

The Potter Journal

Devoted to the Principles of True Democracy, and the Dissemination of Notably, Literature and News.

COUDERSPORT, POTTER COUNTY, PA., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1864.

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POTTER JOURNAL.
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Devoted to the cause of Republicanism, the interests of Agriculture, the advancement of Education, and the best good of Potter County. Owing to the fact that the Journal will endeavor to aid in the work of more fully Freedoming our Country.

Advertisements inserted at the following rates, except where special bargains are made:
1 Square (10 lines) 1 insertion, \$1.50
Each subsequent insertion less than 13, 25
1 Square three months, 4.00
" six " 5.50
" one year, 6.00
Column six months, 10.00
" " " 7.00
" " per year, 40.00
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All transient advertisements must be paid in advance, and no notice will be taken of advertisements from a distance, unless they are accompanied by the money or satisfactory references.
Blanks, and Job Work of all kinds, attended to promptly and faithfully.

BUSINESS CARDS.

Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons.
EULALIA LODGE, No. 342, P. A. M.
STATED Meetings on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month. Also Masonic gatherings on every Wednesday Evening, for work and practice, at their Hall in Coudersport.
C. H. WARRNER, W. M.
A. SIDNEY LYMAN, Secy.

JOHN S. MANN,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW,
Coudersport, Pa., will attend the several Courts in Potter and McKean Counties. All business entrusted in his care will receive prompt attention. Office corner of West and Third streets.

ARTHUR G. OLIMSTED,
ATTORNEY & COUNSELLOR AT LAW,
Coudersport, Pa., will attend to all business entrusted to him, with promptness. Office on Second street, near the Allegheny Bridge.

ISAAC BENSON,
ATTORNEY AT LAW, Coudersport, Pa., will attend to all business entrusted to him, with care and promptness. Office on Second street, near the Allegheny Bridge.

F. W. KNOWN,
ATTORNEY AT LAW, Coudersport, Pa., will regularly attend the Courts in Potter and the adjoining Counties.

O. T. ELISON,
PRACTISING PHYSICIAN, Coudersport, Pa., respectfully informs the citizens of the village and vicinity that he will promptly respond to all calls for professional services. Office on Main street, in building formerly occupied by C. W. Ellis, Esq.

C. S. & E. A. JONES,
DEALERS IN DRUGS, MEDICINES, PAINTS, Oils, Fancy Articles, Stationery, Dry Goods, Groceries, &c., Main st., Coudersport, Pa.

D. E. OLIMSTED,
DEALER IN DRY GOODS, READY-MADE Clothing, Crockery, Groceries, &c., Main st., Coudersport, Pa.

COLLINS SMITH,
DEALER IN DRY GOODS, Groceries, Provisions, Hardware, Queensware, Cutlery, and all Goods usually found in a country Store.—Coudersport, Nov. 27, 1864.

COUDERSPORT HOTEL,
D. F. GLASSMIRE, Proprietor, Corner of Main and Second Streets, Coudersport, Potter Co., Pa.
A Livery Stable is also kept in connection with this Hotel.

H. J. OLIMSTED,
DEALER IN STOVES, TIN & SHEET IRON WARE, Main st., nearly opposite the Court House, Coudersport, Pa. Tin and Sheet Iron Ware made to order, in good style, on short notice.

W. H. MILLER, J. C. McALARNEY,
MILLER & McALARNEY,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
HARRISBURG, PA.
AGENTS for the Collection of Claims against the United States and State Governments, such as Pension, Bounty, Arrears of Pay &c. Address Box 93, Harrisburg, Pa.

Pension Bounty and War Claim Agency.
PENSIONS procured for soldiers of the present war who are disabled by reason of wounds received or disease contracted while in the service of the United States; and while in the service of the United States; and pensions, bounty, and arrears of pay obtained for widows or heirs of those who have died or been killed while in service. All letters of inquiry promptly answered, and on receipt of mail of a statement of the case of claimant, I will forward the necessary papers for their signature. Fees in Pension cases as fixed by law.
References.—Hon. ISAAC BENSON, Hon. A. G. OLIMSTED, J. S. MANN, Esq., F. W. KNOWN, Esq., DANBAKER,
Claim Agent Coudersport Pa.
June 8, '64-ly.

HOWARD ASSOCIATION,
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
DISEASES of the Nervous, Seminal, Urinary and sexual systems—new and reliable treatment—in reports of the HOWARD ASSOCIATION—sent by mail in sealed letter envelopes, free of charge. Address, Dr. I. SEULIN HOUGHTON, Howard Association, No. 7 South Ninth Street, Philadelphia, Pa. Jy 18, 1864.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:—

Again the blessings of health, and an abundant harvest claim our profoundest gratitude to Almighty God.

OUR RELATIONS WITH CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA.
The condition of our foreign affairs is reasonably satisfactory.

Mexico continues to be a theatre of civil war. Whilst our political relations with that country have undergone no change, we have at the same time strictly maintained a neutrality between the belligerents.

At the request of the state of Costa Rica and Nicaragua, a competent Engineer has been authorized to make a survey of the river San Juan, and the port San Juan.

It is the source of much satisfaction that the difficulties which for a moment excited some political apprehensions, and caused a closing of the inter-oceanic transit route, have been amicably adjusted and then there is a good prospect that the route will soon be reopened with an increase of capacity and adaptation.

We could not exaggerate either the commercial or political importance of that great improvement.

It would be doing injustice to an important South American State not to acknowledge the directness, frankness, and cordiality with which the United States of Columbia have entered into intimate relation with this Government.

A Claims Convention has been constituted to complete the unfinished work of one which closed its session in 1861.

The new liberal constitution of Venezuela having gone into effect, with the universal acquiescence of the people, the Governor under it has been recognized, and the diplomatic intercourse has been opened with it in a cordial and friendly spirit.

The long-deferred Aresis land claim has been satisfactorily paid and discharged. Mutual payments have been made of the late joint commission for the settlement of claims between the United States and Peru.

An earnest and cordial friendship continues to exist between the two countries, and such efforts as were in my power have been used to remove misunderstandings and avert a threatened war between Peru and Spain.

Our relations are of the most friendly nature with Chile, the Argentine Republic, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Paraguay, San Salvador and Hayti.

During the past year no differences of those Republics, and on the other hand their sympathies with the United States are constantly expressed with cordiality and earnestness.

The claims arising from the seizure of the cargo of the brig Macedonia, in 1861, have been paid in full by the Government of Chile.

Civil war continues in the Spanish part of San Domingo, apparently without prospect of an early close.

LIBERIA.
Official correspondence has been freely opened with Liberia, and it gives us a pleasing view of social and political progress in that Republic.

It may be expected to derive new vigor from American influence, improved by the rapid disappearance of slavery in the United States. I solicit your authority to furnish to the Republic a gubonot of moderate cost, to be reimbursed to the United States by instalments. Such a vessel is needed for the safety of that State against the native African races, and in Liberia hands it would be more effective in arresting the African slave trade than a squadron in our own hands.

The possession of the least organized naval force would stimulate a generous ambition in the Republic, and the confidence which we should manifest by furnishing it would win forbearance and favor toward the Colony from all civilized nations.

INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPHS.
The proposed Overland Telegraph between America and Europe by the way of Behring's Straits and Asiatic Russia, which was sanctioned by Congress at the last session has been undertaken under very favorable circumstances by the association of American citizens, with the cordial good will and support as well of this Government as those of Great Britain and Russia.

Assurances have been received from most of the South American States of their appreciation of the enterprise and their readiness to co-operate in construction lines tributary to that world encircling communication. I learn with much satisfaction that the noble design of a telegraph communication between the eastern coast of America and Great Britain has been renewed, with full expectation of its accomplishment. Thus it is hoped that with the return of domestic peace the country will be able to resume with energy and advantage its former high career of commerce and civilization.

EGYPT.

Our very popular and estimable representative in Egypt died in April last.

An unpleasant altercation which arose between the temporary incumbent of the office and the Government of the Pacha resulted in a suspension of intercourse. The evil was promptly corrected on the arrival of the successor in the consulate, and our relations with Egypt, as well as our relations with the Barbary powers, are entirely satisfactory.

CHINA.
The rebellion which has been so long raging in China has been suppressed, with the cooperation and offices of this Government, and of the other Western and commercial States.

The judicious consular establishment there has become very difficult and onerous, and it will need legislative revision to adapt it to the extension of our commerce, and to the more intimate intercourse which has been instituted with the Government and people of that vast empire.

China seems to be accepting with hearty good will the conventional laws which regulate commercial and social intercourse among the western nations.

Owing to the peculiar situation of Japan, and the anomalous form of its government, the action of that empire in performing treaty stipulations is inconstant and capricious. Nevertheless good progress has been effected by the Western powers moving with enlightened concert.

Our own pecuniary claims have been allowed or put in course of settlement, and the inland sea has been reopened to commerce. There is reason to believe that these proceedings have increased rather than diminished the friendship of Japan towards the United States.

THE OPENING OF BLOCKADED PORTS.
The ports of Norfolk, Fernandina, and Pensacola have been opened by proclamation. It is hoped that foreign merchants will consider whether it is not safer and more profitable to themselves, as well as just to the United States, to resort to these and other open ports, than it is to pursue, through many hazards and vast cost, a contraband trade with other ports which are closed, if not by actual military occupation, at least by a lawful and effective blockade.

For myself I have no doubt of the power of the executive, under the law of nations, to exclude enemies of the human race from an asylum in the United States. If Congress should think that the proceedings in such cases lack the authority of law, or ought to be further regulated by it, I recommend that provision be made for effectually preventing foreign slave traders from acquiring domicile and facilities for their criminal occupation in our country.

It is possible that if it were a new and open question, the maritime Powers, with the rights they now enjoy, would not concede the privileges of a neutral belligerent to the insurgents of the United States, despoiled as they are, and always have been, equally of ships of war and of ports and harbors. Disloyal emissaries have been, nevertheless, assiduous, no more successful during the last year than they were before that privilege, to enroll our country in foreign war. The desire and determination of the government of the maritime States to defeat the design are believed to be sincere, and cannot be more earnest than our own.

Nevertheless, unforeseen political difficulties have arisen particularly in Brazilian and British ports, and on the northern boundary of the United States which have required, and are likely to continue to require, the practice of constant vigilance, and a just and conciliatory spirit, on the part of the United States, as well as of the nations concerned and their Governments.

THE BARRIERS PROVINCES.
Commissioners have been appointed under the treaty with Great Britain, on the adjustment of the claims of the Hudson Bay and Puget Sound Agricultural Companies in Oregon, and are now proceeding to the execution of the trust assigned to them.

In view of the insecurity of life and property in the region adjacent to the Canadian border, by reason of recent assaults and depredations committed by inimical and desperate persons who are harbored there, it has been thought proper to give notice that, after the expiration of six months, the period constitutionally stipulated in the existing arrangements with Great Britain, the United States must hold themselves at liberty to increase their naval armament upon the Lakes, if they shall find that proceeding necessary. The condition of the border will necessarily come in consideration with the question of continuing or modifying the rights of transit from Canada through the United States, as well as the regulation of imports, which was temporarily established by the reciprocity treaty of June 5th, 1864. I desire, however, to be understood, while making the statement, that the colonial authorities of Canada are not deemed to be intention-

ally unjust and unfriendly towards the United States, but, on the contrary, there is every reason to expect that, with the approval of the Imperial Government they will take the necessary measures to prevent new incursions across the border.

EMIGRATION.
The act passed at the last session for the encouragement of emigration, has, so far as possible, been put into operation. It seems to need amendment, which, will enable the officers of the Government to prevent the practice of frauds against the immigrants while on their way, and on their arrival in the ports, so as to secure them here a free choice of vocations and places of settlement. A liberal disposition towards this great national policy is manifested by most of the European States, and ought to be reciprocated on our part by giving the immigrants effective national protection. I regard our immigrants as one of the principal replenishing streams which are appointed by Providence to repair the ravages of internal war, and its wastes of national health and strength. All that is necessary is to secure the flow of that stream in its present fullness, and to that end the Government must, in every way make it manifest that it neither needs nor designs to impose involuntary military service upon those who come from other lands to cast their lots in our country.

THE NATIONAL FINANCES.
The financial affairs of the Government have been successfully administered during the last year. The legislation of the last session of Congress has beneficially affected the revenues, although sufficient time has not yet elapsed to experience the full effect of several of the provisions of the acts of Congress imposing increased taxation.

The receipts during the year from all sources, upon the basis of warrants signed by the Secretary of the Treasury, including loans, and the balance in the Treasury on the first day of July, 1863, were \$1,394,796,007 62, and the aggregate disbursements upon the same basis were \$1,293,056,101 89, leaving a balance in the Treasury, as shown by warrants, of \$99,739,905 73.

Deduct from these amounts the amount of the principal of the public debt redeemed, and the amount of issues in substitution therefor, and the actual cash operations of the Treasury were: Receipts, \$884,076,646 37; Disbursements, \$865,284,087 86, which leaves a cash balance in the Treasury of \$18,842,558 51.

Of the receipts, there were derived from customs \$102,316,152 39; from lands \$588,333 29; from direct taxes \$475,848 90; from internal revenue \$109,741,134 10; from miscellaneous sources \$47,511,448 10; and from loans applied to actual expenditures, including former balance, \$626,443,920 13.

There were disbursed for the civil service \$27,508,599 48; for pensions and Indians \$7,627,930 07; for the War Department, \$690,791,892 97; for the Navy Department, \$85,783,292 77; for interest on the Public Debt, \$58,685,421 69; making an aggregate of \$865,284,087 86, and leaving a balance in the Treasury of \$48,842,558 51, as before stated.

For the actual receipts and disbursements for the first quarter, and the estimated receipts and disbursements for the three remaining quarters of the current fiscal year, and the general operations of the Treasury in detail, I refer you to the report of the Secretary of the Treasury. I concur with him in the opinion that the proportion of moneys required to meet the expenses consequent upon the war derived from taxation, should be still further increased, and I earnestly invite your attention to this subject, to the end that there may be such additional legislation as should be required to meet the just expectations of the Secretary.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.
The public debt on the 1st of January last, as appears by the books of the Treasury, amounted to one billion, seven hundred and forty thousand millions, six hundred and ninety thousand four hundred and eighty-nine dollars and forty-nine cents. Probably, should the war continue for another year, that amount will be increased by not far from five hundred millions. Held as it is for the most part by our own people, it has become a substantial branch of national, though private, property. For obvious reasons the more nearly this property can be distributed among all the people the better. To favor such general distribution greater inducements to become owners might, perhaps, with good effect, and without injury, be presented to persons of limited means. With this view, I suggest whether it might not be both competent and expedient for Congress to provide that a limited amount of some future issue of public securities might be held by any bona fide purchaser, exempt from taxation and from seizure for debt, under such restrictions and limitations as

might be necessary to guard against abuse of so important a privilege. This would enable every prudent person to set aside a small annuity against a possible day of want.

Privileges like these would render the possession of such securities, to the amount limited, most desirable to every person of small means who might be able to save enough for the purpose. The great advantage of citizens being creditors as well as debtors, with relation to the public debt, is obvious. Men readily perceive that they cannot be much oppressed by a debt which they owe to themselves.

The public debt, on the first day of July last, although somewhat exceeding the estimate of the Secretary of the Treasury made to Congress at the commencement of the last session, falls short of the estimate of the officer made in the preceding December, as to its probable amount at the beginning of this year, by the sum of \$3,395,097 31. This fact exhibits a satisfactory condition and conduct of the operations of the Treasury.

NATIONAL BANKS.
The National banking system is proving to be acceptable to the capitalists and to the people. On the 25th day of November five hundred and eighty-four National banks had been authorized, a considerable number of which were conversions from the State banks. Changes from the State systems to the National system are rapidly taking place, and it is hoped that very soon there will be in the United States no banks of issue not authorized by Congress, and no bank note circulation not secured by the Government. That the Government and the people will derive great benefit from this change in the banking system of the country can hardly be questioned. The National system will create a reliable and permanent influence in support of the National credit, and protect the people against losses in the issue of paper money.

Whether or not any further legislation is advisable for the suppression of State bank issues, it will be for Congress to determine.

THE ARMY.
The report of the Secretary of War and the accompanying documents will detail the campaigns of the armies in the field since the date of the last annual message, and also the operations of the several administrative bureaus of the War Department during the last year. It will also specify the measures deemed essential for the national defence and to keep up and supply the requisite military force.

THE NAVY.
The report of the Secretary of the Navy presents a comprehensive and satisfactory exhibit of the affairs of that Department, and of the naval service. It is a subject of congratulation and laudable pride to our countrymen that a navy of such vast proportion has been organized in so brief a period, and conducted with so much efficiency and success.

The general exhibit of the navy, including vessels under construction, on the 1st of December, 1863, shows a total of 671 vessels, carrying 4,610 guns and of 510,396 tons, being an actual increase during the year, over and above all the losses, shipwreck and battle, of 83 vessels, 167 guns, 42,427 tons. The total number of men at this time in the naval service, including officers, is about 51,000. There have been captured by the navy during the year 324 vessels, and the whole number of naval captures since hostilities commenced is 1,379, of which 267 are steamers. The gross proceeds arising from the sale of condemned prizes reported amount to \$14,306,250 51. A large amount of such proceeds is still under adjudication, and yet to be reported. The total expenditures of the Navy Department of every description, including the cost of the immense squadrons that have been called into existence from the 4th of March 1861, to the 1st of November, 1864, are \$488,647,262 35. Your favorable consideration is invited to the various recommendations of the Secretary of the Navy, especially in regard to a navy yard and suitable establishment for the construction and repair of iron vessels and the machinery and armature for our ships, to which reference was made in my last annual message.

Your attention is also directed to the views expressed in the report, in relation to the legislation of Congress, at its last session, in respect to the prizes in our inland waters. I cordially concur in the recommendation of the Secretary as to the propriety of creating the new rank of Vice Admiral in our naval service.

THE POSTAL SYSTEM.
Your attention is invited to the report of the Post Master General for a detailed account of the operations and financial condition of the Post-Office Department. The postal revenue for the year ending June 30, 1864, amounted to \$12,438,253 78, and the expenditures to \$12,

644,789 20; the excess of expenditures over receipts being \$206,652 42.

The views presented by the Post Master General on the subject of special grants by the Government in aid of the establishment of new lines of ocean mail steamships, and the policy he recommends for the development of increased commercial intercourse with adjacent and neighboring countries, should they receive the careful consideration of Congress.

NATIONAL PROGRESS.
It is of no note worthy interest that the steady expansion of population, improvement, and governmental institutions over the new and unoccupied portions of our territory has scarcely been checked, much less impeded or destroyed, by our great civil war, which, at the first glance, would seem to have absorbed almost the entire energies of the nation.

The organization and admission of the State of Nevada has been completed in conformity with law, and thus an excellent system is firmly established in the mountains which once seemed a barren and unprofitable waste between the Atlantic States and those which have grown up on the Pacific Ocean.

The Territories of the Union are generally in a condition of prosperity and rapid growth. Idaho and Montana, by reason of their great distance and interruption of communication with them by Indian hostilities, have been only partially organized, but it is understood that these difficulties are about to disappear, which will permit their Governments, like those of the others, to go into speedy and full operation. As intimately connected with the welfare and promotion of the nation, I ask the attention of Congress to the valuable information and important recommendations relating to the public lands, Indian affairs, the Pacific Railroad, and the mineral discoveries, contained in the report of the Secretary of the Interior, which is herewith transmitted, and which report also embraces the subject of patents, pensions, and other topics of public interest pertaining to his Department.

THE PUBLIC LANDS.
The quantity of public lands disposed of during the five quarters ending on the 30th of September last was 4,221,342 acres, of which 1,538,614 acres were entered under the homestead law. The remainder was located with military land warrants, agricultural scrips, certified to States for railroads and sold for cash. The cash received from sales and location fees was \$1,018,440.

The increase from sales during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1864, was \$678,097 95 received during the preceding year. The aggregate number of acres surveyed during the year has been equal to the quantity disposed of, and there is open to settlement about 133,000,000 acres of surveyed land.

PACIFIC RAILROAD AND TELEGRAPH.
The great enterprise of connecting the Atlantic with the Pacific States by railroads and telegraph lines has been entered upon with a vigor that gives assurance of success, notwithstanding the embarrassments arising from the prevailing high prices of materials and labor. The route of the main line of the road has been definitely located for one hundred miles westward from the initial points at Omaha City, Nebraska, and a temporary location of the Pacific Railroad of California has been made from Sacramento eastward of the Great Bend of the Truckee River in Nevada. Numerous discoveries of gold, silver, and copper mines have been added to the many heretofore known, and the country occupied by the Sierra Nevada and Rocky Mountains and the subordinate ranges now teem with the enterprising labor which is richly remunerative. It is believed that the produce of precious metals in that region has, during the year reached if not exceeded one hundred millions in value.

THE INDIANS.
It was recommended in my last annual message that our Indian system be reorganized. Congress at its last session, in response to the recommendation, did provide for reorganizing the system of California and it is believed that under the present organization the management of the Indians there will be attended with reasonable success. Much yet remains to be done to provide for the proper management of the Indians in other parts of the country, and to provide for the advancing settlers, and to provide for the Indians. The Secretary reiterates his recommendations, and to them the attention of Congress is invited.

PENSIONS.
The liberal provisions made by Congress for paying pensions to invalid soldiers, and sailors of the Republic, and to widows, orphans, and dependent mothers of those who have fallen in battle or died of disease contracted, or wounds received in the service of their country, have been diligently administered.

[See next page.]