THE TIOGA COUNTY AGITATOR.

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THE TIOGA COUNTY AGITATOR

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VAN GELDER & MITCHELL.

P. C. Van Gelder. | Jno. I. Mitchell.

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☞ Justice Blanks, Constable Blanks, Deeds, Judgment Notes, Marriage Certificates, &c., on hand.

BUSINESS CARDS.

Van Gelder & Mitchell,

Book, Plain and Fancy Job Printers. All work promptly and neatly executed.—Jan. 1, 1870.

William A. Stone.

Attorney and Counselor at Law, first door above Converse & Osgood's store, on Main street. Wellsboro, June 22, 1870 y

Smith & Merrick,

Attorneys & Counselors at Law. Insurance, Bounty and Pension Agency, Office on Main Street, Wellsboro Pa, opposite Union Block. Jan. 1. 1870. W. H. SMITH. GEO. W. MERRICK.

Seeley, Coates & Co.

BANKERS, Knoxville, Tioga, County, Pa.—Receive money on deposit, discount notes, and sell drafts on New York City. Collections promptly made.—Dec. 15, 1869-1y*

Jno. W. Adams,

Attorney and Counselor at Law, Mansfield, Tioga county, Pa. Collections promptly attended to. Jan. 1, 1870.

Jno. I. Mitchell,

Attorney and Counselor at Law, Claim, and Insurance Agent. Office over Kress' Drug Store, adjoining Agitator Office, Wellsboro, Pa. Jan. 1, 1870.

Wilson & Niles,

Attorneys and Counselors at Law. Will attend promptly to business entrusted to their care in the counties of Tioga and Potter. Office on the Avenue. Jan. 1, 1870.
S. F. WILSON.] [J. B. NILES.

John W. Guernsey,

Attorney and Counselor at Law. All business entrusted to him will be promptly attended to. Office 2d door south of Hazlett's Hotel, Tioga, Tioga County, Pa.—Jan. 1, 1870.

Wm. B. Smith,

Pension, Bounty and Insurance Agent. Communications sent to the above address will receive prompt attention. Terms moderate, Knoxville, Pa.—Jan. 1, 1870.

Seymour & Horton,

Attorneys and Counselors at law, Tioga Pa. All business entrusted to their care will receive prompt attention.
C. H. SEYMOUR. J. C. HORTON.

W. D. Terbell & Co.,

Wholesale Druggists, and dealers in Wall Paper, Kerosene Lamps, Window Glass, Perfumery, Paints, Oils, &c., &c.—Corning, N. Y. Jan. 1 '70.

D. Bacon, M. D.,

Physician and Surgeon. Will attend promptly to all calls. Office on Crafton Street, in rear of the Meat Market, Wellsboro.—Jan. 1, 1870.

A. M. Bagham, M. D.,

Homœopathist, Office at his Residence on the Avenue.—Jan. 1, 1870.

George Wagner,

Tailor. Shop first door north of Roberts & Bailey's Hardware Store. Cutting, Fitting and Repairing done promptly and well.—Jan. 1, 1870.

R. E. Onley,

Dealer in Clocks and Jewelry, Silver and Plated Ware, Spectacles, Violin Strings, &c. Watches and Jewelry neatly repaired. Engraving done in plain English and German.—Mansfield, Pa., Jan. 1, 1870.

Petroleum House,

Westfield, Pa., Geo. Close, Proprietor. A new Hotel conducted on the principle of live and let live, for the accommodation of the public. Jan. 1, 1870.

Hazlett's Hotel,

Tioga, Tioga County, Pa. Good stabling attached, and an attentive hostler always in attendance. Geo. W. Hazlett, Prop'r.—Jan. 1, 1870.

Hill's Hotel,

Westfield Borough, Tioga Co., Pa. E. G. Hill, Proprietor. A new and commodious building with all the modern improvements. Within easy drive of the best hunting and fishing Grounds in Northern Penn'a. Conveyances furnished. Terms moderate.—Jan. 1, 1870.

Smith's Hotel,

Tioga, Pa., E. M. Smith, Proprietor. House in good condition to accommodate the travelling public in a superior manner.—Jan. 1, 1870.

Farmers' Hotel.

B. MONROE, Proprietor. This house, formerly occupied by E. Fellows, is conducted on temperance principles. Every accommodation for man and beast. Charges reasonable. March 30, 1870.-tf.

Union Hotel.

Wm. B Van Horn, Proprietor, Wellsboro, Pa. This house is pleasantly located, and has all the conveniences for man and beast. Charges moderate.—May 4, 1870-1y.

To the Citizens of Mansfied

AND VICINITY.

I TAKE pleasure in announcing to the public that I have on hand a large and splendid assortment of

PARLOR AND COOK

STOVES,

both useful and Ornamental, which I am offering to the public cheaper than ever sold before. I will sell a good No. 8 Cook Stove with Furniture for $20. I keep in stock P. P. Packham's popular Cook. This is said to be the best Stove made in the United States. I also keep the

Lightning X Cut Saw,

the fastest cutting Saw in the world. The manufacturers of this Saw challenge the world under a forfeit of $500 that that this is the fastest cutting saw made.

Thanking my friends for their patronage in the past, and hoping still to merit their favor, I am as ever, grateful,

G. B. KIFF.

P. S.—I challenge one and all of the Stove dealers in this county to sell as cheap as I do J. W. Jaquish, not excepted. G. B. K.

Mansfield, Nov. 2, 1870.-3m.

C. F. & O. Moore.

LIVERY AND EXCHANGE STABLES Wellsboro, Pa. Office and Stables on Water Street, in rear of Court House. They will furnish horses, single or double, with Buggies, or Carriages, at short notice. Long experience in the business enables the proprietors to announce with confidence they can meet any reasonable demands in their line. Drivers furnished, if desired and passengers carried to any part of the country. Thankful for past favors, they invite continuance of custom. Terms reasonable.
Nov. 24, 1869.-1y.

New Tobacco Store!

THE subscriber has fitted up the Store first door east Thomas Harden's dry goods store, for the manufacture and sale of

CIGARS, (all grades), Fancy and Common SMOKING TOBACCO, Michigan Fine Cut CHEWING, and all kinds of PLUG TOBACCO, PIPES, and the choicest Brand of CIGARS.

☞ Call and see for yourselves.
JOHN W. PURSEL.
Wellsboro, Jan. 1, 1870—tf.

New Tannery.

THE undersigned has fitted up the old Foundry building, near the Brewery, Wellsboro, and is now prepared to turn out fine calf, kip, cowhide, and harness leather in the best manner. Hides tanned on shares. Cash paid for hides. MARTIN AUDURIER
Wellsboro, Jan. 1, 1870.

TIOGA DRUG STORE!

BORDEN keeps constantly on hand: Pure Drugs and Medicines, Chemicals, Paints and Oils, Lamps, Stationery, Yankee Notions &c.

PRESCRIPTIONS CAREFULLY COMPOUNDED.
H. H. BORDEN.
Tioga, Jan. 1, 1870.-1y.

1870. FOR SALE. 1870.

BY
T. B. STONE,
(formerly B. C. Wickham's Nursery)

AT THIS NURSERY OF FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES, IN TIOGA:—

60,000 Apple Trees,

10,000 Pear Trees.

A good supply of PLUM, PEACH, CHERRY and ORNAMENTAL TREES & SHRUBBERY

The Fruit trees are composed of the choicest varities, good, healthy, some of them large and in bearing. Any one wishing to get a supply will do well to call and see my stock before purchasing elsewhere. ☞ Delivered at the depot, Wellsboro, Mansfield, Lawrenceville and Blossburg, free of charge. All orders promptly filled.
Address, T. B. STONE,
Tioga, Pa.
Tioga, Dec. 8, 1869-1y*

PAINTS,

OILS AND BRUSHES,

For the Million, at

March 16, 1870-tf. W. C. KRESS.

House & Lot for Sale.

A GOOD House and barn, on a lot of two acres, within ten minutes walk of the Court House, Wellsboro, is offered for sale. Inquire of John I. Mitchell, Esq., Wellsboro. Jan. 25, 1870-tf.

MANSFIELD

MINERAL PAINT,

For sale by

March 16, 1870-tf. W. C KRESS.

HOWARD SANITARY AID ASSOCIATION,

For the Relief and Cure of the Erring and Unfortunate, on Principles of Christian Philanthropy.

ESSAYS ON THE ERRORS OF YOUTH, and the Follies of Age, in relation to MARRIAGE and SOCIAL EVILS with Sanitary aid for the afflicted, sent free, in sealed envelopes. Address, HOWARD ASSOCIATION, Box P, Philadelphia, Pa.
May 4, 1870-1y.

Wholesale and Retail DRUG STORE!

By W. C. KRESS.

LOTS SPRING GOODS.

THE subscriber will keep on hand at all times a full stock of

DRUGS AND MEDICINES,

PAINTS, OILS,

Patent Medicines,

Flavoring Extracts, Perfumery, Kerosene, Lamps, Wicks, Dye Colors, White Wash, Lime and Brushes, Varnish and Sash Brushes, Window Glass all sizes, Varnish of all kinds, Fancy Soaps, Hair Oils,

SPECTACLES,

Hair and Tooth Brushes, a full stock of Yankee Notions; also a complete assortment of

Homœopathic Medicines,

and a full stock of

Pure Wines and Liquors.

Buyers are requested to call and examine prices before purchasing elsewhere

Apr. 20, 1870. W. C. KRESS.

THE GEM!

M. M. SEARS, PROPRIETOR.

WHERE delicious Ice Cream, French Confectionary, all kinds of fruits in their season, a nice dish of Tea, Coffee, or Chocolate, and Oysters in their season—can be had at all hours, served in the best style. Next door below Roberts & Bailey's Hardware Store, Main Street.
Wellsboro, Jan. 1, 1870.

E. H. Harris'

CELEBRATED BAKING POWDERS

for sale by

Feb. 2, 1870 P. R. WILLIAMS & CO

CALL AND SEE that large stock of wall paper, selling off at cost, at
P. R. WILLIAMS & CO'S.
Wellsboro, May 25, 1870

For Sale.

A HOUSE AND LOT—the former contains 1 acre—on Nichols St. Also one 3 year old Hambletonian colt, 2 new buggies, one sulky and harness.
R. C. BAILEY.
October 19, 1870.-tf

For Sale or Rent.

A GOOD dairy farm in Tioga township, Tioga county, Pa., about 22 miles west of the Borough of Tioga, about 100 acres improved, and 40 unimproved. Has on it three barns, three dwelling houses, an apple and peach orchard, and other fruit trees. Terms easy. Also adjoining on the west, a farm and timber lands from 40 to 200 acres as desired, with 80 acres improved, with a good barn, a good house and apple orchard. Good for a dairying farm
Nov. 17, 1870-tf. C. H. SEYMOUR,
Tioga, Pa.

WM. B. ARMSTRONG. SAMUEL LINN.

Armstrong & Linn,

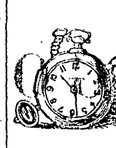
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,

WILLIAMSPORT, PENN'A.

Aug. 4, 1869-1y.

JEWELRY STORE!

WELLSBORO, PA.



ANDREW FOLEY, who has long been established in the Jewelry business in Wellsboro, has always on sale, various kinds and prices of

AMERICAN WATCHES,

GOLD OR SILVER, CLOCKS, JEWELRY, GOLD CHAINS, KEYS, RINGS, PINS, PENCILS, CASES, GOLD & STEEL PENS, THIMBLES, SPOONS, RAZORS, PLATED WARE,

SEWING MACHINES,

&c., &c., &c.

With most other articles usually kept in such establishment, which is sold low for

CASH.

Repairing done neatly, and promptly, and on short NOTICE. A. FOLEY.
January 5, 1870-1y.

State Normal School,

MANSFIELD, PA.

FALL TERM begins Sept. 7, 1870.
WINTER TERM begins Dec. 12, 1870.
SPRING TERM begins March 27, 1871.

For Catalogue or admission apply to
CHAS. H. VERRILL, A. M.,
Mansfield, July 6, 1870. Principal.

THE OLD

"PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE"

LATELY known as the Townsend House, and for a time occupied by D. D. Holiday, has been thoroughly refitted, repaired and opened by

DANIEL MONROE,

who will be happy to accommodate the old friends of the house at very reasonable rates.
Aug 24, 1870. DANIEL MONROE.

Tioga Marble Works.

THE undersigned is now prepared to execute all orders for Tomb Stones and Monuments of either

ITALIAN OR RUTLAND MARBLE,

of the latest style and approved workmanship and with dispatch.

He keeps constantly on hand both kinds of Marble and will be able to suit all who may favor him with their orders, on as reasonable terms as can be obtained in the country.
FRANK ADAMS.
Tioga, Jan. 1, 1870-tf

Insurance! Insurance!

HAND IN HAND

MUTUAL LIFE,

INSURANCE COMPANY

Office, No. 112 S. 4th St., Philadelphia.

Incorporated Feb'y 23, 1867.

Chart'd Capital $500,000.

Assets over - - - $1,000,000 00

Stock and Mutual, combining Security with Profits. Suppose you are already insured in a first-class company, and from any cause whatever, (say after ten yearly payment) you do not or cannot pay longer and die—your insurance is gone and your money wasted. Not so in the "HAND IN HAND," all Policies are NON FORFEITABLE.

This company, which ranks among the most popular and successful Life Insurance Companies, grants policies on all desirable plans, both with and without profits.

Traveling Priveleges unrestricted.

All policies are incontestible after one yea from any of the ordinary causes.

Look to your Life Insurance. Please examine the following Comparative Table. It is sometimes alleged by Agents of other Companies that the Company they represent is safer than others. While we unhesitatingly assert our belief in the soundness and stability of all companies, we desire to present the following for the inspection of those desiring to insure:

The following companies, Compare the annual premiums charged by each for an insurance on life at the age of 30 years, payable at death:

	Annual premium for life.	Ten annual payments.
Travelers'	$16,84	$33,21
Ætna, ...	22,73	42,80
Home, ...	23,30	50,00
Equitable, ...	22,70	46,97
Washington, ...	22,70	46,97
Hand-in-Hand,	16,50	32,60

If not already insured take a policy with the "HAND-IN-HAND."

the best Mutual Company in the United States.
A. L. MONROE, Agent, Wellsboro.
Office with Jno. I. Mitchell.
Aug. 17, 1870.-1y.

House and Lot and Nine Acres of Land for Sale.

CHARLES WILLIAMS offers for sale his house and lot on Main street, Wellsboro, and six acres of land near the cemetery. Enquire of Joseph Williams, at the Wellsboro foundry. Nov. 9, 1870 tf

Farm for Sale.

IN Farmington, near the Lime Kiln, 3 miles from Nelson, containing 65 acres, 50 improved, for $1,300.
J. W. TUBBS,
Sept. 28, 1870-3m Lawrenceville.

New Photograph Gallery.

D. H. NARAMORE would respectfully announce to the people of Wellsboro and vicinity that he has resumed the rooms formerly occupied by R. C. King, over Bestman's central rooms, and is prepared to make

ALL STYLES OF PICTURES

known to the art. Please call and examine specimens. Nov 16, 1870 tf

Application for Charter.

NOTICE is hereby given that the following application for charter of incorporation has been filed in my office, and will be presented to the Court of Common Pleas of Tioga county, Monday, Jan. 3, 1870:

Application of Samuel Baker, Isaac Spencer Thos. Seisson and others, for the "First Methodist Episcopal Church, of Maple Ridge.
J. F. DONALDSON, Proth'y.
Dec. 14, 1870.-3w.*

Poetry Corner.

TO THE WINTERS.

BY FRANCES BROWNE.

We did not fear them once,—the dull grey morning
No cheerless burden on our spirits laid;
The long night watches did not bring us warning
That we were tenants of a house decayed.
The early snow, like dreams, to us descended;
The frost did fairy work on pane and bough;
Beauty, and power, and wonder, have not ended—
How is it that we fear the winters now?

The house fires fall as bright on hearth and chamber;
The northern starlight shines as coldly clear;
The woods still keep their holly for December;
The world has welcome yet for the New Year.
And, far away in old remembered places,
The snow-drop rises and the robin sings,
The sun and moon look out with smiling faces,—
Why have our days forgot such goodly things?

Is it that now the north wind finds us shaken
By tempest fiercer than its bitter blast?
And fair beliefs and friendship have forsaken
Like summer's beauty as that tempest passed?
And life grows leafless in its pleasant valleys,
The light of promise waning from its day,
Till mists meet even in its inward palace—
Not, like the outer mists, to melt away?

It was not then, when dreams of love and laurels
Gave sunshine to the winters of our youth,
Before its hopes had fallen in fortune's quarrels,
Or Time had bowed them with his heavy truth;
Ere yet the twilight found us strange and lonely,
With shadows coming when the fire burns low,
To tell of distant graves and losses only—
The past that *cannot* change, and *will not* go.

Alas! dear friends, the Winter is within us;
Hard is the ice that gathers round the heart,
If petty cares and vain regrets can win us
From life's true heritage, and better part.
Seasons and skies rejoice, yea, worship rather:
But nations toil and tremble, even as we—
Hoping for harvests they will never gather,
And dreading Winters they may never see.

Miscellaneous Reading.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

A year of peace and general prosperity to this nation has passed since the last assembling of Congress. We have, through a kind Providence, been blessed with abundant crops, and have been spared from complications and war with foreign nations.

In our midst comparative harmony has been restored. It is to be regretted, however, that a free exercise of the elective franchise has, by violence and intimidation, been denied to citizens in exceptional cases in several of the States lately in rebellion, and the verdict of the people has thereby been reversed. The States of Virginia, Mississippi and Texas have been restored to representation in our national councils. Georgia, the only State now without representation, may confidently be expected to take her place there, also, at the beginning of the new year, and then, let us hope, will be completed the work of reconstruction, with an acquiescence on the part of the whole people in the national obligation to pay the public debt created as the price of our Union, the pensions to our disabled soldiers and sailors and their widows and orphans, which have been made necessary by a great rebellion. There is no reason why we should not advance in material prosperity and happiness as rapidly as any nation has ever done after so protracted and devastating a war.

Soon after the existing war broke out in Europe, the protection of the United States Minister in Paris was invoked in favor of the North Germans domiciled in French territory. Instructions were issued to grant protection to the people of the United States. This has been followed by the extension of American protection to citizens of Saxony, Hesse and Saxe Coburg Gotha, Colombia, Portugal, Norway, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Chili, Paraguay and Venezuela, in Paris. The charge was an onerous one, requiring constant and severe labor, as well as the exercise of patience, prudence and good judgment. It has been performed to the entire satisfaction of this government, and, as I am officially informed, equally so to the government of North Germany.

As soon as I had learned that a republic had been proclaimed at Paris, and the people of France had acquiesced in the change, the Minister of the United States was directed by telegraph to recognize it, and tender my congratulations and those of the American people. The establishment in France of a system of government disconnected with the dynastic traditions of Europe, appeared to be a proper subject for felicitations of Americans. Should the present struggle result in the attaching of the hearts of the French to our simpler forms of representative government, it will be a subject of still further satisfaction to our people.

During the last session of Congress a treaty for the annexation of the republic of San Domingo to the United States failed to receive the requisite two-thirds vote of the Senate. I was thoroughly convinced then that the best interests of the country, commercially and materially, demanded its ratification.—Time has only confirmed me in this view. I now firmly believe that the moment it is known the United States have entirely abandoned the project of accepting, as a part of its territory, the island of San Domingo, a free port will be negotiated for by European nations, and on the Bay of Samana a large commercial city will spring up, to which we will be tributary, without receiving any corresponding benefits. Then will be seen the folly of neglecting so great a prize. The government of San Domingo has voluntarily sought this annexation. It is a weak power, numbering probably less than 120,000 souls, and yet possessing one of the richest territories under the sun, capable of supporting ten millions of people in luxury. The people of San Domingo are not capable of maintaining themselves in their present condition, and must look for outside support. They yearn for the protection of our free institutions and laws—our progress and civilization. Shall we refuse them?—The acquisition of San Domingo is desirable because of its geographical position. It commands the entrance of the Caribbean Sea and the isthmus transit of commerce. It possesses the richest soil, the best and most capacious harbors, the most salubrious climate, and the most valuable products of the forest, mine and soil of any of the West India islands.

Its possession by the United States will, in a few years, build up a coastwise commerce of immense magnitude, which will go far toward restoring to the United States our lost merchant marine. It will give us those articles which we consume largely and do not produce, thus equalizing our exports and imports. In case of foreign war it will give us the command of all the islands referred to, and thus prevent an enemy from ever again possessing himself of a rendezvous upon our very coast.

At present our coast trade between the States bordering on the Atlantic and those bordering on the Gulf of Mexico, is cut in two by the Bahamas and the Antilles. Twice we must, as it were, pass through foreign countries to get by sea from Georgia to the west coast of Florida. San Domingo, with a stable government under which her immense resources can be developed, will give remunerative wages to tens of thousands of laborers not now on the island. This labor will take advantage of every available means of transportation to abandon the adjacent islands and seek the blessing of freedom and its sequence, each inhabitant receiving the reward of his own labor. Porto Rico and Cuba will have to abolish slavery as a measure of self preservation to retain their laborers.

San Domingo will become a large consumer of the products of Northern farms and factories. The cheap rate at which her citizens can be furnished with food, tools and machinery—the production of our own supply of these articles—will cut off more than one hundred millions of our annual imports, beside largely increasing our exports. With such a picture, it is easy to see how our large debt abroad is ultimately to be extinguished. With a balance of trade against us, including interest on bonds held by foreigners and money spent by our citizens traveling in foreign lands, equal to the entire yield of precious metals in this country, it is not easy to see how this result is to be otherwise accomplished.

The acquisition of San Domingo is an adherence to the Monroe doctrine. It is a measure of national protection. It is asserting our just claims to a controlling influence over the great commercial traffic soon to flow from west to east, by the way of the Isthmus of Darien. It is to build up our merchant marine. It is to furnish new markets for the products of our farms, shops and manufactories. It is to make slavery insupportable in Cuba and Porto Rico at once, and ultimately so in Brazil.—In view of the importance of this question, I earnestly urge upon Congress early action expressive of its view as to the best means of acquiring San Domingo. My suggestion is, that by joint resolution of the Houses of Congress, the Executive be authorized to appoint a commission to negotiate a treaty with the authorities of San Domingo for the acquisition of that island, and then an appropriation be made to defray the expenses of such commission. The question may then be determined, either by the action of the Senate upon the treaty, or by joint action of both Houses of Congress upon a resolution of annexation. So convinced am I that the advantages to flow from the acquisition of San Domingo, and of the great disadvantages, I might almost say calamities, to flow from non-acquisition, that I believe the subject has only to be investigated to be approved.

Since the adjournment of Congress the ratifications of the treaty with G. Britain for abolishing the mixed courts for the suppression of the slave trade have been exchanged. It is believed that the slave trade is now confined to the eastern coast of Africa, where the slaves are taken to Arabian markets.

The ratifications of the Naturalization Convention between Great Britain and the United States have been exchanged during the recess, and thus a long standing dispute between the governments has been settled in accordance with the principles always contended for by the United States.

In April last, while engaged in locating a military reservation near Pembina, a corps of engineers discovered that the commonly received boundary between the United States and the British possessions, at that place, is about 4,700 feet south of the true position of the 49th parallel, and that the line when run on what is now supposed to be the true position of that parallel, would leave the fort of the Hudson Bay Company at Pembina within the territory of the United States. This information being communicated to the British government, I was requested to consent, and did consent that the British occupation of the fort of the Hudson Bay Company should continue for the present. I deemed it important, however, that this point be at least temporarily fixed, and that the boundary line should be definitely fixed by a joint commission of the two governments, and I submit herewith estimates of the expense of such a commission on the part of the United States, and recommend that an appropriation be made for that purpose. The land boundary has already been fixed and marked from the summit of the Rocky Mountains to the Georgian Bay. It should now be in like manner marked from the Lake of the Woods to the summit of the Rocky Mountains.

I regret to say that no conclusion has been reached for the adjustment of the claims against Great Britain, growing out of the course adopted by that government during the rebellion. The Cabinet of London, so far as its views have been expressed, does not appear to be willing to concede that Her Majesty's government was guilty of any negligence, or did or permitted any act during that war by which the United States has a just cause of complaint.—Our firm and unalterable conviction is directly the reverse. I therefore recommend to Congress to authorize the appointment of a commission to take proof of the amounts and the ownership of these several claims, on notice to the representative of Her Majesty at Washington, and that authority be given for the settlement of these claims by the United States, so that the government shall have the ownership of the private claims, as well as the responsible control of all the demands against Great Britain. It cannot be necessary to add, that whenever Her Majesty's government shall entertain a desire for a full and friendly adjustment of the claims, the United States will enter upon their consideration, with an earnest desire for a conclusion consistent with the honor and dignity of both nations.

The course pursued by the Canadian authorities toward the fishermen of the United States during the past season, has not been marked by a friendly feeling. By the first article of the Convention of 1818 between Great Britain and the United States, it was agreed that the inhabitants of the United States should have forever, in common with British subjects, the right of taking fish in certain waters therein defined. In the waters not included in the limits named in the Convention, within three miles of parts of the British coast. It has been the custom for many years to give to intruding fishermen of the United States a reasonable warning of the technical rights of Great Britain.

Anticipating that an attempt may possibly be made by the Canadian authorities in the coming season to repeat their unneighborly acts toward our fishermen, I recommend you to confer upon the Executive the power to suspend by proclamation the operation of the laws authorizing the transit of goods, wares and merchandise in bond across the territory of the United States to Canada; and further, should such an extreme measure become necessary, to suspend the operation of any laws whereby the vessels of the Dominion of Canada are permitted to enter the waters of the United States. A like unfriendly disposition has been manifested, on the part of Canada, in the maintenance of a claim of right to exclude the citizens of the United States from the navigation of the St. Lawrence.—This river constitutes a natural outlet to the ocean for eight States, with an aggregate population of about 17,000,000 inhabitants, and with an aggregate tonnage of 661,367 tons upon the waters which discharge into it. The foreign commerce of our ports upon these waters is open to British competition, and the major part of it is done in British bottoms. If the American seamen be excluded from this natural avenue to the ocean, the monopoly of the direct commerce of the lake ports with the Atlantic would be in foreign hands, and their vessels on trans-Atlantic voyages would have an access to our lake ports, which would be denied to American vessels on similar voyages. To state such a proposition is to refute its injustice. During the administration of Mr. John Quincy Adams, Mr. Clay unanswerably demonstrated the natural right of the citizens of the U. States to the navigation of this river, claiming that the act of the Congress of Vienna in opening the Rhine and other rivers to all nations, showed the judgment of European jurists and statesmen, that the inhabitants of a country through which a navigable river passes, have a natural right to enjoy the navigation of that river to and into the sea, even though passing through territories of another power.

This right does not exclude the coequal right of the sovereign possessing territory thro' which the river debouches into the sea, to make such regulations relative to the police of the navigation as may be reasonably necessary, but those regulations should be framed in a liberal spirit of comity, and should not impose needless burdens upon the commerce which has the right of transit. It has been found in practice more advantageous to arrange these regulations by mutual agreement.

The United States is ready to make any reasonable arrangement as to the police of the St. Lawrence which may be suggested by Great Britain.

In 1856 the Crimean war was closed by a treaty which provided for the free navigation of the Danube. In 1858 Bolivia, by treaty, declared that it regarded the rivers Amazon and La Plata, in accordance with fixed principles of national law, as highways or channels opened by nature for the commerce of all nations. In 1859 the Paraguay was made free by treaty; and in December, 1866, the Emperor of Brazil, by Imperial decree, declared the Amazon to be open to the frontier of Brazil to the merchant ships of all nations.—The greatest living British authority on this subject, while asserting the abstract right of the British claim, says: "It seems difficult to deny that Great Britain may ground her refusal upon strict law. But it is equally difficult to deny, first, that in so doing she exercises harshly an extreme and hard law. Second, that her conduct with respect to the navigation of the St. Lawrence, is in glaring and discreditable inconsistency with her conduct in respect to the navigation of the Mississippi." On the ground that she possessed a small domain in which the Mississippi took its rise, she insisted on the right to navigate the entire volume of its waters.—On the ground that she possesses both banks of the St. Lawrence where it disembouches itself into the sea, she denies to the United States the right of navigation, though about one-half of the waters of lakes Ontario, Erie, Huron and Superior, and the whole of lake Michigan, through which the river flows, are the property of the U. States. The whole nation is interested in securing cheap transportation from the agricultural States of the West to the Atlantic seabord. To the citizens of the United States it secures a greater return for their labor; to the inhabitants of the seaboard it affords cheaper food; to the nation an increase in the annual surplus of wealth.

It is hoped that the government of Great Britain will see the justice of abandoning the narrow and inconsistent claim to which the Canadian provinces have urged her adherence.

Our depressed commerce is a subject to which I called your attention at the last session, and suggested that in the future we will have to look more to the countries south of us, and to China and Japan, for its revival.

Our own representatives to all these governments have exerted their influence to encourage trade between the United States and the countries to which they are accredited. But the fact exists that the carrying is done almost entirely in foreign bottoms, and while this state of affairs exists, we cannot control our due share of the commerce of the world.

That between the Pacific States and China and Japan is about all the carrying trade now conducted in American vessels. I would recommend a liberal policy toward that line of American steamers—one that will insure its success and even increased usefulness.

The cost of building iron vessels—the only ones that can compete with foreign ships in the carrying trade—is so much greater in the United States than in foreign countries, that without some assistance from the government they cannot be successfully built here. There will be several propositions laid before Congress in the course of the present session, looking to a remedy for this evil. Even if it should be at some cost to the national treasury, I hope such encouragement will be given as will secure American shipping on the high seas, and American ship-building at home.

I recommend to your consideration the propriety of transferring to the Department of the Interior, to which they seem more appropriately to belong, all powers and duties in relation to the territories with which the Department of State is now charged by law or usage, and from the Interior Department to the War Department the Pension Bureau, so far as it regulates the payment of soldiers' pensions.

I would further recommend that the payment of naval pensions be transferred to one of the bureaus of the Navy Department. The estimates for the expenses of the Government for the next fiscal year are $1,824,434,601 less than for the current one, but exceed the appropriations for the present.

Revenue reform, if it means this, has my hearty support. If it implies a collection of all the revenue for the support of government for the payment of principal and interest of the public debt, pensions, &c., by directly taxing the people, then I am against revenue reform, and confidently believe the people are with me. If it means failure to provide the necessary means to defray all the expenses of the Government, and thereby repudiation of the public debt and pensions, then I am still more opposed to such kind of revenue reform. Revenue reform has not been defined by any of its advocates to my knowledge, but seems to be accepted as something which is to supply every man's wants without any cost or effort on his part. A true revenue reform cannot be made in a day, but we must look to a policy which would place our currency at par with gold at no distant day. The tax collected from the people has been reduced more than eighty millions of dollars per annum. By steadiness in our present course, there is no reason why, in a few short years, the national tax-gatherer may not disappear from the door of the citizen almost entirely. With the revenue stamp dispensed by postmasters in every community, a tax upon liquors of all sorts, and tobacco in all forms, by a wise adjustment of the tariff which will put a duty only upon those articles which we could dispense with, known as luxuries, and on those which we use more of than we produce—revenue enough may be raised after a few years of peace and consequent reduction of indebtedness to fulfill all our obligations and a further reduction of expenses in addition to a reduction of the interest account may be relied on to make this practicable

The army has gradually been reduced so that on the 1st day of January, 1871, the number of commissioned officers and men will not exceed the number contemplated by that law. The War Department building is an old structure, not fire-proof, and entirely inadequate in dimensions to our present wants. Many thousands of dollars are now paid annually for rent of private buildings to accomodate the various bureaus of the Department. I recommend an appropriation for a new War Department building suited to the present and growing wants of the nation.

The report of the Secretary of War shows a very satisfactory reduction in the expenses of the army for the last fiscal year. For details you are referred to his accompanying report. The expenses of the navy for the whole of the last year, from Dec. 1st, 1869, the date of the last report, are less than $19,000,000, or about $1,000,000 less than they were the previous year. The expenses since the commencement of the fiscal year, i. e. since July 1st, show for the five months a decrease of over $2,400,000 for those of the corresponding months of last year. The estimates for the current year were $28,305,571,27.—Those for next year are $20,683,317,00 with $955,100,00 additional for necessary permanent improvements. These estimates are made closely for the maintainance of the naval establishment, as it now is, without the nature of permanent improvement. The appropriations for last and current years were evidently intended by Congress, and are sufficient only to keep the navy on its present footing by the repairing and refitting of our old ships. This policy must, of course, gradually but surely destroy the navy, and it is in itself far from economical, as each year that it is pursued the necessity for more repairs to ships and navy-yards becomes more imperative and more costly, and our current expenses are annually increased for the mere repairs of ships, many of which soon become unsafe and useless. I hope, during the present session of Congress, to be able to submit to it a plan by which naval vessels can be built and repairs made with great saving upon the present cost.

It can hardly be wise statesmanship in a Government which represents a country with over five thousand miles of coast line on both oceans, inclusive of Alaska, and containing 40,000,000 of progressive people, with relations of every nature with almost every foreign country, to rest with such an inadequate way of enforcing any foreign policy, either of protection or redress. Separated by the oceans from the nations of the Eastern Continent, our navy is our only means of direct protection to our citizens abroad or for the enforcement of any foreign policy. The accompanying report of the Postmaster-General shows a most satisfactory working of that department. With the adoption of the recommendations contained therein, particularly those relating to a reform in the franking privilege, and the adoption of the correspondence cards, a self-sustaining postal system may speedily be looked for, and at no distant day a further reduction of the rate of postage be attained. I recommend authorization by Congress to the Postmaster-General and Attorney-General to issue all commissions to officials appointed through their respective Departments.

At present these commissions, where appointments are Presidential, are issued by the State Department. The law in all the departments of Government, except those of the Post office and of Justice, authorizes each to issue its own commissions, always favoring practical reforms, I respectfully call your attention to one abuse of long standing which I would like to see remedied by this Congress. It is a reform in the civil service of the country. I would have it go beyond the mere fixing of the tenure of office of clerk and employes who do not require the advice and consent of the Senate to make their appointments complete. I would have it govern not the tenure, but the manner of making all appointments.—There is no duty which so much embarrases the Executive and heads of the Departments as that of appointments, nor is there any such arduous and thankless labor imposed on Senators and representives as that of finding place for constituents. The present system does not secure the best men, and often not even fit men for public place. The elevation and purification of the civil service of the government will be hailed with approval by the whole people of the United States. Reform in the management of Indian affairs has received the special attention of the Administration from its inauguration to the present day. The experiment of making it a missionary work was tried, with a few agencies, given to the denomination of Friends, and has been found to work most advantageously. All agencies and superintendencies not so disposed of were given to officers of the army. The act of Congress reducing the army renders army officers ineligible for civil positions.—Indian agencies being civil officers, I determined to give all the agencies to such religious denominations as had heretofore established missionaries among the Indians, and perhaps to some other denominations who would undertake to work on the same terms, i. e., as a missionary work. The Societies selected are allowed their agents subject to the approval of the Executive, and are expected to watch over them and aid them as missionaries to Christianize and civilize the Indian, and to train him in the arts of peace. The government watches over the official acts of these Agents, and requires of them as strict an account as if they were appointed in any other manner.—I entertain the confident opinion that the policy now pursued will in a few years bring all the Indians upon reservations, where they will live in houses, have school-houses and churches and will be pursuing peaceful and self-sustaining avocations, and where they may be visited by the law-abiding white man with the same impunity that he now visits the civilized white settlements.

I call your special attention to the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for full information on the subject.

During the last fiscal year 8,095,413 acres of public lands were disposed of. Of this quantity 3,698,910,05 acres were taken under the homestead law, and 2,129,515,81 acres sold for cash. The remainder was located with military warrants, college or Indian scrip, or applied in satisfaction of grants to railroads, or for other public uses. The entries under the homestead law during the last year covered 961,555 acres more than those during the preceding year. Surveys have been vigorously prosecuted to the full extent of the means applicable to the purpose. The quantity of land in the market will supply the present demand. The claim of the settler under the homestead and pre-emption laws, is not however, limited to lands subject to sale at private entry. Any unappropriated surveyed public land may, to a limited amount be acquired under the former laws, if the party entitled to enter under them will comply with the requirements they prescribe in regard to residence and cultivation. The actual settler's preference right of purchase is even broader, and extends to lands which were unsurveyed at the time of his settlement. This right was formerly confined within much narrower limits, and at one period of our history was conferred only by special statutes. They were from time to time to legalize what was then regarded as an unauthorized intrusion upon the national domain. The opinion that the public lands should be regarded chiefly as a source of revenue is no longer mentioned. The rapid settlement and successful cultivation of them is now justly considered of more importance to our well-being, than is the fund which the sale of them