TIFFIN TRIBUNE.

D. T. LOCKE. C. N. LOCKE. W. C. BLYMYER.

LOCKES & BLYMYER,
PROPRIETORS.

Tiffin, Thursday Eve., Dec. 5th, 1872.

President's Message.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

THE CONDITION OF THE COUNTRY.

In transmitting to you my fourth Annual Message it is with thankfulness to the Giver of all good that as a nation we have been blessed for the last year with peace at home and abroad and a general prosperity, vouchsafed to but few people, with the exception of the recent devastating fire which swept from the earth with a breath as it were millions of accumulated wealth in the city of Boston. There have been two over-shadowing calamities within the year to record. It is gratifying to note here, like their fellow citizens of the city of Chicago, under similar circumstances a year earlier, the citizens of Boston are rallying under their misfortunes, and the prospect is that their energy and perseverance will overcome all obstacles and show the same prosperity soon that they would have shown had no disaster befallen them. Otherwise, we have been free from pestilence, war and calamities which often overtake nations, and, as far as human judgment can penetrate the future, no cause seems to exist to threaten our present peace.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS ARBITRATION.

When Congress adjourned in June last a question had been raised by Great Britain, and was then pending, which, for a time, seriously imperiled the settlement by friendly arbitration of the differences existing between this government and that of Her Britanic Majesty by the Treaty of Washington, had been referred to the Tribunal of Arbitration which had met at Geneva, in Switzerland. The arbitrators, however, disposed of the question which had jeopardized the whole of the treaty and threatened to involve the two nations in most unhappy relations toward each other, in a manner entirely satisfactory to this government and in accordance with the views and the policy which it had maintained. The Tribunal, which had convened in Geneva in December, concluded its laborious session on the 14th day of September last, on which day, having availed itself of the discretionary power given to it by the treaty to award a sum in gross. It made its decision, wherein it awarded the sum of $15,500,000 in gold as the indemnity to be paid by Great Britain to the United States, for the ratification of all the claims referred to its consideration. This decision happily disposes of a long standing difference between the two governments, and in connection with another award made by the German Emperor under a reference to him by the same treaty, leaves these two governments without a shadow upon the friendly relations which it is my sincere hope may forever remain equally unclouded.

The report of the agent of the United States appointed to attend the Geneva Tribunal, accompanied by the protocols of the proceedings of the arbitrators, the arguments of the counsel of both governments, the award of the Tribunal, and the opinions given by the several arbitrators, is transmitted herewith. I have caused to be communicated to the heads of the three friendly powers who complied with the joint request made to them under the treaty, the thanks of this government for the appointment of arbitrators made by them respectively, and also my thanks to the eminent persons named by them, and my appreciation of the dignity, patience, impartiality and great ability with which they discharged their orders and high functions. Her Majesty's government has communicated to me its appreciation by her Majesty of the ability and indefatigable industry displayed by Mr. Adams, the arbitrator named on the part of this government during the protracted inquiries and discussions of the Tribunal. I cordially unite with her Majesty in this appreciation. It is due to the agent of the United States before the Tribunal to record my high appreciation of the marked ability, unwearied patience and the prudence and discretion with which he has conducted the very responsible and delicate duties committed to him, as it is also due to the learned and eminent counsel who attended the Tribunal on the part of this government, to express my sense of the talents and wisdom which they brought to bear in the argument. It will be the province of Congress to provide for the distribution among those who may be entitled to it of their respective shares of the money to be paid. Although the sum awarded is not payable until a year from the date of the award, it is deemed advisable that no time be lost in making a proper examination of the several cases in which indemnification may be due. I consequently recommend the creation of a board of commissioners for the purpose of the San Juan boundary decision. By the third and fourth articles of the Treaty of Washington the respective claims of the United States and of Great Britain in their construction of the Treaty of the 15th of June, 1846, defining the boundary line between their respective territories were submitted to the arbitration and award of His Majesty the Emperor of Germany to decide which of those claims is most in accordance with the true interpretation of the Treaty of 1846. His Majesty, the Emperor of Germany, having been pleased to undertake the arbitration, has the earnest thanks of this government and of the people of the United States for the labor, pains and care which he has devoted to the consideration of this long pending difference. I have caused an expression of my thanks to be communicated to His Majesty. Mr. Bancroft, the representative of this government at Berlin, conducted the case and prepared the statement on the part of the United States, with the ability that his past service justified the public in expecting at his hands. As a member of the cabinet at the date of the Treaty which has given rise to the discussion between the two governments, as the Minister to Great Britain when the construction now pronounced unfounded was first advanced, and as the agent and representative of the government to present the case and to receive the award, he has been associated with the question in all of its phases, and in every stage has manifested a patriotic zeal and earnestness in the maintenance of the claim of the United States; he is entitled to much credit for the success which has attended the submission. After a patient investigation of the case and of the statements of each party, His Majesty the Emperor, on the 21st day of October last, signed his award in writing, decreeing that the claim of the government of the United States that the boundary line between the territories of Her Britannic Majesty and the United States should be drawn through the Haro channel, is most in accordance with the true interpretation of the Treaty concluded on the 15th day of June, 1846, between the agents of Her Britannic Majesty and the United States.

THE SAN JUAN QUESTION.

Copies of the case presented on behalf of each government, and of the statement in reply of each and a translation of the award are transmitted herewith. This award confirms the United States in their claim to the important archipelago of islands lying between the continent and Vancouver's Island, which for twenty-six years, ever since the ratification of the treaty, Great Britain has contested, and leaves us for the first time in the history of the United States a nation without a question of disputed boundary between our territory and the possessions of Great Britain on this continent. It is my grateful duty to acknowledge the prompt, spontaneous action of Her Majesty's government in giving effect to the award. In anticipation of any request from this government, and before the reception in United States of the award signed by the Emperor, Her Majesty had given instructions for the removal of her troops which had been stationed there, and for the cessation of all exercise or claim of jurisdiction, so as to leave the United States in exclusive possession of the lately disputed territory. I am grateful to be able to announce that the orders for the removal of the troops have been executed, and the military joint occupation of San Juan has ceased. The islands are now in the exclusive possession of the United States. It now becomes necessary to complete the survey and determination of that portion of the boundary line through the Haro channel, on which the commission which determined the remaining part of the line were unable to agree. I recommend the appointment of a commission to act jointly with one which may be named by her Majesty for that purpose.

THE ALASKA BOUNDARY.

Experience of the difficulties attending the determination of our admitted line of boundary after the occupation of the territory and its settlement by those owing allegiance to the restrictive governments points to the importance of establishing by natural objects or other monuments the actual line between the territory acquired by purchase from Russia and the adjoining possessions of her Brittanic majesty. The region is now so sparsely occupied that no conflicting interests of individuals or of jurisdiction are likely to interfere to the delay or embarassment of the actual location of the line. If deferred until population shall enter and occupy the territory, some trivial contest of neighbors may again array the two governments in antagonism. I therefore recommend the appointment of a commission to act jointly with one that may be appointed on the part of Great Britain to determine the line between our territory of Alaska and the co-terminus of possessions of Great Britain. In my last annual message I recommended the legislation necessary on the part of the United States to bring into operation the articles of the treaty of Washington of May, 1871, relating to the fisheries and to other matters touching the relations of the United States toward the British North America possessions, to become operative so soon as the proper legislation should be had on the part of Great Britain, and its possessions. That legislation on the part of Great Britain and its possessions had not then been had, and during a session of Congress a question was raised which for the time raised a doubt whether any action by Congress in the direction indicated would become important. This question has since been disposed of, and I have received notice that the Imperial Parliament and the legislature of the provincial government have passed laws to carry the provisions of the treaty on the matters referred to into operation. I therefore recommend your early adoption of the legislation in the same direction necessary on the part of this government.

The joint commission for determining the boundary line between the United States and the British possession, between the lake of woods and the Rocky Mountains has organized and entered upon its work. It is desirable that the force be increased, in order that the completion of the survey and determining of the line may be the sooner attained. To this end I recommend that a sufficient appropriation be made.

OUR RELATIONS WITH EUROPE.

With France, our earliest ally; Russia, the constant and steady friend of the United States; Germany, with whose government and people we have so many causes of friendship and so many common sympathies, and the other powers of Europe, our relations are maintained on the most friendly terms since my last annual message. The exchange has been made of the ratifications of a treaty with the Austrian and Hungarian empires, relating to naturalization; also of a treaty with the German empire respecting consuls and trade marks; also of a treaty with Sweden and Norway relating to naturalization, all of which treaties have been duly proclaimed.

THE DISTRESS OF CUBA—THE ORTI. OUR CAUSES.

It is with regret that I have again to announce a continuance of the disturbed condition of the island of Cuba. No advance toward the pacification of the discontented part of the population has been made, while the insurrection has gained no adventage and exhibits no more of the elements of power or of the prospect of ultimate success than were exhibited a year ago. Spain, on the other hand, has not succeeded in its suppression, and the parties stand apparently in the same relative attitude which they have occupied for a long time past. This contest has lasted now for more than four years. Were it seen at a distance from our neighborhood we might be indifferent to its result, although humanity could not be unmoved by many of its incidents wherever they might occur. It is, however, at our door.

I cannot doubt that the continued maintenance of slavery in Cuba is among the strongest influences for the continuance of this strife. A terrible wrong is the result of a terrible evil. The abolition of slavery and the introduction of other reforms in the administration of government in Cuba could not fail to advance the restoration of peace and order. It is especially to be hoped that the present liberal government of Spain will voluntarily adopt this view. The law of emancipolation, which was passed more than two years since, has remained unexecuted in the absence of regulations for its enforcement. It was but a feeble step toward emancipation but it was the recognition of right and was hailed as such, and exhibited in Spain in harmony with the sentiment of justice and of humanity, and in sympathy with the other powers of the christian and civilized world. Within the last few weeks the regulations for carrying out the laws of emancipation have been announced, giving evidence of the sincerity of the intentions of the present government to carry into effect the law of 1871. I have not failed to urge the consideration of the wisdom, the policy and the justice of a more effective system for the abolition of the great evil which oppresses a race and continues a bloody and destructive contest close to our border, as well as the expediency and justice of conceding reforms of which the most urgent is not questioned. Deeply impressed with the conviction that the continuance of slavery is one of the most active causes of the continuance of the unhappy condition in Cuba, I regret to believe that citizens of the United States, or those claiming to be such, are large holders in Cuba of what is there claimed as property, but which is forbidden and denounced by the laws of the United States. They are thus in defiance of the spirit of our laws contributing to the continuance of this distressing contest. In my last annual message, I referred to this subject, and I again recommend such legislation as may be proper to denounce, and if not prevent, at least to discourage American citizens from holding or dealing in slaves. It is gratifying to announce that the ratification of the convention concluded, under the auspices of this government, between Spain on the one part, and the allied Republics of the Pacific on the other, providing for an armistice, have been exchanged; a copy of the instrument is herewith submitted. It is hoped that this may be followed by a permanent peace between the same parties.

RELIEF OF DISTRESSED CITIZENS ABROAD.

Congress, from the beginning of the government, has wisely made provision for the relief of distressed seamen in foreign countries. No similar provision, however, has hitherto been made for the relief of distressed citizens abroad other than seamen. It is understood to be not customary with other governments to authorize consuls to extend such relief to their citizens or subjects in certain cases. A similar authority and an appropriation to carry it into effect are commended, in case of citizens of the United States, destitute or sick under such circumstances. It is well known that such citizens resort to foreign countries in great numbers, though most of them are able to bear the expense incident to locomotion. There are some who, through accident or otherwise, become penniless, and have no friends at home able to succor them.

Persons in this situation must either perish or cast themselves upon the charity of foreigners who may be relieved at the private charge of our own officers, who usually, even with the most benevolent dispositions have nothing to spare. Should the authority and appropriation be asked for, care will be taken to carry the benefit of Congress into effect so that it shall be unnecessary or unworthily bestowed.

THE FINANCE—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

The money received and carried into the Treasury during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1872, were, from customs, $216,370,286 77; from sales of public lands $2,575,714,19; from internal revenue, $130,642,177 72; from tax on national bank circulation, etc., $6,523,396 39; from Pacific railroad companies, $749,861 87; from customs, fines, etc., $4,136,442 34; from fees, consular, patent, land, etc., $2,284,095 92; from miscellaneous sources, $4,412,254 71. Total, ordinary receipts, $364,694,229 31; from premium on sales of coin, $9,412,637 65. Total net receipts, $374,106,837 56. Balance in Treasury June 30th, 1871, $102,935,705 59, including $182,228 35 received from unavailable funds. Total available cash, $484,042,573 15. The net expenditures by warrants during the same period were: for civil expenses, $36,189,059 70; for foreign intercourse, $1,860,369 14; Indians, $7,005,728 82; pensions, $28,533,402 76; for military establishment, including fortifications, river and harbor improvements and arsenals, $35,372,157 29; for naval establishments, including vessels and machinery and improvements at navy yards, $21,249,809 99; for miscellaneous civil, including public buildings, light-houses and collecting the revenue, $42,958,328 08; interest on the public debt, $117,357,889 72; total, exclusive of principal and premium on public debt, $270,559,635 91; for premium on bonds purchased, $4,958,266 76; for redemption of sinking fund bonds, $99,980,235 54; total, $105,918,520 30; total net disbursements, $377,478,216 21; balance in Treasury June 30, 1872, $18,564,356 94; total, $484,042,573 15.

From the foregoing statement it appears that the net reduction of the principal of the debt during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1872, was $99,960,235 54. The source of this reduction is as follows: Net ordinary receipts during the year $364,694,229.91; net ordinary expenditure, including interest on the public debt, $270,559,635.91; total, $94,134,594.00. Add amount of receipts from premium on sales of gold in excess of the premium paid on bonds purchased, $2,454,470.89; add the amount of the reduction of the cash balance at the close of the year, accompanied with the same at the commencement of the year, $3,371,348.65; total $99,960,253.54. This statement treats solely of the principal of the public debt. By the monthly statement of the public debt, which adds together the principal and interest due and unpaid and interest accrued to date, due, and deducts the cash in the treasury, as according on the day of publication the reduction was $100,544,491.28. The source of this reduction is as follows: Reduction in principal account, $99,960,005.54; reduction in unpaid interest account, $3,330,952.96; total, $103,290,958.50; reduction in cash on hand, $2,746,465.21; total, $100,544,491.28. On the basis of the last table the statements show a reduction of the public debt from the 1st of March 1869 to the present time as follows: From March 1, 1869, to March 1, 1870, $57,134,782.84: from March 1, 1870, to March 1, 1871, $117,619,630.25; from March 1, 1871, to March 1, 1872, $94,895,348.94; from March 1, 1872, to Nov. 1, 1872 eight months, $64,047,237.84; total $353,696,999.87.

With the great reduction of taxation by the acts of Congress at its last session, the expenditure of the government in collecting the revenue will be much reduced for the next fiscal year. It is very doubtful, however, whether any further reduction of so vexatious a burden upon any people will be practicable for the present. At all events, as a measure of the nation's certificates of indebtedness, I would recommend that no more legislation be had on this subject, unless it be to correct errors of omission or commission in the present laws, until sufficient time has elapsed to prove that it can be done and still leave sufficient revenue to meet the current expenses of the government. Pay the interest on the public debt and provide for the sinking fund established by law. The preservation of our national credit is of the highest importance. Next in importance to this comes a solemn duty—to provide a national currency of a fixed, unvarying value as compared with good and as soon as practicable, having due regard for the interests of the debtor class and the vicissitudes of trade and commerce, and convertible into gold at par.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

The report of the Secretary of War shows the expenditures of the War Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1871, to be $35,749,991 82; and for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1872, to be $35,372,157 29, showing a reduction in favor of the last fiscal year of $427,834 62. The estimates for military appropriation for the next fiscal year, ending June 30, 1874, are $33,801,378.78. The estimates of the chief of engineers are submitted separately for fortifications, river and harbor improvements and for public buildings and ground, and the Washington aqueduct. The affairs of the engineer bureau have all been transferred to the War Department, and the regulations have been put into execution for the speedy payment of bounty due colored soldiers properly coming under that bureau.

All war accounts for money and property prior to 1871, have been examined and transmitted to the treasury for final settlement. During the fiscal year there have been paid for transportation on railroads, $1,300,000, of which $80,857 was over the Pacific railroads. For transportation by water, $626,373.52, and by stage $48,975.84 and for the purchase of transportation of animals, wagon, hire of teamsters, etc., $924,659 64. About $750,000 have been collected from southern railroads during the year, leaving about $4,000,000 still due. The quartermaster has examined and transmitted to the accounting officers for settlement $876,172.71 of claims by loyal citizens for quartermasters' stores taken during the war.

The subsisting supplies to the amount of $8,904,812 have been issued to the Indians. The annual average mean strength of the army was 24,101 white and 2,434 colored soldiers. The total deaths for the year reported were 367 white and 54 colored.

The distribution of the medical and surgical history of the war is yet to be ordered by Congress. There is also an absolute necessity for a medical corps of the full number established by act of Congress of July 28th, 1866, there being now fifty-nine vacancies, and the number of successful candidates rarely exceeds eight or ten in any one year.

The river and harbor improvements have been carried on with energy and economy. Though many are only partially completed, the results have saved to commerce many times the amount expended. The increase of commerce with greater depth of channels, greater security in navigation and the saving of time, adds millions to the wealth of the country and increases the resources of the government.

The bridge across the Mississippi river at Rock Island has been completed, and the proper site has been determined upon for the bridge at La-Crosse.

The able and exhaustive report made by the commission appointed to investigate the Sutro tunnel, has been transmitted to Congress.

SIGNAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT.

The observations and report of the signal officer have been continued. Stations have been maintained at each of the principal lake, seaport and river cities; ten additional stations have been established in the United States, and arrangements have been made for an exchange of reports with Canada, and a similar exchange of observations is contemplated with the West India Islands.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONGRESS.

The favorable attention of Congress is invited to the following recommendations of the Secretary of War: A discontinuance of the appointment of extra lieutenants to serve as adjutants and quartermasters. The adoption of a code of laws providing specific penalty for well defined offences so that inequality of sentence adjudged by court martial may be adjusted; the consolidation of accounts under which expenditures are made as a measure of economy; a reappropriation of the money for the construction of a depot at San Antonio, the title to the site being now perfected; a special act placing the cemetery of the City of Mexico on the same basis as other national cemeteries; authority to purchase sites for military posts in Texas. The appointment of commissary sergeants from non-commissioned officers, as a measure for securing the better care and protection of supplies. An appropriation of the catalogues to the anatomical section of the army medical museum. A reappropriation of the amount for the manufacture of breech loading arms should the selection be so delayed by the board of officers as to have the former appropriation unexpended at the close of the fiscal year. The sale of such arsenals east of the Mississippi as can be spared and the proceeds applied to the establishment of one large arsenal for construction and repair upon the Atlantic coast, and the purchase of a suitable site for a proving and experimental grounds for heavy ordnance; the abrogation of laws which deprive inventors in the United States service from deriving any benefit from their inventions; the repeal of the law prohibiting promotions on the staff corps; a continuance of the work upon the coast defenses; the repeal of the seventh section of the act of July 13, 1866, taking from engineers and soldiers the per diem granted other troops; a limitation of time for presentation of substance of supplies under the act of July 4, 1864, and a modification of the mode of the selection of cadets for the military academy, in order to enhance the usefulness of the academy, which is impaired by reason of the large amount of time necessarily expended in giving cadets a knowledge of the mere elementary branches of learning which they should acquire before entering the academy. Also an appropriation for philosophical apparatus and an increase of the number and the pay of the Military Academy Band.

The attention of Congress will be called during the present session to various enterprises for the more certain and cheaper transportation of the constantly increasing surplus of the western and southern products to the seaboard. The subject is one that will force itself upon the legislative branch of the government sooner or later, and I suggest, therefore, that immediate steps be taken to gain all available information to secure equitable and just legislation. A route to connect the Mississippi valley with the Atlantic at Charleston, South Carolina, and Savannah, Georgia, by water, by the way of the Ohio and Tennessee rivers and canal and slackwater navigation to the Savannah and Oemulgee rivers has been surveyed and a report made by an accomplished engineer officer of the army. Second and third new routes will be proposed for the consideration of Congress, namely: by an extension of the Kanawha and James river canal to the Ohio, and by an extension of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal. I am not prepared to recommend government aid to these or other enterprises until it is clearly shown that they are not only of national interest, but that when completed they will be of a value commensurate with their cost. That production increases more rapidly than the means of transportation in our country, has been demonstrated by past experience, that unprecedented growth in population and products of the whole country will require additional facilities, and cheaper means for the more bulky articles of commerce to reach tide water, and a market will be demanded in the near future, is equally demonstrable. I would therefore suggest either a commission or committee to be authorized to consider this whole question and report to Congress at some future day for its better guidance in legislating on this important subject.

The railroads of the country have been rapidly extended during the last few years to meet the growing demands of producers and reflect much credit upon the capitalists and managers engaged in this construction. In addition to these, a project to facilitate commerce by the building of a ship canal around Niagara Falls, on the United States side, which has been agitated for many years, will no doubt be called to your attention this session. Looking to the great future of the country, the increasing demands of commerce, it might be well while on this subject not only to have it examined, and report upon the various practicable routes for connecting the Mississippi with the tide water on the Atlantic, but the feasibility of an almost landlocked navigation from Maine to the Gulf of Mexico. Such a route along our coast would be of great value at all times, and of inestimable value in case of a foreign war. Nature has provided the greater part of this route and the obstacles to be overcome are easily within the skill of the engineers. I have not alluded to this subject with the view of having any further expenditures of public money at this time than may be necessary to procure and place all the necessary information before Congress in an authentic form, to enable it hereafter, if deemed practicable and worthy, to legislate on the subject without delay.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy herewith accompanying, explains fully the condition of that branch of the public service, its wants and deficiencies, expenses incurred during the past year and appropriations for the same. It also gives a complete history of the services of the navy for the past year in addition to its regular services. It is evident that unless steps are taken to preserve our navy that in a very few years the United States will be the weakest nation upon the ocean of all the great powers. With an energetic, progressive, business people like ours, penetrating and forming business relations with every part of the known world, a navy strong enough to command the respect of our flag abroad is necessary for the full protection of their rights. I recommend a careful consideration by Congress of the recommendation made by the Secretary of the Navy.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

The accompany report of the Postmaster-General furnishes a full and satisfactory exhibit of the operations of the Post Office Department during the year. The ordinary revenue of the department for the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1872, amounted to $21,915,429.37, and the expenditures to $28,638,192.22, compared with the previous fiscal year the increase of revenue was $1,878,880.95, or 9.37 per cent., and the increase of expenditures $2,268,088.23 or 92.9 per cent. Adding to the ordinary revenue the annual appreciation of $700,000 for free matter, and the amounts paid to the subsidies on mail steamship lines from special appropriations, the deficiency paid out of the general Treasury will $5,938,192.22 instead of $6,638,192.22, the deficiency for the year 1871. Other statistical information relating to our rapidly extending postal service is furnished in this report. The total length of railroad mail routes on the 30th of June, 1872, was 57,911 miles, 8,077 additional miles of such service having been put into operation during the year. Eight new lines of railway postoffices have been established, with an aggregate length of 2,909 miles. The number of letters exchanged in the mails with foreign countries was 24,362,500, an increase of 4,066,502, or twenty per cent. over the number in 1871, and the postage thereon amounts to $1,871,257,25. The total weight of the mails exchanged with European countries exceeded 820 tons. The cost of the United States trans-Atlantic mail steamship service was $22,030,170. The total cost of the United States ocean steamship service, including the amounts paid to the subsidized lines of mail steamers, was $102,702,697. The following are the only steamship lines now receiving subsidies for mail service under special acts of Congress: The Pacific Mail Steamship Company receive $500,000 per annum, for carrying a monthly mail between San Francisco, Japan and China, which will be increased to $1,000,000 per annum for a semi-monthly mail, on and after October 1, 1873. The United States and Brazil Mail steamship Company receive $150,000 per annum for carrying a monthly mail between New York and Rio de Janerio, Brazil, and the California, Oregon, and Mexico Steamship Company receive $75,000 per annum for carrying a monthly mail between San Francisco and Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands, making the total amount of mail steamship subsidies at present $725,000 per annum.

Our postal communications with all parts of the civilized world have been placed upon a most advantageous footing by the improved postal conventions, and the arrangements recently concluded with the leading commercial countries of Europe and America. The gratifying statement is made that, with the conclusion of a satisfactory convention with France, the details of which have been definitely agreed to by the head of the French postal department, subject to the approval of the Minister of Finances, little remain to be accomplished by the treaty for some time to come, in respect to the reduction of rates for improved facilities for postal intercourse. Your favorable consideration is respectfully invited to the recommendations made by the Postmaster General for an increase of service from monthly to semi-monthly trips on the mail steamship route to Brazil; for a subsidy inside of the establishment of an American line of mail steamers between San Francisco, New Zealand and Australia; for the establishment of post offices, savings banks, and for the increase of the salaries of heads of bureaus.

I have heretofore recommended the abolition of the franking privilege, and see no reason now for changing my views on that subject. If not having been favorably regarded by Congress, however, I now suggest a modification of that privilege to correct its glaring and costly abuses. I would also recommend the appointment of a committee or commission to take into consideration the best method, equitable to private corporations who have invested their time and capital in the establishment of telegraph lines of acquiring the title to all telegraph lines now in operation, and of connecting this service with the postal service of the nation. It is not probable that this subject could receive the proper consideration during the limits of a short session of Congress, but it may be initiated so that further action may be fair to the government and to private parties concerned. There are but three lines of ocean steamers, namely: the Pacific mail steamship company, between San Francisco, China and Japan, with provision made for semi-monthly service after October 1st, 1873; the United States and Brazil line, monthly, and the California, Nen Zealand and Australian line, monthly, plying between the United States and foreign ports, and owned and operated under our flag. I earnestly recommend that liberal contracts for carrying the mails be authorized with these lines as will insure their continuance. If the expediency of extending the aid of the government to lines of steamers which hitherto have not received it should be deemed worthy of the consideration of Congress. Political and commercial objects make it advisable to bestow such aid on a line under our flag between Panama and the western South American ports. By this means much trade now diverted to other countries might be brought to us, to the mutual advantage of this country and those lying in that quarter of the continent of America. The report of the Secretary of the Treasury will show an alarming falling off in our carrying trade for the last ten or twelve years, and even for the past year. I do not believe that public treasure can be better expended in the interest of the whole people than in trying to recover this trade. An expenditure of $5,000,000 per annum for the next five years, if it would restore to us our proportion of the carrying trade of world would be profitably expended. The price of labor in Europe has so much enhanced within the last few years that the cost of building and operating ocean steamers in the United States is not so much greater, that I believe the time has arrived for Congress to take this subject into serious consideration.

The disbursements through the Department of Justice will be furnished by the report of the Attorney General and though these have been somewhat increased by the recent acts of Congress to enforce the rights of citizens of the United States to vote in the several States of the Union, and to enforce the provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and other amendments thereto, I cannot question the necessity and salutary effects of these enactments. Reckless and lawless men, I regret to say, have associated themselves together in some localities to deprive other citizens of the rights guaranteed to them by the Constitution of the United States, and to that end have committed deeds of violence, but the prosecution and punishment of many of these persons have tended greatly to the repression of such disorders. I do not doubt that a great majority of the people in all parts of the country favor the full enjoyment by all classes of persons of these rights, to which they are entitled under the Constitution and the laws, and I invoke the aid and influence of all good citizens to prevent organizations whose objects are by unlawful means to interfere with these rights. I look with confidence to the time, not far distant, when the obvious adrantages of good order and peace will induce an abandonment of all combinations prohibited by the acts referred to, and when it will be unnecessary to carry on prosecutions or inflict punishments to protect citizens from the lawless doings of such combinations. Applications have been made to me to pardon persons convicted of a violation of said acts upon the ground that clemency in such cases would tend to tranquilize the public mind, and to test the virtue of that policy I am disposed, as far as my sense of justice will permit, to give to these applications a favorable consideration; but any action thereon is not to be construed as indicating any change in my determination to enforce with rigor such acts, so long as the conspiracies and combinations therein named disturb the peace of the country. It is much to be regretted, and is regretted by no one more than myself, that a necessity has ever existed to execute the enforcement act. No one can desire more than I that the necessity of applying it may never again be demanded.

EDUCATION.

The rapidly increasing interest in education is a most encouraging feature in the current history of the country, and is no doubt true that this is due in a great measure to the effects of the Bureau of Education. That office is continually receiving evidences which abundantly prove its efficiency, from the various institutions of learning and educators of all kinds throughout the country. The report of the commissioner contains a vast amount of educational details of great interest. The bill now pending before Congress providing for the appropriation of part of the proceeds of the sales of public lands for educational purposes, to aid the states in the general education of their rising generation is a measure of such great importance to our real progress, and is so unanimously approved by the leading friends of education, that I commend it to the favorable attention of Congress.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

An earnest desire has been felt to correct the abuses which have grown up in the civil service of the country, through the defective method of making appointments to office, which has been regarded too much as the reward of political services. Under authority of Congress, rules have been established to regulate the terms of office and the mode of appointments. It cannot be expected that any system will be devised which will not require some practical remedy for existing evils until they can be eradicated by the force of long actual practice, and amended according to the requirements of the service. During my term of office it shall be my best endeavor to so apply the rules as to secure the greatest possible reform in the civil service of the government, but it will require the direct attention of Congress to render the enforcement of the system binding upon my successors, and I hope that the experience of the past year, together with appropriate legislation by Congress, may reach a satisfactory solution of the question, and secure to the public service for all time, a practical method for obtaining faithful and efficient officers and employees.

U. S. GRANT.

Executive Mansion, Dec. 2, 1872.

HORACE GREELEY DEAD.

"Mr. Greeley died very quietly, and without pain, at ten minutes before seven this evening. He was conscious and rational." These were the sad words that were telegraphed from Tarrytown, N. Y., where Mr. Greeley had been staying, Friday night, December 27th, 1872, announcing that one of the foremost men of the nation had fallen.

Horace Greeley was born in Amherst, New Hampshire, February 2, 1811, and at an early age he showed an eagerness for acquiring knowledge, and decided to be a printer. At the age of fifteen he entered a printing office in East Poultney, Vt., as an apprentice. He learned rapidly, and soon acquired a good knowledge of the business. After working as a journeyman in several places he went to New York City, and engaged in the same business. After several unsuccessful ventures in weekly papers, he commenced the publication of the New York *Tribune*. The paper grew with and of him, and on it he made the reputation of his life. He was a wonderful journalist, and during a long and laborious life, he devoted himself to measures for the welfare of his country and his fellow-men. His life is a part of the history of the United States, and with the exception of a very few grave blunders, is without blemish—is worthy the emulation of all classes.

We append to this brief article a few incidents of Mr. Greeley's sickness:

NEW YORK, Nov. 28.—From accounts published this morning, it appears that Mr. Horace Greeley is in a most alarming condition. A reporter who visited Tarrytown, where Mr. Greeley was said to be staying, could not at first learn of his whereabouts, out was told by Mr. Smart, Mr. Greeley's friend, that Mr. Greeley was secluded, and they did not mean to let the public know where he was.

Mr. Smart said: "Mr. Greeley is dangerously sick, and he had symptoms of brain fever. "He may live ten days," he added, "but I doubt it."

Subsequently Mr. Greeley was found to be staying in the village. Around him were a number of his friends, including Samuel Sinclair Wilson and John F. Cleveland, who is Mr. Greeley's brother-in-law; also his daughters. Three physicians were there in consultation. They define his disease as organic affection of the brain, the result of physical prostration, consequent upon his unremitting attendance at the bedside of his dying wife. This account adds, that on the day before yesterday he lost his consciousness. His last coherent words were: "The country is gone, the Tribune is gone, and I am gone."

The *Tribune* furnishes the following account of the illness and last hours of Mr. Greeley: "So far as any of his associates were aware, Mr. Greeley was in almost as good health as usual when, on the day after election, he wrote a card announcing his resumption of the editorial charge of the *Tribune*. His sleeplessness was known to become greatly worse, but for years he had suffered more or less from the same difficulty, and as now it is clear, a sufficient allowance had not been made for the intensestrain upon him throughout the summer, especially during the last month of his wife's illness, but it soon became evident that his strength was unequal to the hard task to which he set himself. He wrote only three or four careful articles, not one of them half a column in length. The most notable, perhaps, was that entitled 'Conclusions,' wherein he summed up his views of the canvass. In all he wrote less than three and a half columns after his return, contributing only to four issues of the paper. Two or three times he handed his assistant articles, saying: 'There is an idea worth using, but I have not felt able to work it out properly.' You had better put it in shape. At last, on Tuesday, the 12th inst., he abandoned his effort to visit the office regularly, and sent for the family physician of Mr. A. J. Johnson, the friend with whom he was a guest, and in whose house his wife had died. Every effort was made to induce sleep, but he grew steadily worse till it became evident that his case was critical. Dr. Geo. C. S. Choate and others were called in consultation, and finally it was decided to take him to Dr. Choate's residence, two or three miles from Greeley's own country residence at Chappaqua. Here he received the uninterrupting attention of Dr. Choate. Dr. Brown and others were called into consultation. The insomnia had developed into an inflammation of the brain, and under this, the venerated patient rapidly sank. At times he was delirious, at other times as clear headed as ever. He lost strength and flesh with startling rapidity, and in a few days the possibility of his speedy death forced itself into unwilling recognition. It was not, however, till Thursday that his associates and family brought themselves to admit it, and even then they clung to his faith in the vigor of his constitution. On Wednesday night he failed very rapidly. Thursday afternoon and evening he was deemed somewhat easier. During the night he slept very uneasily, muttering occasionally, and frequently raising his right hand. Toward the morning he was more quiet, and between 8 and 9 o'clock fell into nearly an unconscious condition, which continued with some intervals through the day. He made occasional exclamations, but most of them, in consequence of his extreme weakness and apparent inability to finish what he began, were unintelligible. About noon, however, he said quite distinctly, and with some force, 'I know that my Redeemer liveth.' During the day he recognized various people, his daughter many times, the members of his household at Chappaqua, Mr. John R. Stuart and Mr. Reid.

"On the whole, he suffered little, seemed to have no more than the ordinary restlessness which accompanies the last stage of the disease. During the day his extremities were cold, and there was no pulse at the wrist. The action of the heart was very intermittent and constantly diminishing in force. He had not asked for water, or been willing to drink it since his stay at Dr. Choate's, but during Friday he asked for it frequently, and up to within half an hour of his end he manifested in various ways his consciousness of what was going on around him, and answered seem to monosyllables and intelligently questions addressed to him. About 3½ o'clock he said very distinctly, 'It is done,' and beyond the briefest answers to questions this was his latest utterance. His youngest daughter, Miss Gabrielle, was with him throughout Thursday evening. Throughout Friday the elder daughter, Miss Ida, was in constant attendance, as she had been during the whole of his illness, and of Mrs. Greeley's before him. Other members of the Chappaqua household were present, with Mr. and Mrs. John R. Stuart, and a few other friends. Nothing that science or affection could suggest was wanting to ease the last hours.

"The wintry night had fairly set in when the ineffable hour came. Without, sleighs were running to and fro, bearing to Chappaqua, the nearest telegraph station, the latest bulletin which the thousands of anxious hearts in the great city near by kept throbbing for. Within, the daughter and a few others stood near the dying man, who remained conscious and seemingly rational and free from pain, though now weak too speak.

"In an adjoining room sat one or two more friends and the physician. At ten minutes before 7 o'clock, the watchers drew back in reverent stillness from the bedside. The great editor was gone in peace, after so many struggles in honor; after so much obloquy."

NEW YORK, November 30.—In the account narrating at length the closing days of the late Mr. Greeley, he is said during his western tour to have never slept over four hours at a time. Through the day he would often doze in the car and catch a snatch of sleep. Upon his return to New York his wife was found rapidsleepless nights at her bedside that he first began to show signs of mental depression. On one occasion, while the opposition press was circulating his Pittsburgh speech, he said, "if they make issue that I'm an rebel candidate I'm bound to be defeated." This consideration seemed to weigh on his mind. Often when he supposed he was alone he would put his hands to his head and cry out, "Oh!" as though suffering from pain. At length, when his wife died, he began to show manifestations of great grief and it was then he is said to have shown the first positive evidences of mental derangement. The November election seemingly did not interrupt him. His defeat did not seem to surprise him. He deceived his friends by receiving the news with indifference. On November 8th, one day after the printing of his famous card, an editorial article appeared in the *Tribune*, headed, "Conclusions." It was simply a summing up of the result of the elections, in Greeley's old style. This was his last professional effort. About this time he revised five articles which he carfully prepared for the encyclopedia. They are entitled "Abolitions," "Agriculture," "Anti-Masonry," "Caucus," "Constitutional Conference." The latter being his history of the "American Conflict," revised. One day later, while in conversation with a friend, he became visibly affected and said touching a remark as to his candidacy: "I don't care for politics, and wouldn't go on the cars to Washington to get a commission as President. What I do feel is the loss of my companion of nearly forty years. I have watched by her bed side night and day; now I am completely worn out with anxiety and want of sleep."

On Nov. 29th, Mr. Greeley was at his home in Chappaqua, and a prominent Liberal Republican from Connecticut visited him and found him in very broken health. In a conversation had as to the campaign, Mr. Greeley manifested much unconcern on the subject, and to the inquiry whether under the circumstances it would be better for the Liberal Republican Committees to take steps at once toward the formation of the consolidation of organization, or remain quiet and await the return of events, he said: "Better keep quiet" But beyond this there was nothing to indicate that he felt any interest in current events. About this time he became restless and haggard in appearance. His family physician recognized it as serious and at once resorted to the most energetic treatment. At first it seemed as though the malady would yield. Medical treatment, however, proved ineffectual.

Congress convened Monday last.

Hon. Chas. Foster—whom Sloane did not "clean out"—left for Washington, Saturday last.

MARRIED.

OVERLANDER—LANCE—On the 29th of Nov. by Rev. J. H. Good, Mr. Jacob Overlander to Miss Selinda Lance of Eden Township, Seneca Co. O.

ELWELL—