

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The text of the President's Message came too late last week for us to even review it. We give here some of the most important parts of the message:

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

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 true spirit of fairness and love of justice, which, joined with consistent firmness, characterizes a truly American foreign policy.

GOVERNMENT FINANCES.

The Secretary of the Treasury reports that the receipts of the government from all sources during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1893, amounted to \$461,716,561, and its expenditures to \$459,374,671. There was collected from customs \$200,355,016, and from internal revenue \$161,027,623. Our dutiable imports amounted to \$421,856,711, an increase of 52,433,907 over the preceding year, and importations free of duty amounted to \$144,544,211, a decrease from the preceding year of \$13,455,447. Internal revenue receipts exceeded those of the preceding year by \$7,147,455.

The total tax collected on distilled spirits was \$94,720,269, and on manufactured tobacco \$31,889,711, and on fermented liquors \$32,548,933. We exported merchandise during the year amounting to \$847,965,194 a decrease of \$182,612,951 from the preceding year. The amount of gold exported was larger than any previous year in the history of the government amounting to \$108,680,844, and exceeding the amount exported during the preceding year by \$58,485,518. The sum paid from the treasury for sugar bounty was \$9,375,130, an increase over the preceding year of \$2,033,953.

It is estimated upon the basis of present revenue laws that the receipts of the government for the year ending June 30th, 1894, will be \$439,121,365, and its expenditures \$458,121,365, 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 holding 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 \$25.40. On the same day there was in the Treasury gold bullion amounting to \$96,657,273, and silver bullion which was purchased at a cost of \$126,261,552.

The purchase of silver under the law of July 14, 1890, during the last fiscal year aggregated 54,068,162 fine ounces which cost \$45,581,374. The total amount of silver purchased from the time that low became operative until the repeal of its purchasing clause on the first day of November, 1893, was 168,674,590 fine ounces, which cost \$155,930,940. Between the first day of March, 1873, and the first day of November, 1893, the government purchased under all laws 503,003,717 fine ounces of silver at a cost of \$516,622,948. The silver dollars that have been coined under the act of July 14, 1890, number 36,087,285. The seigniorage arising from such coinage was \$6,977,098, leaving in the mints 140,699,700 fine ounces of silver, which cost \$126,758,218.

Our total coinage of all metals during the last fiscal year consisted of \$7,280,875 pieces valued at \$43,085,178, of which there was \$30,038,140 in gold coin; \$5,343,715 in silver dollars; \$7,217,220 in subsidiary silver coin, and \$1,086,102 in minor coins. During the calendar year 1892, the production of precious metals in the United States was estimated to be 1,596,375 fine ounces of gold of the commercial and coinage value of \$33,000,000, and 58,000,000 fine ounces of silver of the bullion or market value of \$50,750,000 and of the coinage value of \$74,989,090.

It is estimated that on the first day of July 1893 the metallic stock of money in the United States, consisting of coin and bullion, amounted to \$1,213,559,169, of which \$597,697,685 was gold, and \$615,861,484 was silver.

One hundred and nineteen national banks were organized during the year ending October 31, 1893 with a capital of \$11,230,000. Forty six went in to voluntary liquidation and one hundred and fifty eight suspended. Sixty five of the suspended banks were insolvent. Eighty six resumed business, and seven remaining in hands of bank examiners with prospects of speedy resumption.

FINANCIAL LEGISLATION.

The recent repeal of the provision of the 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 alluring and temporary expedients, determined to be content with nothing less than a lasting and comprehensive financial plan. Indeed I am convinced that reasonable delay in dealing with this subject instead of being injurious will increase the probability of wise action.

GOVERNMENT BONDS.

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.

IMMIGRANTS.

The Superintendent of Immigration, through the Secretary of the Treasury, reports that during the last fiscal year there arrived at our ports 440,793 immigrants. Of these 1,063 were not permitted to land under the limitations of the law, and 577 were returned to the countries from whence they came by reason of their having become public charges. The total arrivals were 151,030 less than for the previous year.

THE GREAT PENSION ROLL.

The Secretary of the Interior has the supervision of so many important subjects that his report is of especial value and interest. On the 30th day of June, 1893, there were on the pension rolls 966,012 names, an increase of 89,914 over the number on the rolls June 30, 1892. Of these there were 17 widows and daughters of Revolutionary soldiers, 86 survivors of the War of 1812, 5,425 widows of soldiers of that war, 21,518 survivors and widows of the Mexican War, 3,882 survivors and widows of Indian wars, 2,284 army nurses, and 475,945 survivors and widows and children of deceased soldiers and sailors of the War of the Rebellion. The latter number represents those pensioned on account of disabilities or death resulting from army and navy service. The number of persons remaining on the rolls June 30, 1893, who were pensioned under the act of June 27, 1890, which allows pensions on account of death and disability not chargeable to army service, was 459,135.

The number added to the rolls during the year was 123,634, and the number dropped was 33,690. The first payments on pensions allowed during the year amounted to \$33,756,549.89. This includes arrears, or the accumulation between the time from which the allowance of pension dates and the time of actually granting the certificate. Although the law of 1890 permits pensions for disabilities not related to military service, yet, as a requisite to its benefits, a disability must exist, incapacitating applicants "from the performance of manual labor to such a degree as to render them unable to earn a support." The execution of this law in its early stages does not seem to have been in accord with its true intention; but toward the close of the last administration an authoritative construction was given to the statute, and since that time this construction has been followed. This has had the effect of limiting the operation of the law to its intended purpose.

The discovery having been made that many names had been put upon the pension roll by means of wholesale and gigantic frauds, the Commissioner suspended payments upon a number of pensions which seemed to be fraudulent or unauthorized, pending a complete examination, giving notice to the pensioners, in order that they might have an opportunity to establish, if possible, the justice of their claims notwithstanding apparent invalidity.

PENSION FRAUDS.

I am unable to understand why frauds in the pension rolls should not be exposed and corrected with thoroughness and vigor. Every name fraudulently put upon these rolls is a wicked imposition upon the kindly sentiment in which pensions have their origin; every fraudulent pensioner has become a bad citizen; every false oath in

support of a pension has made perjury more common, and false and undeserving pensioners rob the people not only of their money, but of the patriotic sentiment which survivors of war fought for the preservation of the Union, ought to inspire. Thousands of neighborhood have their well known fraudulent pensioners, and recent developments by the bureau establish appalling conspiracies to accomplish pension frauds. By no means the least wrong done is to brave and deserving pensioners, who certainly ought not to be condemned to such association.

Those who attempt in the line of duty to rectify these wrongs should not be accused of enmity or indifference to the claims of honest veterans.

The sum expended on account of pensions for the year ending June 30, 1893, was \$156,710,467.14.

The Commissioner estimates that \$165,000,000 will be required to pay pensions during the year ending June 30, 1894.

ECONOMY IN ADMINISTRATION.

The report of the Secretary of Agriculture will be found exceedingly interesting, especially in that large part of our citizens intimately concerned in agricultural occupations.

On the 7th of March, 1893, there were upon its payrolls 2,439 employees. This number has been reduced to 1,850 persons. In view of a depleted public Treasury and the imperative demand of the people for economy in the administration of their government, the Secretary has entered upon the task of rationally reducing expenditures by the elimination from the payrolls of persons not needed in an efficient conduct of the affairs of the department.

During the first quarter of the present year the expenses of the department aggregated \$345,876.76 as against \$402,012.42 for the corresponding period of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893. The Secretary makes apparent his intention to continue this rate of reduction by submitting estimates for the next fiscal year less by \$994,280 than those for the present year.

In the year 1839 the Congress appropriated \$1,000, to be taken from the Patent Office funds, for the purpose of collecting and distributing rare and improved varieties of seeds, and for prosecuting agricultural investigations and procuring agricultural statistics. From this small beginning the Seed Division of the Department of Agriculture has grown to its present unwieldy and unjustifiably extravagant proportions.

During the last fiscal year the cost of seeds purchased was \$66,548.61. The remainder of an appropriation of \$125,000 was expended in putting up and distributing them. It surely never could have entered the minds of those who first sanctioned appropriations of public money for the purchase of new and improved varieties of seeds, for gratuitous distribution that from this would grow large appropriations for the purchase and distribution by members of Congress of ordinary seeds, bulbs and cuttings, which are common in all the States and Territories and everywhere easily obtainable at low prices.

In each State or Territory an agricultural experiment station has been established. These stations, by their very character and name, are the proper agencies to experiment with and test new varieties of seeds; and yet this indiscriminate and wasteful distribution by legislation and legislators continues, answering no purpose unless it be to remind constituents that their representatives are willing to remember them with gratuities at public cost.

Under the sanction of existing legislation there was sent out from the Agricultural Department during the last fiscal year enough of cabbage seed to plant 19,299 of land, a sufficient quantity of beans to plant 4,000 acres, beet seed enough to plant 2,500 acres, sweet corn enough to plant 7,800 acres, sufficient cucumber seed to cover 2,025 acres with vines, and enough muskmelon and watermelon seeds to plant 2,675 acres. The total quantity of flower and vegetable seeds thus distributed was contained in more than nine million packages, and they were sufficient, if planted, to cover 89,596 acres of land.

In view of these facts this enormous expenditure without legitimate returns of benefit ought to be abolished. Anticipating a consummation so manifestly in the interest of good administration, more than \$100,000 has been stricken from the estimate made to cover this object for the year ending June 30, 1895, and the Secretary recommends that the remaining \$25,000 of the estimate be confined strictly to the purchase of new and improved varieties of seeds, and that these be distributed through experiment stations.

STRICT ECONOMY URGED.

Economy in public expenditure is a duty that cannot innocently be neglected by those entrusted with the control of money drawn from the people for public uses. It must be confessed that our apparently endless resources, the familiarity of our people with immense accumulations of wealth, the growing sentiment among them that the expenditure of public money should in some manner be to their immediate and per-

sonal advantage, the indirect and almost stealthy manner in which a large part of our taxes are exacted, and a degenerated sense of official accountability have led to growing extravagance in governmental appropriations.

At this time, when a depleted public Treasury confronts us, when many of our people are engaged in a hard struggle for the necessities of life, and which enforced economy is pressing upon the great mass of our countrymen, I desire to urge, with all the earnestness at my command, that Congressional legislation be so limited by strict economy as to exhibit an appreciation of the Treasury and a sympathy with the straitened circumstances of our fellow citizens.

The duty of public economy is also of immense importance in its intimate and necessary relation to the task now in hand of providing revenue to meet government expenditures, and yet reducing the people's burden of federal taxation.

THE TARIFF.

After a hard struggle tariff reform is directly before. 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 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 those who are solemnly pledged to it.

If there is anything in the theory of representation in public officers are really the servants of the people, and if promises and professions have any binding force, our failure to give the relief so long awaited will be sheer recreancy. Nothing should intervene to distract our attention or disturb our effort until this reform is accomplished by wise and careful legislation.

While we should staunchly adhere to the principle that only the necessity of revenue justifies the imposition of tariff duties and other federal taxation, and that they should be limited by strict economy, we cannot close our eyes to the fact that conditions have grown up among us which in justice and fairness call for discriminating care in the distribution of such duties and taxation as the emergencies of our government actually demand.

Manifestly, if we are to aid the people directly through tariff reform, one of its most obvious features should be a reduction in present tariff charges upon the necessities of life. The benefits of such a reduction would be palpable and substantial, seen and felt by thousands who would be better fed and better clothed and better sheltered. These gifts should be the willing benefactions of government whose highest function is the promotion of the welfare of the people.

FOR FREE RAW MATERIALS.

Not less closely related to our people's prosperity and well being is the removal of restrictions upon the importation of the raw materials necessary to our manufactures. The world should be open to our national ingenuity and enterprise. This cannot be while federal legislation, through the imposition of high tariff, forbids to American manufacturers as cheap materials as those used by their competitors. It is quite obvious that the enhancement of the price of our manufactured products resulting from this policy not only confines the market for these products within our own borders, to the direct disadvantage of our manufacturers, but also increases their cost to our citizens.

The interests of labor are certainly, though indirectly, involved in this feature of our tariff system. The sharp competition and active struggle among our manufacturers to supply the limited demand for their goods fill the narrow market to which they are confined. Then follows a suspension of work in mills and factories, a discharge of employes, and distress in the homes of our workmen.

Even if the often disproved assertion could be made good that a lower rate of wages would result from free raw materials and low tariff duties, the intelligence of our workmen leads them quickly to discover that their steady employment, permitted by free raw materials, is the most important factor in their relation to tariff legislation.

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.

I am satisfied that the reduced tariff duties provided for in the proposed legislation, added to existing internal revenue taxation, will in the near future, though perhaps not immediately, produce sufficient revenue to meet the needs of the government.

SMALL INCOME TAX.

The committee, after full consideration, and to which may be added a temporary deficiency which may exist before the business of the country adjusts itself to the new tariff schedules, have wisely embraced in their plan a few additional internal revenue taxes, including a small tax upon incomes

derived from certain corporate investments.

Those 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 of 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 the friends 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, 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 beloved country.

GROVER CLEVELAND.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, Dec. 4, 1893.

For a sore throat there is nothing better than a flannel bandage dampened with Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It will nearly always effect a cure in one night's time. This remedy is also a favorite for rheumatism and has cured many very severe cases. 50 cents bottles for sale by E. T. Whitehead & Co.

Miss Barton, the national president of the Red Cross Association, has been working several months among the sea island sufferers on the South Carolina coast, and her account of the destitution is sad, indeed. There are 30,000 without homes and employment. In some places where Commissioners have been sent to the huts to investigate the destitution they had to talk to the suffering ones through the crevices of their huts because the persons within were naked. A call for relief has been issued by the District of Columbia auxiliary of the Red Cross Association, and truly the sufferers are worthy of aid.

Mr. J. P. Blaise, an extensive real estate dealer in Des Moines, Iowa, narrowly escaped one of the severest attacks of pneumonia while in the northern part of that state during a recent blizzard, says the Saturday Review.

Mr. Blaise had occasion to drive several miles during the storm and was so thoroughly chilled that he was unable to get warm, and inside of an hour after his return he was threatened with a severe case of pneumonia or lung fever. Mr. Blaise sent to the nearest drug store and got a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, of which he had often heard, and took a number of large doses, and says the effect was wonderful and in a short time he was breathing quite easily. He kept on taking the medicine and the next day was able to come to Des Moines. Mr. Blaise regards his cure as simply wonderful. For sale by E. T. Whitehead & Co.

5,000 Palmetto Asparagus Plants for sale. J. Y. SAVAGE 11-16-4.

LAND SALE.

By virtue of power vested in me by a certain deed of trust made and executed by C. T. Lawrence and wife, on the 30th day of March, A. D. 1888, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Halifax county, North Carolina, in Book 80 page 283, I will sell for cash, in the town of Scotland Neck, on the 12th day of January 1894, the property described in said deed of trust, bounded by the lands of J. T. Benkley, Mrs. W. P. Darden, Mrs. Sherod Shields, Mrs. W. E. Whitmore, Mrs. W. S. Biggs, A. E. Pope and W. H. Kitchin, containing five hundred and fifty-six acres, more or less. G. H. SMITH, 12 14 4 Dec. 14, '93 Trustee.

Administrator's Notice.

Having qualified as administrator of the estate of Rebecca W. Shields, deceased, I hereby notify all persons holding claims against said estate to present them to me for payment on or before the 4th day of Dec. 1894. All persons indebted to the estate will please make payment. J. E. SHIELDS, Admr. 12 7 6

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