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VOL. I—FOURTH SERIES. SALISBURY, N. C., THURSDAY DECEMBER 7, 1893. NO. 45

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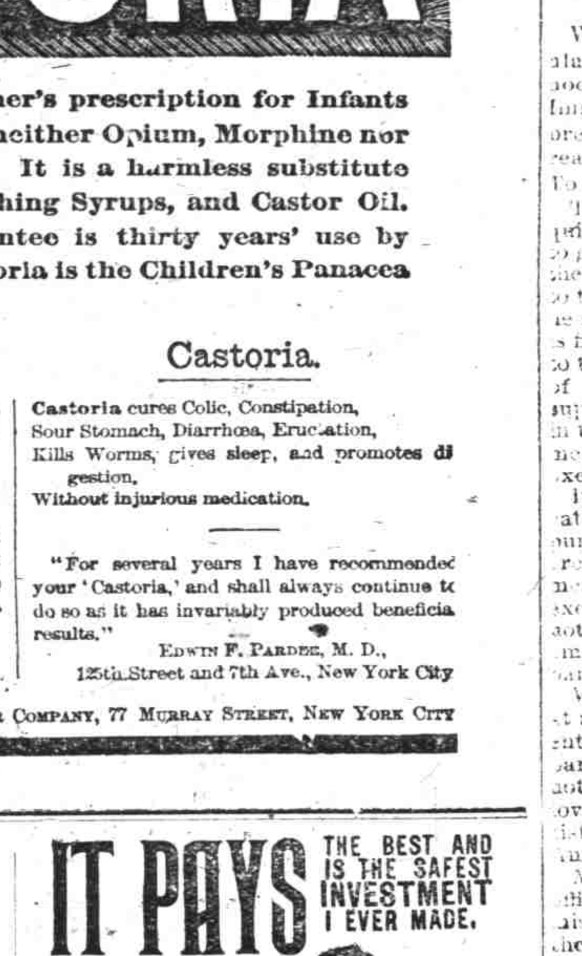

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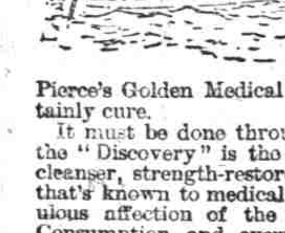

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WHAT THE PRESIDENT THINKS

Of the Leading Questions that Affect the Body Politic—The Remedies Recommended.

WASHINGTON, December 4.—The regular session of Congress convened at noon today, with a full attendance. Immediately after organization, the presidents message was received and read, as follows:

To the Congress of the United States:

The constitutional duty which requires the president from time to time to give to the congress information of the state of the Union and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient is fittingly entered upon by commending to the congress a careful examination of the detailed statements and well supported recommendations contained in the reports of the heads of departments, who are chiefly charged with the executive work of the government.

In an effort to abridge this communication as much as is consistent with its purpose, I shall supplement a brief reference to the contents of these departmental reports by the mention of such executive business and incidents as are not embraced therein, and by such recommendations as appear to be at this particular time appropriate.

While our foreign relations have not at all times during the past year been entirely free from perplexity, no embarrassing situation remains that will not yield to the spirit of fairness and love of justice, which, joined with consistent firmness, characterize a truly American foreign policy.

My predecessor having accepted the office of arbitrator of the long standing mission beyond any dispute tendered to the president by the Argentine Republic and Brazil, it has been my agreeable duty to receive the special envoys commissioned by those states to lay before me evidence and arguments in behalf of their respective governments.

THE TROUBLES IN BRAZIL.

The outbreak of domestic hostilities in the republic of Brazil bound the United States to watch the interests of our citizens in that country, with which we carry on important commerce. Several vessels of our new navy are now and for some time have been stationed at Rio de Janeiro. The struggle being between the established government which controls the machinery of the administration and with which we maintain friendly relations, and certain officers of the navy employing the vessels of their command in an attack upon the capital and chief seaport, and lacking, as it does, the elements of divided administration, I have failed to see that the insurgents can claim recognition as belligerents.

Thus far the position of our government has been that of an attentive but impartial observer of the unfortunate conflict. Emphasizing our policy of impartial neutrality in such a condition as now exists, I deemed it necessary to disavow in a manner not to be misunderstood, the unauthorized action of our late naval commander in those waters in saluting the revolted Brazilian admiral, being indisposed to countenance an act calculated to give gratuitous sanction to the local insurrection.

THE CHILEAN CLAIMS.

The convention between our government and Chile, having for its object the settlement and adjustment of the demands of the two countries against each other, has been made effective by the organization of the claims commission provided for.

The two governments failing to agree upon the third member of the commission, the good offices of the president of the Swiss republic were invoked, as provided in the treaty, and the selection of the Swiss representative in this country to complete the organization was gratifying alike to the United States and Chile.

EGAN'S BREAK REVIEWED.

The vexatious question of so-called legation asylums for offenders against the state and its laws, was presented anew in Chile by the unauthorized action of the late United States minister in receiving into his official residence two persons who had just failed in an attempt at revolution, and against whom criminal charges were pending, growing out of a former abortive disturbance.

The doctrine of asylum as applied to this case is not sanctioned by the best precedents, and, when allowed, tends to encourage sedition and strife. Under no circumstances can the representatives of this government be permitted, under the ill-defined fiction of extra territoriality, to interrupt the administration of criminal justice in the countries to which they are accredited. A temperate demand having been made by the Chilean government for the correction of this conduct in the instance mentioned, the minister was instructed to no longer harbor the offenders.

AS TO THE GEARY LAW.

The legislation of last year known as the Geary law, requiring the registration of all Chinese entitled to residence in the United States, and the deportation of all not complying with the provisions of the act within the time prescribed, met with much opposition from Chinamen. Acting upon the advice of eminent counsel that the law was unconstitutional, the great mass of Chinese laborers, pending judicial inquiry as to its validity, in good faith seemed to apply for the certificates required. A test case upon proceeding by habeas corpus was brought before the supreme court, and on May 15th, 1893, a decision was made by that tribunal sustaining the law.

It is believed that under the recent amendment of the act extending the time for registration, the Chinese laborers thereto entitled, who desired to reside in this country, will now avail themselves of the renewed privilege thus afforded of establishing by lawful procedure their right to remain, and that thereby the necessity of enforced deportation may, to a great degree, be avoided.

MISSIONARY MURDERS IN CHINA.

It has developed upon the United States minister at Pekin, as dean of the diplomatic body, in the absence of a representative of Sweden and Norway, to press upon the Chinese government reparation for the recent murder of Swedish missionaries at Sung Per. This question is of vital interest to all countries whose citizens engage in missionary work in the interior.

THE SURRENDER OF WEEKS.

Costa Rica has lately testified its friendliness by surrendering to the United States, in the absence of a convention of extradition, but upon duly submitted evidence of criminality, a noted fugitive from justice. It is trusted that the negotiations of a treaty with the country to meet recurring cases of this kind will soon be accomplished. In my opinion, treaties for reciprocal extradition should be concluded with all those countries with which the United States has not already conventional arrangements of that character.

I have deemed it fitting to express to the governments of Costa Rica and Colombia the kindly desire of the United States to see their pending boundary dispute finally closed by arbitration in conformity with the spirit of the treaty concluded between them some years ago.

OUR EUROPEAN RELATIONS.

Our relations with France continue to be intimate and cordial. I sincerely hope that the extradition treaty with that country, as amended by the senate, will soon be in operation.

While occasional questions affecting our naturalized citizens returning to the land of their birth have arisen in our intercourse with Germany, our relations with that country continue satisfactory.

The questions affecting our relations with Great Britain have been treated in a spirit of friendliness. Negotiations are in progress between the two governments with a view to such concurrent action as will make the award and regulations agreed upon by the Behring sea tribunal of arbitration practically effective; and it is not doubted that Great Britain will co-operate freely with this country for the accomplishment of that purpose. The dispute growing out of the discriminating tolls imposed in the Welland canal, upon cargoes of cereals bound to and from the lake ports of the United States was adjusted by the substitution of a more equitable of charges, and my predecessor thereupon suspended his proclamation imposing discriminating tolls upon British transit through our Canals.

A request for additions to the list of extraditable offenses covered by the existing treaty between the two countries is under consideration.

[illegible] A.

A notable part of the southeasterly coast of Liberia, between the Cavally and San Pedro rivers, which for nearly half a century has been generally recognized as belonging to that republic by cession and purchase has been claimed to be under the protectorate of France [as to] the native tribes over which Liberia's control has not been well maintained. More recently negotiations between the Liberian representative and the French government resulted in the signature at Paris of a treaty whereby, as an adjustment, certain Liberian territory is ceded to France. This convention at last advice had not been ratified by the [Liberian] legislature and executive. Feeling a sympathetic interest in the fortunes of the little commonwealth, the establishment and development of which was largely aided by the benevolence of our countrymen, and which constitutes the only independently sovereign state on the west coast of Africa, this government has suggested to the French government its earnest concern lest territorial impairment in Liberia should take place without her unconstrained consent.

MEXICO IS ALL RIGHT.

Our relations with Mexico continue to be of that close and friendly nature which should always characterize the intercourse of two neighboring republics.

NICARAGUA'S CIVIL TROUBLES.

Nicaragua has passed through two revolutions, the party at first successful, having in turn been displaced by another, and our newly appointed minister, by his timely good offices, aided in a peaceful adjustment of the controversy involved in the first conflict. The large American interests established in that country in connection with the Nicaragua canal were not molested.

The United States are especially interested in the successful achievement of the vast undertaking this company has in charge. That it should be accomplished under distinctively American auspices and its enjoyment assured not only to the vessels of this country as a channel of communication between our Atlantic and Pacific seaboards, but to the ships of the world in the interest of civilization, is a proposition which, in my judgement does not admit of question.

NEW EXTRADITION TREATIES.

An extradition treaty with Norway has recently been exchanged and proclaimed.

The extradition treaty with Russia, signed in March 1887 and amended and confirmed by the senate in February last, was duly proclaimed last June.

CLAIMS AGAINST SPAIN.

More than fifteen years ago this government preferred a claim against Spain in behalf of one of our citizens for property seized and confiscated in Cuba. In 1886 the claim was adjusted, Spain agreeing to pay unconditionally, as a fair indemnity, $1,500,000.

A respectful but earnest note was recently addressed to the Spanish government, insisting upon the prompt fulfillment of its long neglected obligation.

Other claims preferred by the United States against Spain, in behalf of American citizens, for property confiscated in Cuba, have been pending for many years.

At the time Spain's title to the Carolina Islands was confirmed by arbitration, that government agreed that the rights which had been acquired there by American missionaries, should be recognized and respected. It is sincerely hoped that this pledge will be observed by allowing our missionaries, who were removed from Ponape to a place of safety by a United States war ship during the late trouble between the Spanish garrison and the natives, to return to their field of usefulness.

TROUBLE WITH THE TURKS.

Important matters have demanded our attention at the Ottoman Porte.

The firing and partial destruction, by an unrestrained mob, of one of the school buildings of Anatolia College, established by citizens of the United States at Marsovan, and the apparent indifference of the Turkish government to the outrage, notwithstanding the complicity of some of its officials, called for earnest remonstrance, which was followed by promises of reparation and the punishment of the offenders. Indemnity for the injury to the buildings has already been paid, permission to rebuild given, registration of the school property in the name of the American owners secured, and efficient protection guaranteed.

THE HAWAIIAN EMBROGLIO.

It is hardly necessary for me to state that the questions arising from our relations with Hawaii have caused serious embarrassment.

Just prior to the installment of the present administration, the existent government of Hawaii had been suddenly overthrown, and a treaty of annexation had been negotiated between the provisional government of the islands and the United States and submitted to the senate for ratification.

This treaty I withdrew for examination and dispatched Hon. James H. Blount, of Georgia, to Honolulu as a special messenger to make an impartial investigation of the circumstances attending the change of government, and of all the conditions bearing upon the subject of the treaty.

After a thorough and exhaustive examination, Mr. Blount submitted to me his report, showing beyond all question that the constitutional government of Hawaii had been subverted with the active aid of our representative to that government and through the intimidation caused by the presence of armed naval force of the United States which was landed for that purpose at the instance of our minister.

Upon the facts developed, it seemed to me that the only honorable course for our government to pursue was to undo the wrong that had been done by those representing us, and to restore, as far as practicable, the status existing at the time of our forcible intervention.

PROGRESS OF ARBITRATION.

By a concurrent resolution passed by the senate February 14, 1890, and by the house of representatives on the 3rd of April following, the president was requested "to invite from time to time, as fit occasions may arise, negotiations with any government with which the United States has or may have diplomatic relations, to the end that any differences or disputes arising between the two governments which cannot be adjusted by diplomatic agency, may be referred to arbitration and be peaceably adjusted by such means."

April 18, 1890, the International American Conference of Washington, by resolution expressed the wish that all controversies between the republics of America [illegible] might be settled by arbitration and recommended that the government of each nation represented in that conference should communicate this wish to all friendly powers.

A favorable response has been received from Great Britain in the shape of a resolution adopted by the parliament July 16th, last cordially sympathizing with the purpose in view and expressing the hope that her majesty's government will lend ready co-operation to the government of the United States upon the basis of the concurrent resolution above quoted.

It affords me signal pleasure to lay this parliamentary resolution before the congress, and to express my sincere gratification that the sentiment of two great and kindred nations is thus authoritatively manifested in favor of the rational and peaceable settlement of international quarrels by honorable resort to arbitration.

STATE OF THE TREASURY.

The secretary of the treasury reports that the receipts of the government from all sources during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893, amounted to $461,716,561.94, and its expenditures to $459,374,674.29. There was collected from customs $205,355,016.73, and from internal revenue $161,027,623.92. Our dutiable imports amounted to $431,856,711, an increase of $52,453,907 over the preceding year, and importations free of duty amounted to $444,545,211, a decrease from the preceding year of $13,455,447. Internal revenue receipts exceeded of the preceding year by $7,147,445.32.

It is estimated upon the basis of the present revenue laws that the receipts of the government for the year ending June 30, 1894, will be $430,121,365.38 and its expenditures $458,121,365.38, resulting in a deficiency of $28,000,000.

On the first day of November, 1893, the amount of money of all kinds in circulation or not included in treasury holdings, was $1,718,544,682, an increase for the year of $112,404,947.

Estimating our population at 67,426,000 at the time mentioned, the per capita circulation was $25.49.

During the year 158 banks were organized in thirty-two states and territories with a capital stock of $11,230,000, distributed as follows:

Forty-four with a capital stock of $5,1[illegible] in the eastern states; forty-one with a capital stock of $2,340,000 west of the Mississippi river, and thirty-four with a capital stock of $3,755,000 in the central and southern states.

Within the same period 158 banks suspended with a capital stock of $30,3[illegible],000. Of this number eighty-six with a capital stock of $18,205,000 resumed, and sixty-five passed into the hands of receivers, with a capital stock of $10,885,000.

THE SHERMAN LAW REPEAL.

The recent repeal of the provision of law requiring the purchase of silver bullion by the government as a feature of our monetary scheme has made an entire change in the complexion of our currency affairs. I do not doubt that the ultimate result of this action will be most salutary and far-reaching.

In the nature of things, however, it is impossible to know at this time precisely what conditions will be brought about by the change, or what, if any, supplementary legislation may, in the light of such conditions, appear to be essential or expedient.

Of course, after the recent financial perturbation, time is necessary for the re-establishment of business confidence. When, however, through this restored confidence, the money which has been frightened into hoarding places is returned to trade and enterprise, a survey of the situation will probably disclose a safe path leading to a permanently sound currency abundantly sufficient to meet every requirement of our increasing population and business.

In the pursuit of this object we should resolutely turn away from all alluring and temporary expedients, determined to be content with nothing less than a lasting and comprehensive financial plan.

REASONABLE DELAY THE BEST.

In these circumstances I am convinced that a reasonable delay in dealing with this subject, instead of being injurious, will increase the probability of wise action.

THE MONETARY CONFERENCE.

The monetary conference which assembled at Brussels upon our invitation, was adjourned to the 30th day of November in the present year. The considerations just stated and the fact that a definite proposition from us [illegible] expected upon the reassembling of the conference led me to express a willingness to have the meeting still further postponed. It seems to me that it would be wise to give general authority to the president to invite other nations to such a conference at any time when there should be a fair prospect of accomplishing an international agreement on the subject of coinage.

AS TO A BOND ISSUE.

I desire also to earnestly suggest the wisdom of amending the existing statutes in regard to the issuance of government bonds.

The authority now vested in the secretary of the treasury to issue bonds is not as clear as it should be and the bonds authorized are disadvantageous to the government, both as to the time of their maturity and rate of interest.

OUR MILITARY FOOTING.

The secretary of war reports that the strength of the army on the 30th day of September last was 25,778 enlisted men and 2,144 officers. The total expenditures of the department for the year ending June 30, 1893, amounted to $51,966,074.89. Of this sum $1,992,581.95 was for salaries and contingent expenses, $23,377,828.35 for the support of the military establishment, $6,077,033.18 for miscellaneous objects and $20,518,631.41 for public works. This latter sum includes $15,296,876.46 for river and harbor improvements and $3,256,141.20 for fortifications and other works of defense.

The total enrollment of the militia of the several states was on the 31st of October of the current year, 112,597 officers and enlisted men. The officers of the army detailed for the inspection and instruction of this reserve of our military force, report that increased interest and marked progress are apparent in the discipline and efficiency of the organization.

OUR COAST DEFENCES.

It is gratifying to note that we have begun to gain completed results in the comprehensive scheme of seacoast defense and fortification entered upon eight years ago. A large sum has been already expended, but the cost of maintenance will be inconsiderable as compared with the expense of construction and ordnance. At the end of the current calendar year, the war department will have nine twelve-inch guns, 20 ten-inch and 34 eight-inch guns ready to be mounted on gun lifts and carriages, and 75 twelve-inch mortars. In addition to the product of the army gun factory, now completed at Watervliet, the government has contracted with private parties for the purchase of one hundred guns of these calibers, the first of which should be delivered to the department for test before July 1, 1894.

The reports of the military academy at West Point and the several schools for the special instruction of officers, showed marked advance in the education in the army and a commendable ambition to fit themselves for the highest service of the country.

THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT.

The report of the attorney general contains the usual summary of the affairs and proceedings of the department of justice for the past year, together with certain recommendations as to needed legislation on various subjects.

I cannot too heartily endorse the proposition that the fee system as applicable to the compensation of United States attorneys, marshals, clerks of federal courts and United States commissioners should be abolished with as little delay as possible. It is clearly in the interest of the community that the business of the courts, both civil and criminal, shall be as small and inexpensively transacted as the ends of justice will allow.

I also heartily join the attorney general in recommending legislation fixing the degrees of the crime of murder within the federal jurisdiction, as has been done in many of the states, authorizing writs of error on behalf of the government in cases where final judgement is rendered against the sufficiency of an indictment or against the government upon any other question arising before actual trial; limiting the right of review of cases of felony punishable only by fine and imprisonment to the circuit court of appeals and making speedy provision for the construction of such prisons and reformatories as may be necessary for the confinement of United States convicts.

IN THE POSTOFFICE.

The report of the postmaster general contains a detailed statement of the operation of the postoffice department during the last fiscal year and much interesting information touching this important branch of the public service.

The business of the mails indicates with absolute certainty the condition of the business of the country, and depression in financial affairs inevitably and quickly reduces the postal revenues. Therefore, a larger discrepancy than usual between the postoffice receipts and expenditures is the expected and unavoidable result of the distressing stringency which has prevailed throughout the country during much of the time covered by the postmaster general's report.

The postoffice receipts for the last fiscal year amounted to $72,776,933.6[illegible] and its expenditure to $81,074,014.90. This postoffice deficiency would disappear if less matter was carried free through the mails, an item of which is upward of three hundred tons of seeds and grain from the agricultural department.

The total number of postoffices in the United States on the 30th of June, 1893, was 68,403, an increase of 1,284 over the preceding year. Of these 3[illegible] were presidential, an increase in that class of 204 over the preceding year.

There are now connected to the postoffice establishment 32,[illegible]24 employes who are in the classified service.

VALUE OF THE CIVIL SERVICE.

The head of this department gives conclusive evidence of the value of civil service reform when, after an experience that [illegible] his conclusion reliable, he expresses the opinion that without the benefit of this [illegible] would be impossible to conduct the vast business entrusted to him.

I desire to commend as especially worthy of prompt attention, the suggestion of the postmaster general relating to a more sensible and business-like organization and a better distribution of responsibility in his department.

OUR GROWING NAVY.

The report of the secretary of the navy contains a history of the operations of his department during the past year, and exhibits a most gratifying condition of the personnel of our navy. He presents a satisfactory account of the progress which has been made in the construction of vessels and makes a number of recommendations to which attention is especially invited.

While I am distinctly in favor of consistently pursuing the policy we have inaugurated of building up a thorough and efficient navy, I cannot refrain from the suggestion that congress should carefully take into account the unfinished vessels on our hands and the depleted condition of our treasury in considering the propriety of an appropriation at this time to begin new work.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

The continued intelligent execution of the civil service law and the increasing approval by the people by its operations are most gratifying.

I am, if possible, more than ever convinced of the incalculable benefits conferred by the civil service law, not only in its effect upon the public service, but also what is even more important in its effect in elevating the tone of political life generally.

FOR TARIFF REFORM.

After a hard struggle, tariff reform is directly before us. Nothing so important claims our attention and nothing so clearly presents itself as both an opportunity and a duty, an opportunity to deserve the gratitude of our fellow citizens and a duty imposed upon us by our oft-repeated professions and by the emphatic mandate of the people.

After full discussion, our countrymen have spoken in favor of this reform, and they have confided the work of its accomplishment to the hands of those who are solemnly pledged to it.

Nothing should intervene to distract our attention or disturb our effort until this reform is accomplished by wise and careful legislation.

THE WILSON BILL.

A measure has been prepared by the appropriate congressional committee, embodying tariff reform on the lines herein suggested, which will be promptly submitted for legislative action. It is the result of much patriotic and unselfish work, and I believe it deals with its subject consistently and as thoroughly as existing conditions permit.

FOR AN INCOME TAX.

The committee, after full consideration, and to provide against a temporary deficiency which may exist before the business of the country adjusts itself to the new tariff schedules, have wisely embraced in their schedule a few additional internal revenue taxes, including a small tax upon income derived from certain corporate investments.

These new assessments are not only absolutely just and easily borne, but they have the further merit of being such as can be remitted without unfavorable business disturbance whenever the necessity for their imposition no longer exists.

In my great desire for the success of this measure, I cannot restrain the suggestion that its success can only be attained by means of unselfish counsel on the part of tariff reform, and as a result of their willingness to subordinate personal desires and ambitions to the general good. The local interests affected by the proposed reform are so numerous and so varied that if all are insisted upon the legislation embodying the reform must inevitably fail.

IN CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, my intense feeling of responsibility impels me to invoke for the manifold interests of a generous and confiding people the most scrupulous care, and to pledge my willing support to every legislative effort for the advancement of the greatness and prosperity of our country.

GROVER CLEVELAND.

Executive Mansion, Washington, D. C., December 4.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

Royal Baking Powder
ABSOLUTELY PURE

BURNED IN HIS BED.

A Wealthy Lumberman Caught by a Fire In His Office.

SELMA, ALA., December 2.—The depot of the East Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia railroad at Vine Hill, a small station in Autauga county, was burned between the hours of 2 and 3 o'clock this morning. Adjoining the depot was the office of the Vine Hill Lumber Company. G. M. Frederickson, president of the company, had a room in it where he slept. Before he could be aroused from his slumber the office was in a sheet of flames and he was burned to death. The origin of the fire is unknown. Mr. Frederickson was a prominent and wealthy man.

Killed by a Woman.

DARIEN, GA., December 2.—Last Monday night Ella Cummings, colored, mortally stabbed Cain Baptist and he died in ten minutes. The grand jury found an indictment the next day for murder. The woman was put on trial today before Judge Falligant and the jury will probably render a verdict of murder.

Another murder was committed on the same evening in the country. Charles Owens, colored, was tried for the murder today and was acquitted.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.