression of the rebellion, and taxation was so oppressive as to discourage production.

Another danger also threatened us—a foreign war. The last difficulty had to be adjusted, and was adjusted without a war, and in a manner highly honorable to all concerned. Taxes have been reduced within the last seven years nearly three hundred million of dollars, and the national debt has been reduced in the same time over four hundred and thirty-five millions of dollars. By refunding the six per cent. bonded debt for bonds bearing five and four and one half per cent. interest, respectively, the annual interest has been reduced from over one hundred and thirty millions of dollars in 1869 to but little over one hundred millions of dollars in 1876.

The balance of trade has been changed from over one hundred and thirty millions against the United States in 1869 to more than one hundred and twenty millions of dollars in our favor in 1876. It is confidently believed that the balance of trade in favor of the United States will increase, not diminish, and that the pledge of Congress to resume specie payment in 1879 will be easily accomplished, even in the absence of the much desired legislation on the subject. A policy has been adopted towards the Indian tribes, inhabiting a large portion of territory of the United States, which has been humane, and has substantially ended Indian hostilities in the whole land, except in a portion of Nebraska, and Dakota, Wyoming and Montana Territories, the Black Hills region, and approaches there to. Hostilities have grown out of the wrongs of the white man, who has violated our treaty stipulations in his search for gold.

The question might be asked, "Why the government has not enforced obedience to the terms of the treaty prohibiting the occupation of the Black Hills region by whites?" The answer is simple. The first emigrants to the Black Hills were removed by troops, but rumors of rich discoveries of gold in that region increased the numbers. Gold has actually been found in paying quantity, and an effort to remove the miners would only result in the desertion of the bulk of the troops that might be sent there to remove them. All difficulty in this matter has, however, been removed, subject to the approval of Congress, by a treaty ceding the Hills and approaches a settlement by citizens. The subject of Indian policy, and treatment is so fully set forth, by the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and my views so fully expressed therein, that I refer to the reports and recommendations as my own.

The relations of the United States with foreign powers continue on a friendly footing. Questions have arisen from time to time in the foreign relations of the government but the United States have been happily free during the past year from the complications and embarrassments which have surrounded some of the foreign powers. The diplomatic correspondence submitted herewith contains information as to certain of the matters which have occupied the government. The cordiality which attends our relations with the powers of the East has been plainly shown by the general participation of foreign nations in the Exhibition which has just closed, and by the exertions made by distant powers to show their interest in and friendly feelings toward the United States in the commemoration of the centennial nation. The government and people of the United States have not only fully appreciated this exhibition of kindly feeling, but it may be justly and fairly expected that no small benefits will result both for ourselves and other nations from a better acquaintance and a better appreciation of our mutual advantage and mutual wants.

Congress at its last session saw fit to reduce the amount usually appropriated for foreign intercourse by upholding appropriations for representatives of the United States in certain foreign countries, and for certain consular officers, and by

reducing the amounts usually appropriated for certain other diplomatic posts, and thus necessitating a change in the grade of the representatives. For these reasons, immediately upon the passage of the bill making appropriations for the diplomatic and consular services for the present fiscal year, instructions were issued to the representatives of the United States at Bolivia, Ecuador and Columbia, and to the consular officers for whom no appropriation had been made, to close their respective legations and consulates and cease from the performance of their duties; and in like manner steps were immediately taken to substitute charges d'Affaires for ministers resident in Portugal, Denmark, Greece, Switzerland, Paraguay. While thoroughly impressed with the wisdom of sound economy in the foreign service, as in other branches of the government, I cannot escape the conclusion that in some instances the withholding of appropriations will prove an expensive economy, and that the small retrenchment secured by a change of grade in certain diplomatic posts is not an adequate consideration for the loss of influence and importance which will attend our foreign representatives under this reduction. I am of the opinion that a re-examination of the subjects will cause a change in some instances in the conclusions reached on these subjects at the last session of Congress.

The Court of Commissioners of the Alabama claims, whose functions were continued by an act of the last session Congress until the first day of January, 1877, has carried on its labors with diligence and general satisfaction. By a report from the clerk of the court, transmitted herewith, bearing date November 14, 1876. It appears that within the time now allowed by law the court will have disposed of all claims present for adjudication. This report also contains a statement of the general results of the labors of court to date thereof. It is a cause of satisfaction that the method adopted for the satisfaction of the claims submitted to the court, which are of long standing and justly entitled to early consideration, should have proved successful and acceptable. It is with satisfaction that I am enabled to state that the work of the Joint Commission for determining the boundary line between the United States and British Possession, from the northwest angle of the Woods to the Rocky Mountains, commenced in 1872, has been completed. The final agreements of the Commissioners, with the maps, have been duly signed and the work of the Commission is complete.

The fixing of the boundary upon the Pacific coast by the protocol of March 10, 1873, pursuant to the award of the Emperor of Germany, by article XXXIV of the treaty of Washington, with the termination of the work of this commission, adjusts and fixes the entire boundary line between the United States and the British Possessions, except as the portion of territory ceded by Russia to the United States under the treaty of 1867.

The work entrusted to the Commissioner and the officers of the army attached to the commission, has been well and satisfactorily performed.

The official report of the commissioner on the part of the United States by the report of the chief astronomer of the United States will be submitted to Congress within a short time. I reserve for a separate communication to Congress a statement of the condition of the questions which lately arose with Great Britain, respecting the surrender of fugitive criminals under the treaty of 1843.

The Ottoman government gave notice under date of January 15, 1875, of its desire to terminate the treaty of 1863, concerning Commerce and navigation, pursuant to the provisions of the 22nd article thereof. Under this notice the treaty terminated on the 5th of June, 1876. That government has invited negotiations towards the conclusion of a new treaty.

The necessary legislation to carry into effect the convention respecting Commercial reciprocity, concluded with the Hawaii Island in 1875 having been had, the proclamation to carry into effect the convention as provided by the approved August 15th, 1876, was duly issued upon the 9th day of September last; a copy thereof accompanying this message. The subject of adjustment of this cause of difficulty is under consideration between the two republics. The government of the United States of Columbia, has paid the award in the case of the steamer Montijo, seized by the authorities of that government some years since, and the amount has been transferred to the claimants.

It is satisfaction that I am able to announce that the joint committee for the adjustment of the claims between the United States and Mexico, under convention in 1868; the duration of which has several times been extended, has brought its labors to a close.

I invite your attention to the legislation which will be necessary to provide for the payment of the awards of this commission. In this connection I am

pleased to be able to express the acknowledgment to Sir E. Thornton, the United States of the Commission, who has given to the consideration of the large number of claims submitted to him much time, unwearyed patience, and that fairness and intelligence which are well known to belong to the accomplished representative of Great Britain, and which are likewise recognized by the representatives of this country.

Of the Republic of Mexico. Monthly payments of a very small part of the amount due by the Government of Venezuela to citizens of the United States, on account of claims of the latter against that government continue to be made with reasonable punctuality.

In former messages I have called the attention of Congress to the necessity of legislation with regard to fraudulent naturalization, and to the subject of expatriation and the election of nationality. I suggest no additional requirements to the acquisition of citizenship beyond those now existing, but I invite the earnest attention of Congress to the necessity and wisdom of some provisions regarding uniformity in the records and certificates and providing against the frauds which frequently take place and for the vacation of a record of naturalization obtained in frauds. These provisions are needed in aid and for the protection of the honest citizens of foreign birth, and for the want of which he is made to suffer not infrequently.

The United States has insisted upon the right of expatriation and has obtained, after a long struggle, an admission of the principle contended for by the acquiescence therein, on the part of many foreign powers and by the conclusion of treaties on the subject. It is however but just to the government, to which such naturalized citizens have formerly owed allegiance, as well as to the United States, that certain fixed and definite rules should be adopted governing such cases, and providing how expatriation may be accomplished, while emigrants in large numbers become citizens of the United States, it is also true that persons both native born and naturalized, once citizens of the United States, either by formal acts, or as the effect of a series of facts and circumstances, abandon their citizenship and cease to be entitled to the protection of the United States, but continue on convenient occasions to assert a claim to protection, in the absence of provisions on these questions.

And in this connection, I again invite your attention to the necessity of legislation concerning the marriage of American citizens, contracted abroad, and concerning the status of American women who may marry foreigners, and of children born of American parents in a foreign country. The delicate and complicated questions continually occurring with reference to naturalization, expatriation and the status of such persons as I have above referred to, induce me to earnestly direct your attention again to these subjects.

In like manner I repeat my recommendation that some manner be provided for the hearing and determination of the just and subsisting claims of aliens upon the Government of the United States, within a reasonable limitation, and of such as may hereafter arise. While by existing provisions of law, the court of claims may in certain cases be resorted to by an alien claimant, the absence of any general provisions governing all such cases and the want of a tribunal skilled in the disposition of such cases, upon recognized principles, either provides no remedy in many deserving cases, or compels a consideration of such classes by Congress or the executive departments of the government.

It is believed that other governments are in advance of the United States upon this question, and that the practice now adopted is entirely unsatisfactory. Congress, by an act approved the 3d day of March 1875, authorizing the inhabitants of the Territory of Colorado to form a State government, a constitution having been adopted and ratified by the people of that State, and the acting government certified to me the facts as provided by said act, together with a copy of said constitution and ordinance as provided for in said act, and the provisions of the said act of Congress having been complied with, I issued a proclamation upon the 1st of August, 1876, a copy of which is hereto annexed.

The estimates of the War Department are made exclusive of engineer estimates presented in accordance with acts of Congress calling for surveys and estimates for improvements at various localities. The estimates now presented are about \$6,000,000 in excess of the appropriations for the years 1874-75 and 1875-76. This increase is asked in order to provide for the increase cavalry force, should their services be necessary to prosecute economically the work upon important public buildings; to provide for the armament of fortifications and manufacture of small arms and replenish the working stock in the supply departments.

The appropriations for these last named have for the past few years been so limited,

ed, that the accumulation in store, will be entirely exhausted during the present year, and it will be necessary to at once begin to replenish them. I invite your special attention to the following recommendation of the Secretary of War.

That the claims under the act of July 4th 1874 for supplies taken by the army during the war be removed from the offices of the quartermaster and commissary General and transferred to the Southern claims commission, these claims are of a precisely similar nature to those now before the Southern claims commission and the War Department Bureau have not the clerical force for their examination, nor proper machinery for investigating the loyalty of the claimants.

2. That Congress sanction the scheme of the annuity fund for the benefit of the families of deceased officers, and that it also provide for the permanent organization of the signal service, both of which were recommended in my last annual message.

3. That the manufacturing operations of the Ordnance Department be concentrated at three arsenals and an armory; and that the remaining arsenals be sold and the proceeds applied to this object by the Ordnance Department. The appropriations for River and Harbor improvements for the year were \$6,015,000.

With my approval the Secretary of War directed that of this amount \$2,000,000 should be expended; and new works should be begun and none prosecuted which were not of national importance. Subsequently this amount was increased to \$2,237,600; and the works are now progressing on this basis.

The fact that our navy is not more modern and powerful than it is, has been made the cause of complaint against the Secretary of the Navy by persons who at the same time criticize and complain of his endeavors to bring the navy that we have to its best and most efficient condition, but the good sense of the country will understand, that it is really due to this practical action, that we have at this time any effective naval force at command.

The report of the Postmaster General shows the excess of expenditures on account of the previous year over receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1876, are \$4,151,988.66. The estimated expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30 1876, are \$36,723,432.43. The estimated revenue for the same period is \$30,645,155, leaving an estimated excess of expenditures to be appropriated as a deficiency of \$6,078,287.43.

The Postmaster General, like his predecessor, is convinced that a change in the basis of adjusting the salaries of Postmasters of the fourth class, is necessary for the good of the service, as well as for the interests of the government, and urgently recommends that the compensation of the class of Postmasters above mentioned, be based upon the business of their respective offices ascertained from the receipts to Auditor Avery. A gratifying result is presented, in the fact that the deficiency of this Department during the last fiscal year, was reduced to \$4,081,790.18, against \$6,169,936.88 of the preceding year. The difference can be traced to the large increase in its ordinary receipts, which greatly exceeded the estimates therefor, and a slight decrease in its expenditures.

The International Exhibition in Philadelphia this year, in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of American Independence has proved a great success and will no doubt be of enduring advantage to the country. It has shown the great progress in the arts, sciences and mechanical skill made in a single century, and demonstrated that we are but little behind older nations in any one branch, while in some, we scarcely have a rival. It has served not only to bring people and products of skill and labor from all parts of the world together but to bring together people from all parts of our own country, which must prove a great benefit in the information imparted and pride of country engendered.

It has been suggested by scientists interested in and connected with the Smithsonian institution in a communication herewith, that the government exhibit be removed to the Capital and a suitable building be erected or purchased for its accommodation as a permanent exhibit. I earnestly recommend this and believing that Congress would second this view, I directed that all Government Exhibits at the Centennial Exhibition should remain where they are, except such as might be injured by remaining in a building not intended as a protection in inclement weather, or such as may be wanted by the department furnishing them, until the question of a permanent Exhibition is acted upon.

Although the moneys appropriated by Congress to enable the participation of the several Executive Departments in the International Exhibition of 1876, were not sufficient to carry out the undertaking to the full extent at first contemplated, it gives me pleasure to refer to the very efficient and creditable management

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