THE ENTERPRISE.

OREGON CITY, OREGON, DEC. 17, 1875.

cable telegraphs, or from a combination between several lines. First: No line should be allowed to land on the shores of the United States under concessions from another power, which do not admit the right of any other line or lines from the United States to land and freely connect with and operate through its land lines. Second: No line should be allowed to land on the shores of the United States, which is not, by treaty stipulations with the government from whose shores it proceeds, or by provision in its charter, or otherwise, to the satisfaction of this government, prohibited from consolidating or amalgamating with any other cable telegraph line, or combining therewith for the purpose of elevating and maintaining the cost of telegraphic communication. Third: The lines should be bound to give precedence in the transmission of official messages to the government of the two countries between which it may be laid. Fourth: A power should be reserved to the two governments, either conjointly or to each, as regards the messages dispatched from its shores, to fix a limit to the charges to be maintained for the transmission of messages.

I present this subject for the earnest consideration of Congress in the meantime, and unless Congress otherwise directs, I shall not oppose the landing of any cable which complies with and assents to the points above enumerated, but will feel it my duty to prevent the landing of any which does not conform with the first and second points, as stated, and which will not stipulate to concede to this government the precedence in transmission of its official messages, and will not enter into satisfactory arrangements as regards its charges.

FRAUDULENT NATURALIZATION.

Among the pressing and important subjects to which, in my opinion, the attention of Congress should be directed, are those relating to fraudulent naturalization and expatriation. The United States, with great liberality, offers its citizenship to all who, in good faith, comply with the requirements of law. These requirements are as simple, and upon as favorable terms to the emigrant, as the high privilege to which he is admitted can or should permit. And I do not propose any additional requirements to those which the law now demands. But the very simplicity and want of necessary formality in our law, have made fraudulent naturalization not infrequent, to the discredit and injury of all honest citizens who are native or naturalized. Cases of this character are continually brought to the notice of government by our representatives abroad, and also those of persons resident in foreign countries. Most frequently these, if they had really remained in this country long enough to entitle them to become naturalized, had generally not over passed that period, and have returned to the country of their origin, where they reside, avoiding all duties to the United States by their absence, and claiming to be exempt from all duties to the country of their nativity and of their residence by reason of their alleged naturalization. It is due to this government itself, and to a great mass of naturalized citizens who have entirely, both in name and act, become citizens of the United States, that the high privilege of citizenship of the United States should not be held by fraud, or in violation of the laws, and of the good name of every honest citizen. In many cases it has been brought to the knowledge of the government that certificates of naturalization are had, and protection or interference claimed by parties who admit, not only were they not citizens of the United States at the time of their pretended naturalization, but that they never resided in the United States. In others, the certificate and record of the court show on their face that the person claiming to be naturalized had not resided the required time in the United States. In others it is admitted upon examination, that the requirements of the law had not been complied with. In some cases even such certificates have been made matters of purchase. These are not solitary cases, arising at intervals, but of common occurrence, and which are reported from all quarters of the globe. Such occurrences cannot and do not fail to reflect upon the government, and injure all honest citizens.

Such a fraud being discovered, however, there is no practical means within the control of the government by which the record of naturalization can be vacated, and should the certificate be taken up as it usually is by the diplomatic or consular representatives of the government to whom it may have been presented, there is nothing to prevent the person claiming to have been naturalized from obtaining a new certificate in the place of that which had been taken from him.

The evil has become so great and of such frequent occurrence that I cannot too strongly recommend that some effective measures be adopted to provide a proper remedy and that means be provided for vacating any record thus fraudulently made, and punish the guilty parties to the transactions.

EXPATRIATION AND ELECTION OF NATIONALITY.

In this connection I refer again to the question of expatriation and election of nationality. The United States was foremost in upholding the right of expatriation, and was principally instrumental in overthrowing the doctrine of perpetual allegiance. Congress has declared the right of expatriation to be the natural, inherent right of all people. While many other nations have laws providing what formalities shall be necessary to work a change in allegiance, the United States has enacted the provisions of no law, and has in no respect marked out how and when expatriation may be accomplished by its citizens. Instances are brought to the attention of the government where citizens of the United States, naturalized, or native born, have formerly become citizens, or subjects of foreign powers, but who, nevertheless, in the absence of any provisions of legislation on this question, when involved in difficulties, or when it seems to be their interest, claim to be citizens of the United States, and demand the intervention of a government which they have long since abandoned, and to which for years they have rendered no service, or placed themselves in any way amenable. In other cases naturalized citizens at once, after naturalization, have returned to their native country; have become engaged in business; have accepted offices or pursuits inconsistent with American citizenship, and evince no intent to return to the United States, until called upon to discharge some duty to the country where they are residing, when at once they assert their citizenship and call upon the representatives of the Government to aid their unjust pretensions. It is but justice, that on all such occasions no doubt should exist on such questions and that Congress should determine by the enactment of law, how expatriation shall be accomplished, and change of citizenship be established.

MARRIAGE OF AMERICAN WOMEN TO FOREIGNERS.

I also invite your attention to the necessity of regulating by law the status of American women who marry foreigners, and of defining more fully that of children born in foreign countries of American parents, who may reside abroad; and also, of some further provision regulating or giving legal effect to marriages of American citizens contracted in foreign countries. The correspondence submitted herewith, shows a few of the constantly occurring questions on these points, submitted to the consideration of the Government. There are few subjects to engage the attention of Congress on which more delicate relations are depending.

ARCHIVES SAFELY DEPOSITED.

In the month of July last, the building erected for the Department of State was taken possession of, and occupied by that department. I am happy to say that archives and valuable property of the Government in custody of that department are now safely and carefully deposited.

REPORT OF SECRETARY OF TREASURY.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury shows the receipts from customs for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1874, to have been $163,103,833 69, and for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1875, to have been $157,167,722 35; a decrease for the last fiscal year of $5,936,111 34. Receipts from internal revenue for the year ending June 30, 1874, were $102,409,784 90, and for the year ending 30th June, 1875, were $110,007,493 58; increase, $7,597,708 68. The report also presents a complete showing of the working of the department for the last year, and contains recommendations for reform and legislation which I concur in but cannot comment on so fully as I should like to do if space would permit, but I will confine myself to a few suggestions upon a subject which I look upon as more vital to the best interest of the whole people than any coming within the purview of the treasury. I mean

SPECIE RESUMPTION.

Too much stress cannot be laid on this question, and I hope Congress may be induced, at the earliest day practicable, to insure the consummation of the act of the last Congress at its last session to bring about specie resumption on and after the 1st day of January, 1879, at the farthest. It would be a great blessing if this could be consummated even at an earlier day. Nothing seems to be more certain than that a full and permanent change cannot take place in favor of the industries and financial welfare of the country until we return to a measure of values recognized throughout the civilized world. While we have currency not equivalent to this world-recognized standard, specie becomes a commodity, like the products of the soil, the surplus seeking a market wherever there is a demand for it. Under our present system we should want none, nor would we have any, were it not that customs dues must be paid in coin, and because of the pledge to pay the interest of the public debt in coin. The yield of precious metals would flow out for the purchase of foreign product, and leave the United States hewers of wood and drawers of water, because of wiser legislation on the subject of finance by the nations with whom we have dealings.

I am not prepared to say that I can suggest the best legislation to secure the end most heartily commended. It will be a source of great gratification to me to be able to approve any measure of Congress looking effectively toward early resumption.

Unlimited inflation would probably bring about specie payments more speedily than any legislation looking to the redemption of securities in coin; but it would be at the expense of honor, and legal tenders would have no value beyond settling present liabilities, or, properly speaking, repudiating them. They would buy nothing after the debts were all settled.

OTHER IMPORTANT FINANCIAL MEASURES.

There are a few other measures which seem to me important in this connection, and which I commend to your earnest consideration:

First—The repeal of so much of the legal tender acts as to make these notes receivable for debts contracted after a date to be fixed in the act itself, say not later than the 1st of January, 1879. We should then have quotations at real values, not fictitious. Then gold would not only be at a premium, but currency at a discount. A healthy reaction would set in at once, and with it a desire to make the currency equal to what it purports to be. The merchants, manufacturers and tradesmen, and every calling could do business on a fair margin at a profit. The money to be reserved having an unvarying value, laborers, and all classes, who work for stipulated pay, or salary, would receive more for their income, because extra profits would no longer be charged by the merchant to compensate for the risk of a downward fluctuation in the value of the currency. Second—That the Secretary of the Treasury be instructed to redeem, say, not exceeding $2,000,000 monthly of legal tender notes, by issuing instead a long bond bearing interest at 3.65-100 per cent. per annum, of denominations ranging from $5 to $1,000 each. This would reduce legal tenders to a volume that could be kept afloat without demanding redemption in large sums suddenly. Third—That additional power be given to the Secretary of the Treasury to accumulate gold for final redemption, either by increasing the revenue, curtailing expenses, or both. It is preferable to do both, and I recommend that reduction of expenditure be made wherever it can without impairing government obligations or crippling the due execution thereof.

TEA AND COFFEE.

One measure for increasing the revenue, and the only one I can think of, is the restoration of the duty on tea and coffee. These duties would add probably $18,000,000 to the present amount received for imports, and would in no way increase the prices paid for these articles by the consumers. These articles are the products of countries collecting revenue from exports, and as we, the, last consumers, decrease the duties, we proportionally increase the consumption.

DUTIES ON ARTICLES USED IN MANUFACTURES.

With this addition to the revenue, many duties now collected and which give but an insignificant return for collecting, might be remitted to the direct advantage of consumers at home. I would mention those articles which enter into manufactures of all sorts. All duties paid upon such articles go directly to the cost of the articles when manufactured here, and must be paid by consumers. The duties not only come from consumers at home, but act as a protection to foreign manufacturers of the same or competing articles in our own and distant markets.

PROTECTION AGAINST FRAUDULENT CLAIMS.

I suggest or mention another subject bearing upon the question of how to enable the Secretary of the Treasury to accumulate balances. It is to devise some better method of verifying claims against the government than at present exists. Of claims growing out of the late war, nothing is more certain than that a large percentage of the amounts passed and paid are partly or wholly fradulent, or are far in excess of the real losses sustained. The large amount of losses proven on good testimony according to existing laws, but by affidavits of fictitious or unscrupulous persons, to have been sustained on small farms and plantations, are not only far beyond the possible yield of those places for any one year, but as every one knows who has experience in tilling the soil, and who has visited the scenes of these spoliations, are in many cases more than the persons were ever worth, including their personal and real estate. The report of the Attorney-General, which will be submitted to Congress at an early day, will contain a detailed history of the awards made of claims pending ef the class here reported.

REPORT OF SECRETARY OF WAR.

The report of the Secretary of War accompanying this message gives a detailed account of army operations for the year just passed, the expense of maintenance, etc., with recommendations for legislations, to which I respectfully invite your attention. To some of these and of the first importance, is the necessity of making an appropriation of $300,000 for the Subsistence Department, available before the beginning of the next fiscal year. Without this provision troops at points distant from supply points must either go without food or the existing law must be violated. This is not attended with cost to the Treasury. Second: His recommendation for the enactment of a system of annuities for families of deceased officers by voluntary deductions from the monthly pay of officers. This again is not attended with burden upon the Treasury, and would for the future relieve much distress, which every old army officer has witnessed in the past in cases of officers dying suddenly or being killed, leaving their families without even the means of reaching their friends, if fortunate enough to have friends to aid them. Third: The repeal of the law abolishing mileage, and a return to the old system. Fourth: The trial with torpedoes under the corps of engineers and an appropriation for the same. Should war ever occur between the United States and any maritime power, torpedoes will be among, if not the most effective, cheapest auxiliary for defense of harbors and also for aggressive operations that we can have. Hence it is advisable to learn by experiments their best construction and application as well as their effect. Fifth: Permanent organization of the signal service corps. This service has now become a necessity of peace as well as war, under advancement made by present able management. Sixth: Renewal of the appropriation for completing the official records of the war, etc.

THE CONDITION OF OUR NAVY

At this time is a subject of satisfaction. It does not contain, it is true, any of the powerful cruising ironclads which make so much of the maritime strength of some other nations, but neither our continental situation nor our foreign policy require we should have a large number of ships of this character, while this situation and the nature of our ports continues to make those of other nations of but little danger to the United States under such circumstances. Our navy does contain, however, a considerable number of ironclads of the monitor class, which, though not properly cruisers, are powerful and effective for harbor defense and for operations near our own shores. Of these, all the single turreted, fifteen in number, have been substantially rebuilt, their wooden beams replaced with iron, hulls strengthened, and their engines and machinery thoroughly replaced, so that they are now in a most efficient condition, and ready for sea as soon as they can be manned and put in commission. The five double turreted ironclads belonging to our navy, by far the most powerful of our ships for fighting purposes, are also in hand undergoing complete repairs, and could be ready for sea in periods varying from four to six months. With these completed according to the present design, and our two iron torpedo boats, now ready, our ironclad fleet will be, for the purposes of defense at home, equal to any force that can be readily brought against it. Our wooden navy, also, cruisers of various sizes to the number of about forty, including those now in commission, are on the Atlantic and could be ready for duty as fast as men could be enlisted. Of those not already in commission one third are, in effect, new ships, and although of the remainder considerable repairs to their boilers and machinery are necessary, they are or can readily be made effective. This constitutes a fleet of more than fifty war ships, of which fifteen are ironclads now on hand. On the Atlantic coast the navy has been brought to this condition by a judicious and practical application of what could be spared from the current appropriations of the last few years, and from that made to meet a possible emergency two years ago. It has been done quietly, without proclamation or display, and though it has necessarily straightened the department in its ordinary expenditure, and as far as ironclads are concerned, has added nothing to the cruising force of the navy, the result is not less satisfactory, because it is to be found a great increase of real rather than apparent force. The expenses incurred in the maintenance of a naval force in all its branches are necessarily large, but such a force is essential to our population, relations and character, and affects seriously the weight of our principles and policy throughout the whole sphere of naval responsibilities. The estimates for the support of this branch of the service for the next year, amount to a little less in the aggregate than those made for the current, but some additional appropriations are asked for objects not included in the ordinary maintenance of the navy, but believed to be of pressing importance at this time. It would, in my opinion, be well at once to afford sufficient means for the immediate completion of the double turreted monitors now undergoing repairs, which must otherwise advance slowly and only as money can be spared from current expenses. Supplemented by these, our navy, armed with these destructive weapons of warfare, manned by our seamen and in charge of our instructed officers, will present a force powerful enough for the home purposes of a responsible though peaceful nation.

THE REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL,

Herewith transmitted, gives a full history of the workings of the department for the year just passed. It will be observed that the deficiency to be supplied from the general treasury is increased over the amount refunded for the preceding year. In a country so vast in area as the United States, with a large population, sparcely settled, it must be expected that this important service will be more or less a burden upon the Treasury for many years; but there is no branch of the public service which interests the whole people more than that of cheap and transmission of mails to every inhabited part of our territory. Next to the free schools the postoffice is the great educator of our people, and it may well receive the support of the general government. The subsidy of $150,000 per annum, given to vessels of the United States for carrying the mails between New York and Rio De Janeiro, having ceased on the 30th of September last, we are without direct mail facilities with South America. This is greatly to be regretted, and I do not hesitate to recommend the authorization of a renewal of that contract, and also that the service may be increased from monthly to semi-monthly trips. The commercial advantages to be gained by a direct line of American steamships to the South American States will far outweigh the expense of the service. By act of Congress approved March 3d, 1875, almost all matter, whether properly mail matter or not, may be sent any distance through the mails, in packages not exceeding four pounds in weight, for the sum of 16 cents per pound. So far as transmission of real mail matter goes this would seem entirely proper, but I suggest the law be so amended as to exclude from the mails merchandise of all descriptions, and limit this means of transportation to all articles enumerated and which may be classed as mail matter proper.

THE BLACK HILLS.

The discovery of gold in the Black Hills, a portion of Sioux Reservation, has had the effect to induce a large emigration of miners to that point. Thus far the effort to protect the treaty rights of the Indians of that section has been successful, but the next year will certainly witness a large increase of such emigration. The treaties for the relinquishment of the gold fields, having failed, it will be necessary for Congress to adopt some measures to relieve the embarrassment growing out of the causes named. The Secretary of the Interior suggests that the supplies now appropriated for the subsistence of that people, being no longer obligatory by the treaty of February 8, but simply a gratuity, may be issued or withheld at his discretion.

INDIAN TERRITORY.

The conditions of the Indian Territory to which I have referred in several of my former annual messages remain practically unchanged. The Secretary of the Interior has taken measures to obtain a full report of the condition of that territory, and will make it the subject of a special report at an early day. It may then be necessary to make a further recommendation in regard to legislation for the government of that territory.

THE PATENT OFFICE.

The steady growth and increase of the business of the Patent Office indicates in some measure the growth of the industrial prosperity of the country. The receipts of the office are in excess of its expenditures, and the office generally in a prosperous and satisfactory condition.

THE PUBLIC LANDS.

The report of the General Land Office shows that there were 2,459,601 acres less disposed this than last year. More than half of this decrease was in land disposed of under the homestead and timber-cutting laws. The causes of the decrease are supposed to be found in grasshoppers and the drouths which prevailed so extensively in some of the frontier States and Territories in that time as to discourage entries by actual settlers. The cash receipts were less by $69,032,223 than during the preceding year. The entire surveyed area of the public domain is 680,253,095 acres, of which 26,075,531 acres were surveyed during the past year, leaving 554,747,612 acres still unsurveyed. The report of the commissioner presents many interesting suggestions in regard to the disposition of the public domain and the modification of existing laws, the apparent importance of which should insure the careful consideration of Congress.

THE PENSION BUREAU.

The number of pensioners still continues to decrease, the highest number having been reached during the year ending June 30, 1872. During last year 415,007 names were added to the rolls, and 12,777 were dropped, showing a net decrease of 1,420. But while the number of pensioners decreased, the annual amount due on the pension rolls has increased $4,473,313. This is caused by the greatly increased average rate of pensions which by the liberal legislation of Congress has increased from $99 26 in 1872, to $103 91 in 1875, to each invalid pensioner, an increase on an average rate of one hundred per cent. in the three years. During the year ending June 30, 1875, there was paid on account pensions including the expenses of disbursements $29,683,116, being $910,632 less than was paid the preceding year. This reduction in amount of expenditures was produced by a decrease in the amount of arrearages due on allowed claims and on pensions, the rate of which was increased by the legislation of the preceding session of Congress. At the close of the last fiscal year there were on the pension rolls 234,821 persons, of whom 210,363 were army pensioners, 105,475 being invalids and 14,883 widows and dependent relatives; 4,420 were navy pensioners, of whom 2,636 were invalids and 1,784 widows and dependent relatives; 21,038 were pensioners of the war of 1812, 15,875 of whom were survivors and 5,163 were widows. It is estimated that $29,525,000 will be required for the payment of the pensions for the next fiscal year, an amount $965,000 less than the estimate for the present year.

GEOLOGICAL EXPLORATIONS.

The geological explorations have been prosecuted with energy during the year, covering an area of about 40,000 square miles, in the Territories of Colorado, Utah and New Mexico, developing the agricultural and mineral resources and furnishing interesting scientific and topographical details of that region.

THE INDIAN POLICY.

The method for the treatment of the Indians adopted at the beginning of my first term has been steadily pursued, and with satisfactory and encouraging results. It has been productive of evident improvement in the condition of that race, and will be continued with only such modifications as further experience may indicate to be necessary.

THE CENTENNIAL.

The board heretofore appointed to take charge of articles and matters pertaining to the war, the treasury, the interior and the postoffice departments, and the departments of agriculture, the Smithsonian Institution and the commissioners of food, and the fish commissioners, to be contributed under the legislation of last session to the international exhibition to be held at Philadelphia during the Centennial year 1876, has been diligent in the discharge of the duties which have devolved upon it and the proportions so far, with the means at command, give assurance that the Government's contribution will be made one of the marked characteristics of the exhibition. The board has observed considerable economy in the matter of the erections of buildings for the exhibition, the expense of which it is estimated will not exceed say $8,000. This amount has been withdrawn under the law from the appropriations of three of the departments, which leaves six of these departments without sufficient funds to render their respective practical exhibits complete and satisfactory. The exhibition being an international one and the Government being a voluntary contributor, it is my opinion that its construction should be of a character in quality and extent to sustain the dignity and credit of so distinguished a contributor. The advantages to the country of a creditable display in an international point of view is of first importance, while indifferent or uncreditable participation by the Government would be humiliating to the patriotic feelings of our people themselves. I recommend the estimates of the board for the necessary additional appropriations, to the favorable consideration of Congress. The powers of Europe, with few exceptions and many of the South American States, and even the more distant eastern powers, have manifested their friendly sentiments toward the United States and the interest of the world in our progress, by joining with us in the celebration of the Centennial of the nation, and I strongly urge that impetus be given to this exhibition by such legislation and appropriations as will insure its success. Its value in bringing to our shores innumerable works of art and skill, the commingling of citizens of foreign countries and our own, the intermingling of ideas and manufactures, will far exceed any outlay we may make prudently.

AGRICULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL AND OTHER REPORTS.

I transmit herewith the report of the Commissioner of Agriculture, together with the reports of the commissioners of the Board of Audit and the Board of Health of the District of Columbia, to all of which I call attention. The Bureau of Agriculture has accomplished much in the dissemination of useful knowledge to the agricultural interest and in introducing new and useful productions adapted to our soil and climate, and is worthy of the continued encouragement of the Government.

The report of the Commissioner of Education, which accompanies the report of the Secretary of the Interior, shows a gratifying progress in educational matters.

THE MORMON QUESTION.

In nearly every annual message I have had the honor of transmitting to Congress, I have called attention to the anomalous if not to say scandalous condition of affairs existing in the Territory of Utah, and have asked for definite legislation to correct it. That polygamy should exist in a free, enlightened and Christian country, without the power to punish so flagrant a crime against decency and morality, seems preposterous. True, there is no law to sustain this unnatural vice, but what is needed, is a law to punish it as a crime and at the same time to fix the status of the innocent children, the offspring of this system, and of the possibly innocent plural wives; but as an institution, polygamy should be abolished from the land.

IMPORTATION OF CHINESE WOMEN.

While this is being done I invite the attention of Congress to another, though perhaps to no less an evil, the importation of Chinese women, but few of whom are brought to our shores to pursue honorable or useful occupations.

PUBLIC LANDS IN THE TERRITORIES.

Observations while visiting the Territories of Wyoming, Utah Colorado during the past autumn, convinced me that existing laws regulating the disposition of public lands, timber, &c., and probably the mining laws themselves are very defective, and should be carefully amended, and at an early day. A Territory where cultivation of the soil can only be followed by such irrigation as is practicable, where the lands can only be used as pasturage, and this only where stock can reach water to quench thirst, cannot be governed by the same laws as to every acre of which is an independent state by itself. Land must be sold in large quantities to justify the expense of conducting water upon it to make it fruitful, or to justify utilizing it as pasturage.

TIMBER AND MINING LANDS.

The timber in most of the Territories is principally confined to the mountain regions, which are held for entry in small quantities only, and as mineral lands. The timber is the property of the United States, in the disposal of which there is now no adequate law. The settler must become a consumer of this timber whether he lives upon the plains or engages in working the mines. Hence every man becomes either a trespasser himself for knowingly a patron of the trespasser. My opportunities for observation were not sufficient to justify me in recommending specific legislation on those subjects, but I do recommend that a joint committee of the two Houses of Congress, sufficiently large to be divided into sub-committees be formed, authorized to visit all the mining States and Territories during the coming summer, and that the committee shall report to Congress at its next session such laws or amendment to laws as may deem necessary to insure the best interests of the government and the people of these Territories who are doing so much for their development. I am sure the citizens occupying the Territories described do not wish to be trespassers, nor will they be if the laws are provided for them to become owners of these actual necessities of their position.

LEADING QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION.

As this will be the last annual message which I shall have the honor of transmitting to Congress before my successor is chosen, I will repeat or recapitulate the questions which I deem of vital importance to be legislated upon and settled at this session:

First—That the States shall be required to afford the opportunity of a good common school education to every child within their limits.

Second—No sectarian tenets shall ever be taught in any school supported in whole or in part by the State, nation, or by the proceeds of any tax levied on any community; make education compulsory so far as to deprive all persons who cannot read and write from becoming voters after the year 1890, disfranchising none, however, on grounds of illiteracy who may be voters at the time this amendment takes effect.

Third—Declare Church and State forever seperate and distinct, but each free within their proper spheres, and that all church property shall bear its own proportion of taxation.

Fourth—Drive out licensed immorality, such as polygamy and the importation of women for illegitimate purposes.

To recur again to the Centennial, it would seem as though now, as we were about to begin the second century of our national existence, would be a most fitting time for these reforms.

Fifth—Enact such laws as will insure a speedy return to a sound currency, such as will command the respect of the world.

Believing that these views will commend themselves to a great majority of the right thinking and patriotic citizens of the United States, I submit the rest to Congress.

(Signed) U. S. GRANT.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, Dec. 7, 1875.

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Oregon City, March 21, 1873.

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Jan. 12 1875. County Clerk.

A. NOLTNER

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