



ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY, BY CLARKE & CRAIG, PUBLISHERS AND PROPRIETORS. S. A. CLARKE. D. W. CRAIG.

Terms of Subscription. One copy, one year (52 numbers) \$2.50 One copy, six months (26 numbers) 1.25 One copy, three months (13 numbers) .75

SALEM, FRIDAY, DEC. 14, 1877.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The message of President Hayes to Congress opens with a reference to the pacification of the country under his administration, and expresses an abiding faith that time will furnish ample vindication of his course in the minds of a great majority of his countrymen.

SPECIE RESUMPTION.

He believes the people of the country to be in favor of restoration of the currency to a healthy condition, and the resumption of specie payment as speedily as the resources of the people and the wisdom of the government can accomplish it.

SILVER AS MONEY.

While favoring the readjustment of our coinage system by renewal of the silver dollar as legal tender, to some extent, the president still holds that obligation of public faith transcends all questions of profit or public advantage.

If silver is made legal tender, a silver dollar must have absolute equality of commercial value with a gold dollar. He believes there should be limitation of the amount for which a silver coinage is to be legal tender, and recommends that in any legislation providing for coinage of silver and constituting it a legal tender, there be a firm provision that the public debt now outstanding, shall not be paid, principal or interest, in any coinage of less value than the present gold coin of the country.

CIVIL SERVICE.

His purpose has been, in respect to the civil service, to return to the system established by the constitution. Where special training is necessary he holds that proper qualification should control in a great measure the tenure of office.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Our relations with other powers are treated of at length, and especial mention made of affairs with Great Britain, Mexico, and Cuba.

NATIONAL FINANCES.

The revenues for the year ending June 30, 1877, were \$289,000,586.62; expenditures for same time \$228,990,088.93, leaving a surplus for sinking fund to reduce the national debt of \$60,010,497.69.

The government revenues have decreased, owing greatly to decrease of customs dues. Exportation has greatly increased. Exports last year, including specie shipped, were \$658,937,457, against imports valued \$492,097,510, showing balance of trade in our favor, \$166,839,947.

TARIFF AND REVENUE LAWS.

The President expresses the opinion that an increased tax on tea and coffee can be levied, which, with revenue from whisky, spirits, tobacco and beer, will enable congress to do away with a multitude of annoying taxes now levied under our revenue laws.

THE NATIONAL DEBT.

The process of refunding the national debt has been rapid and satisfactory. Our bonds have of late found ready purchasers when bearing interest as low as 4 1/2 and 4 per cent. Within little more than one year, by this means, the annual interest on the public debt has been reduced \$3,775,000.

POSTAL SERVICE.

During last fiscal year expenditures of the postal service were \$52,322,504.24, total earnings \$27,408,323.42, deficiency \$24,914,180.82.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

The President reviews the condition of the Indian tribes, late Indian wars, &c., and urges upon congress the faithful performance of our promises towards the Indians,

and that those who have, for a number of years, supported their families by their own labor, and are willing to detach themselves from their tribal relations, be admitted to the benefits of the homestead law.

AGRICULTURE.

The report of the commissioner of agriculture contains the gratifying announcement of the extraordinary success which has rewarded the agricultural industry of the country for the past year. With the fair prices which obtain for the product of the soil, especially for the surplus which our people have to export, we may confidently turn to this as the most important of all our resources for the revival of the depressed industries of the country.

EDUCATION.

The message closes with the statement that one seventh of the voting population of our country cannot read and write, and shows the necessity of intelligence in the masses to secure proper direction of the affairs of the nation. 'We should,' he says, 'avail ourselves of all the opportunity which Providence has here placed at our command, to augment the general intelligence of the people and increase the conditions most favorable to the success and perpetuity of our institutions.'

THE WILLAMETTE FARMER.

With the approach of a new year and the closing of accounts for the old one, we return acknowledgments to the friends of the FARMER, and solicit their regard and support for the future. We occupy a position among the journals of the day that makes us dependent upon the tillers of the soil for our support, and we devote ourselves entirely to their interests, because we expect little or no support from any other source.

We do not hesitate to believe that with this single object in view, aided as we are by many excellent minds whose opinions and experience are read in our columns, the WILLAMETTE FARMER is worth its price to every practical farmer in our State, and we promise to use the means afforded us by public patronage to enlarge and improve our paper as much as possible. Since we took it, less than six years ago, all will testify that great improvement has been made.

The Patrons of Husbandry of this district should recognize that the FARMER offers them all the advantages they can ask of a special organ, and feels a deep interest in doing all that is possible to advance the good to be accomplished by the order. If our grange readers will make a little effort we shall soon have another thousand subscribers, and can more efficiently labor for the good of the farming community.

It is true that we do not exact prepayments, and only one paper in the State, the Oregonian, which has a monopoly of the news, is in a position to do so. We have friends who say that they cannot always pay in advance, but will pay during the year, and we cannot refuse to accommodate such, but we urge upon all who are able (and almost all are) to pay us in advance, and so enable us to carry on business at better advantage.

If we collected in advance and so lost no bad debts, had use of the money, and paid no interest, it would make a difference of \$2,000 a year in our favor in our present business, and we could afford to venture upon enlargement without delay. Doing a credit

business is very embarrassing, and we hope that with the beginning of the year many will find it convenient to pay up all back dues and pay in advance. We put these facts before you in no spirit of faultfinding, but to show what difficulties we labor under, and what intentions we have for future improvements.

Some readers request us to give more news, as they take no other paper; others request us to take out all news, because they take other newspapers; and we do the best we can, by publishing only most important news matters, and would be glad to make the paper larger so that it could fill a wider and more useful field as a family and farm journal and newspaper.

Holiday Goods

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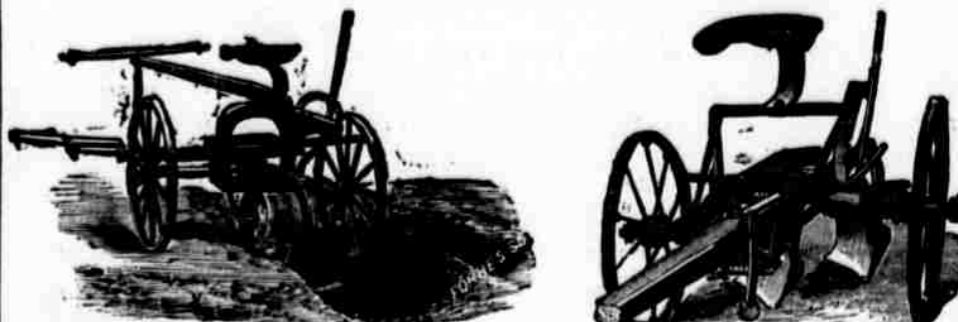
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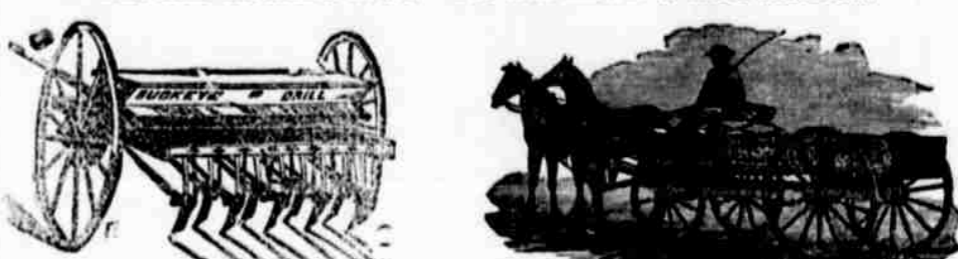
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