Those who receive this paper with pencil lines drawn around this paragraph will find on examining their cash accounts, what is also to be discovered by examining the books of the STATESMAN, that they have not paid anything to this office during the year 1870. Pay up and the pencil lines will disappear, but remember that you owe for two years subscription, $5 50.

The Oregon Weekly Statesman.

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WEDNESDAY.

Grant's Indian Policy.

It has been understood for some time that Gen'l Grant had determined to carry out in the conduct of the Indian Department the idea which was entertained when Quakers were appointed as Indian Agents. It was stated some time since that the several religious denominations were to be represented at the several Indian Agencies, and that the Methodists were to have a leading voice in respect to the Oregon appointments.

If we understand aright, the meaning of the dispatch which arrived yesterday, announcing the appointment by the President, of Indian Agents for this State, this policy was there followed, and we give herewith some facts in further explanation of Indian officers in this State. It seems that Rev. J. H. Wilbur is soon to leave his pastorate here in Salem to take charge of the Yakima Agency, East of the Cascades in Washington Territory, which position he successfully filled, but declined to reaccept under the late Superintendent of that Territory. Mr. Dickson, who is appointed to the Umatilla Agency, was with Mr. Wilbur at the Yakima, and is supposed to have been promoted on his recommendation. General Joel Palmer is nominated for Grand Round Agency (the dispatch says John Palmer, but we think the General is meant), and Mr. L. S. Dyar of Salem is appointed to Siletz. These gentlemen are all Methodists we understand, while Capt John Smith, Agent at Warm Springs, where he was reinstated several months ago, is a representative of the Presbyterians. So we seem to see the promised policy introduced, and as the Agents now in position at the Grand Round and Siletz are good and energetic men, we must conclude that their removal is due to the adoption of this policy and not to any personal or unfriendly considerations.

As to the success of this policy, we can only judge when it has been faithfully tried. There is no fault to be found with the gentlemen chosen by the President, and whose names have been sent to the Senate for confirmation, but it is still a question if the Senate will resign its claims to a share of official patronage, and endorse the policy of the President by confirming his appointments.

Advance in Wheat.

The most important fact in connection with commercial affairs to note this week is the advance in wheat, which has been steadily going up for several weeks, having lately touched $2 15 per cwt for a prime article in San Francisco. This causes an advance to 90 cents per bushel here at Salem. This advance does not seem to be at all the result of speculation, but is based on the actual demand and supply existing in those countries which are the most important customers for the grain market.

West Side Railroad.

Ben Holladay publishes in the *Oregonian* and *Bulletin* a proposition that if the citizens of Portland will guarantee him, within sixty days, one hundred thousand, to be paid to him on the completion of twenty miles of the West-side railroad, he will complete the same next season. He states that he desires to use the road bed already prepared by the old Company, and an examination of its affairs shows that the sum named will be required to lift the bonded debt of the old Company, so that he can make their work available without encumbrance.

GENERAL NEWS.

PORTLAND.

We learn from the *Oregonian* that the steamer Oriflamme sailed Monday.

Stitzel & Upton, Real Estate dealers, have had published a handsomely executed and colored map of Oregon and Washington.

The Board of Trade is trying to have a meeting to settle up the affairs of the Labor Exchange.

The *Herald* says Shultz, alias Bardman, is on trial, and its account looks as if it was going to be hard work to make a case against him.

A large number of young men at Portland have made application to Gen'l Bell, of the State Militia, for permission to form a cadet Company.

That paper says the den of lions attached to the Overland Circus, went to San Francisco on the Oriflamme. So it seems Ben. Holladay won't be the only lion on board.

A soldier accidentally shot himself the other day at Vancouver, but not dangerously.

The first shipment of apples made to San Francisco this season, was by last steamer.

The *Bulletin* say a little child of Mr. E. C. Holden had an arm broken the other night by falling out of bed.

The British Bark Tenax Prepositor, has arrived with 800 tons of iron.

Charles Beach has been convicted on his second trial of robbery in East Portland.

LINN COUNTY.

The Scio *News* announces that the prevailing disease has disappeared from that place.

Miss Louisa Calvan was thrown from a horse, which fell down injuring her severely.

At the late city election, Thorp and Irving, candidates for Mayor, were tied.

BENTON COUNTY.

Judge Kelsay has been confined to his bed with serious illness.

The Revenue Department has seized a load of beer the Eugene brewery was hauling through Corvallis, as not being properly stamped.

In the time of much religious excitement and consequent discussion, an honest Dutch farmer on the Mohawk was asked his opinion as to which denomination of Christians were on the right way to heaven. "Vell, den," said he, "ven we ride our wheat to Albany, some say dish road is the best and some dat; but it don't make much difference which road we dake, for when we get dere day never ask vich vay we come—and it's none of dere piziness—if our wheat is good!"

Richard Wallace, the inheritor of the great wealth of the late Marquis of Hertford, has given £12,000 to found an ambulance for the French army, which is to be called "Ambulance of Hertford."

City and County Items.

The furniture for the Chemeketa Hotel commenced arriving yesterday and is to be put in position immediately. In a few days the interior of the magnificent building will have an elegant and finished look given it as the furniture, carpets and window hangings are all selected with the best taste and are of superior quality.

DANCING PARTY.—There will be a social dance at the Opera House on Thursday evening, to which all the members of the club which met there last winter are invited. Any others who would like to attend as members of a similar club the present season are requested to make application to Al. Crossman or A. N. Gilbert.

The Commissioner to examine and audit Penitentiary accounts are said to be working away at a fearful rate and discounting some of the claims from five to twenty-five per cent. They have got to discount enough to clear their own expenses which will amount to a snug sum. As we don't know what they are doing, except in a general way, we shall have to save our criticisms until we know the exact figures.

Our grocery merchants have another card in to-day in which they announce that they have concluded to resume the delivery of goods as heretofore. It seems that the public are so used to being accommodated that it cannot see why the pleasant arrangement of having purchases carried home free should not continue, so our merchants have gallantly concluded to "stand and deliver" as usual.

MASONIC.—At a stated convocation of Multnomah R. A. Chapter, No. 1, held Dec. 30, 1870, the following officers were elected for the ensuing Masonic year: B. F. Brown, M. E. U. P.; Jacob Conser, King; T. B. Jackson, Scribe; Dan. W. Murphy, C. U; C. M. Cartwright, P. S.; T. J. Babcock, R. A. C.; W. B. Morse, Gr. Master 3d Veil; J. J. Murphy, Gr. Master 2d Veil; A. Kelly, Gr. Master 1st Veil; R. P. Earhart, Secretary; L. S. Scott, Treasurer; T. H. Cox, Sentinel.

SMALLPOX.—We do not hear much talk in town about this dread disease, though a few new cases have occurred within the last week. So far as we learn these are all doing well, and the greatest care is being exercised to prevent the spread of the disease. All the old cases are well, and at the present time there may be half a-dozen cases in and about the city. This is an improvement on the time when there were twice or thrice that many, but our citizens are determined to eradicate the disease entirely, and we believe it can be and will be speedily done.

A Dog Story.

A correspondent writing from Polk county the other day gives us the following rather hyfalutin account of a dog who was caught devouring mutton:

We of Polk county are just now divided in opinion, not politically, as one would naturally conclude upon seeing the word "divided," but upon the merits and demerits of a case involving the terrestrial existence of an extraordinary canine. It seems that the above mutton canine was possessed of an extraordinary appetite for "lamb rear;" said desire attaining the entire master over moral sense and neighborly intercourse, in fact, so depraved had become this "purp" that he seems to have sallied forth at the dead hours of night, and, with blood in his eye and murder in his heart, penetrated into a neighboring sheep fold and there, forgetting all the great moral teachings which had been instilled into his young and virtuous mind; proceeded to slaughter, mangle, tear, worry, destroy and decapitate numerous frisky and otherwise lovely muttons, to the great damage and greater disgust of the neighbors generally, and the owner of the sheep in particular. Said owner becoming wrought up with exceeding wrath upon hearing said canine in his sheep fold, marched bravely out, fully intent upon sending a leaden message through the disturbers most vital part, but upon seeing the galliant canine with his splendid caudle appendage floating in the breeze, his heart smote him, and laying aside his double fuse, he called to "Touzer" in his most mellifluous tones, bidding him approach him. Touzer thinking that he had accomplished a great feat in slaughtering so many four-footed animals in one night, straight way advanced to the feet of the enraged neighbor, and there laying prone upon his back, the pale moon casting uncertain and wearied light athwart his melancholy physiogomy, did suffer the enraged neighbor to place a cord around his neck and lead him gently into a neighboring woodshed, and now comes the darkest part of this dark transaction. After seeing that his victim was secure—the fiend in human shape calmly proceeded to draw a split white oak grub upon the poor "dorgs" magnificent caudle appendage, and then slipping the rope that confined him he drew out the wedge that held apart the stick, and with a demoniac yell started the "purp" for home or "Hades," he said he did not care which, meantime he wafted numerous bludgeons after the flying "purp," all the time muttering the deepest maledictions upon his entire race. And now we have all the facts up before our august tribunals—the owner of the dog claiming damages, and the defendant putting as a bar the loss of his sheep. Verily, it is sufficient to distract and divide the public mind.

THE ARTISAN OF PARIS.—In a sketch on the condition of the workingmen of Paris, written before the war, a writer in *Chambers' Journal* says:

The Paris workman has no grandchildren—hard work, careless living and drunkenness, combined not only destroy the man, but his children are weak and unable to battle with the stern necessities of life; they die out early for want of stamina, leaving in their turn offspring who never reach maturity. In fact, were it not for the constant influx from the provinces, the Parisian artisan would soon be extinct. Spite of all the Government has done for him, the Paris workman is ever discontented, and ready always to cry, "Anything for a change." A very small proportion of the laboring population of the chief city of France are natives of it; they come up from the country at the most impressionable age, and eagerly accept the socialistic doctrines, of which preachers are never wanting.

The Jesuites have left Rome almost entirely, on account of the change which has taken place in the government of the Eternal City. They left it one by one, and in silence. The sagacious sons of Loyola have also put all property which they owned in Rome out of their hands. What could be sold was sold, though on condition that they could repurchase it at any future time for the same price. All the rest was written over to the German society, which is under the protection of the all-mighty Bismarck. This was done before the decree was issued which forbade all religious societies to sell their property.

The steam power employed in this country is equal to 130,000,000 of men, but that of Great Britain is vastly superior, being equal to 400,000,000 of men.

THURSDAY.

LATEST BY TELEGRAPH.

EASTERN NEWS.

Washington, Dec. 13.—In the House, Julian presented a petition from settlers on public lands in Colusa county, California, protesting against their lands being taken from them by capitalists, as swamp and overflowed lands.

The House resumed consideration of the bill to consolidate postal laws, the pending question being an amendment offered by Hill, repealing from the 1st of July, 1870, all laws allowing franking privilege, and amendments thereto, offered by Walker, allowing newspapers, periodicals; &c., reciprocally, to be interchanged between publishers, and copies of weekly, monthly and semi-weekly newspapers to be sent free to actual subscribers, within the county where they are published. Adopted. Hill's amendment, as amended, was then adopted. A provision was inserted authorizing the Postmaster General to take temporary contracts for postal service over new routes which are to cease unless confirmed at a subsequent session of Congress. An amendment providing that the franking privilege should not be taken from any person to whom it has been heretofore granted by special act of Congress, was adopted. Various amendments as to details were disposed of, and the bill passed.

Johnson asked leave to offer a resolution declaring that the best interests of the United States demand the immediate abrogation of the treaty with China, except that portion relating to commercial intercourse between the two countries. Objection was made.

A resolution was adopted authorizing the Ways and Means Committee to enquire into the expediency of levying a tax of 16 cents per pound on tobacco of every description.

Western members begin to talk of an Apportionment bill, to give increased representation to the States, based on the returns of the census last summer. New members to be chosen at special elections in time to take their seats next December, in the 42d Congress. A bill to this effect will soon be introduced, and if no committee reports it, it will be sprung upon the House some Monday in the morning hour.

Cincinnati, Dec. 13.—It is understood at Dayton, that the appointment of Schenck as Minister to England will not interfere with the contest for Campbell's seat, from the third district. Friends of the former are determined to prosecute the matter to a final issue.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The nomination of Senator Drake as Chief Justice of the Court of Claims, was confirmed this afternoon without reference.

UTAH.

Corinne, Dec. 13.—A telegram from Salt Lake says Judge Hawley fined Lawyer Baskins $100 and ten days' imprisonment for contempt of Court.

London, Dec. 10.—The Duke of Mecklenburg reports a severe battle with the Army of the Loire at Beaugency, where the French were reinforced. Fifteen thousand prisoners and six guns were taken. The remainder of the French army is on the road to Bourges. Another account says that after the fight of the 7th the Bavarians threatened Beaugency and the forest of Marchouir. The French were reinforced, but the Prussians took Bravant, Buemoit, Messares and Beaugency. On the 9th Bonvelt and Bonny were captured.

Versailles, Dec. 10.—The French are assuming the defensive in large force They were repulsed at Mantefoll after one day's artillery fight. The Prussian loss is slight. A few French prisoners only were taken.

Lille, Dec. 10.—Gen. De Hencourt has arrived in a balloon from Paris. He says that in the fights of the 30th and 2d the French were victorious. The Prussian loss was 15,000 prisoners and six guns.

Paris suffers no privations on account of food. The object of this journey is to insure a concert of action by all the French armies.

New York, Dec. 3.—A *Tribune* correspondent from London says that a dispatch from Gambetta, on Friday, announces that, encouraged by the continued resistance of the Army of the Loire, he has resolved to postpone his request for an armistice, and remain with the army.

Bordeaux, Dec. 11—The Government is installed here. Vigorous measures are decided upon. Large reinforcements are going forward from all parts of France. Troops are perfectly armed and equipped. Numbers of batteries are ready with men and horses. Large cavalry forces are also formed. Several victories are announced. Thiers is here. Postal and telegraph service is much interrupted. The rumor that Prussia repudiates the treaty neutralizing Luxemburg is improbable, or that Bismarck would thus defy Belgium and the Netherlands. The rumor of an armistice is unfounded.

The garrison of Belfort continues to make a vigorous defense, and its heroism and endurance excite warm admiration.

Advices from Paris to the 6th, from Tours to the 9th, and from Brussels and Versailles to the 10th convey the following information: The French loss in killed, wounded and prisoners has reached 6,780 men in recent battles. Indications are that the next move will be on the north-east, along the Soissons railway. The Saxon headquarters had been removed back to Levert. The loss of gunners in sorties amount to over 800 killed, wounded and prisoners. The loss of Germans in battles on the Loire exceed 7,000 killed, wounded and prisoners.

Intense relief is felt at Versailles at the recent announcement of the defeat of D'Aurelles.

The battles on the 5th and 6th, between Chaucey's 16th and 17th corps and the army of the Duke of Mecklenburg, were extremely severe. The French are retreating only inch by inch.

FARM ORNAMENTS.—We must protest emphatically against the practice of expending all the taste, time and labor in the adornment of a frront yard. The out-look from the rear windows of a home should be as gratifying as from the front. We want the inside of the platter clean as well as the outside. And the same harmonious system should extend to every field on the farm. Vines should clamber over outhouses, old stumps, and all uncouth objects that cannot be removed, even though the vines be nothing but hop or woodbine. Groups of evergreens or deciduous trees or shrubs screen or seclude the indispensable appurtenances of a farm which are, in themselves, only necessities. Groups of trees in every field are not only profitable—albeit they do shade the grain somewhat—but break up monotony, and relieve the eye and the heart of the husbandman, as well as afford animals protection from the sun and storm.

Some idea of the vastness of the railway transport of soldiers and military stores on the French lines during the war may be gathered from the returns of a recent week. The receipts of the Lyons Mediterranean alone were £21,304 over those of the corresponding week last year, and the total increase for all the railways of France during the period since the 1st of January, 1870, as compared with the same period in 1869, reached the enormous sum of £1,497,928. Of course some of the lines which traversed the seat of war suffered; for instance the Eastern lost £38,512 in one week.

A Troy Dutchman, in trying to reach the ferry boat, fell into the river. His first exclamation on being hauled out was, "Mine Gott, let's have a pridge!"

The German Empire.

We read in the late dispatches that King William of Prussia is about to receive, with the consent of the various States of North and South Germany, the title of Emperor of Germany, thus reviving in the nineteenth century an Empire that was great and glorious three centuries ago.

It is interesting to trace the history of the Germans, as a people, from the time they were nominally subjugated by Cæsar, down to the time, two thousand years later, when they compose the foremost powers of Europe, having no superiors in the fields of art, science and literature, and, it would seem, no equal in the terrible art of war.

One of three grandsons of Charlemagne was King of Germany more than ten centuries since, and gradually the German Empire rose as successor to the power of the old Roman Empire. Under Charles the Fifth, who as Emperor of Germany, ruled over Spain, the Netherlands, Germany and Naples. The German name was for awhile all powerful in the sixteenth century. It was during this century that France succeded in wresting from the German States the three bishoprics of Toul, Metz and Verdun, forming the province of Lorraine which Prussia has conquered and now holds by force of arms. After the resignation of the Imperial Crown by Charles the Fifth, the Imperial authority sunk to the insignificance beset by the formidable power of Turkey on the east and by France always a foe of the German States, on the west. In the seventeeth century Germany was cut up into a multitude of petty States with rulers who exercised despotic sway, and the peace of Westphalia, after the thirty years war which ended in 1648, also tore Alsace, which the German armies now hold, having taken Strasbourg, from the German Empire.

Prussia, by the genius of Frederick the Great, became a great nation in the midst of the German States, and able to cope with Austria. As a nation she has always been aggrandizing and disposed to grow at the expense of her neighbors, and the policy she has rigidly pursued of educating her people and making every able bodied citizen a well disciplined soldier, has laid the foundation of the new German Empire of which we read to-day. Had it not been for the skillful diplomacy and great statesmanship of Bismarck the Kingdom of Prussia would not have been so thoroughly prepared for war, and the union of all the German States could not have been secured for it able prosecution.

We may expect great things from German unity. The German Empire may yet include, as its ally at least, the Empire of Austria, which has a population of over seven millions of Germans as its ruling class, and if this can be attained the great nation, occupying the center of Europe and stretching from the shores of the Baltic to those of the Mediterranean, can sit as arbiter of the destinies of that continent.

The future must develope if this reunited Empire will prove beneficial to the human race, and secure for man greater development and truer happiness, or if it is to attempt to plant despotism more firmly on its thrones and create and perpetuate a system that shall make freedom impossible. There is reason to have great hopes of a people so enlightened as the Germans are, and we cannot believe that in the future they will be less free and intelligent than in the past.

State News.

PORTLAND.

The *Oregonian* of Wednesday says the Board of Trade seems to have gone where the woodbine twineth, as no quorum can be got together.

Engineers are commencing surveys along the old road bed of the Willamette Valley (or the West Side) Railroad.

Early Tuesday morning the ground was covered with snow at Portland; we had none at Salem.

Shultz *alias* Bardman has been convicted on two indictments, and took the matter very coolly.

The *Bulletin* says a German named Lippler committed suicide at Vancouver on Sunday. He made his will previously.

Judge Deady is suffering from an attack of diptheria.

Navigation on the Upper Columbia is closed for the season.

The *Herald* says an insane man was brought down to the Asylum from Kerbyville.

Messrs. Stitzel & Upton, real estate dealers. have lately sold $10,000 worth of farming lands in Marion county.

The Good Templars have a singing school at Portland.

John M. Drake, Secretary of the Labor Exchange, has made a final report, and says the total expenditures of the association for fourteen months have been $3,481 15. As the last Legislature declined to do anything to keep up the association it discontinues.

The Illustrated London *News* says: "Colonel Sir Henry James, in a recent lecture on the pyramids of Egypt, stated that, in the King's Chamber, inside the pyramid, some of the stones were thirty feet long. These stones, weighing ninety tons, were not found in Egypt at all, but were taken down the Nile a distance of five hundred miles, and then placed in their position one hundred feet above the level of the ground. With regard to their finish, these syenite stones are the very hardest known, and yet they are so exquisitely polished and built in (to form a casing for the King's Chamber) with such superior skill, that the finest sheet of tissue paper could not be inserted between two of the stones, and this after a lapse of four thousand years. Suck workmanship would excite the wonder and admiration of the world even in this age of science and improvement."

Henry Clay used to say that there were three classes of people with whom it was never safe to quarrel. First—Ministers; for the reason that they could denounce me from the pulpit and I had none through which to reply. Second—Editors; for they had the most powerful engines from which they could every day hurl wrath and fury upon me, and I had none through which to reply. And, finally, with women, for they would have the last word anyhow.

A lead mine has been discovered at Richmond, Can., ten miles south of Ottawa. The vein is eighteen inches thick.

City and County Items.

The steamer California arrived at Portland yesterday morning from San Francisco.

RAILROAD MATTERS.—We learn from Mr. I. R. Moores, that Mr. Burrage, one of the Engineers of the O. & C. Railroad, is now here to survey and locate a side track from the depot down to the flour mills.

POLICE MATTERS.—Frank Head was fined yesterday by Recorder Waymire for an assault on Owen Tighe. Head plead guilty, and shelled out ten dollars in currency, and paid the costs besides.

POSTPONED.—The social dance will not come off at the Opera House this evening as was announced yesterday, as other engagements prevent and cause its postponement.

The town of Marion has been moved from Mill Creek, eight miles South of Salem, to Pickard's place about four miles beyond there. The moving was not very difficult, as there was only a name to carry. There will be a stopping place at the crossing of Mill Creek, however, which will probably be known as Turner's Station.

ASSAULT.—Tuesday evening a severe assault was committed by a clerk in the store of Lewis Byrne's on Fred. Cooper, by throwing a scale weight at him, which hit him on the jaw, doing severe injury, after which the clerk, whose name is Harvey, struck him with a porter bottle. An arrest would have been made but Harvey was not to be found yesterday.

RENOVATING.—For some time past the Treasurer's office has been in process of renovation. Since it is decided that a number of the members had the smallpox, Mr. Fleischner remembers that they were fond of lounging on his sofa, and he is determined to renew and refurnish until the remotest chance that they left of the disease behind them is entirely removed.

RESIGNATION.—At the Council meeting on Tuesday evening H. Y. Thompson, City Recorder, presented his resignation, which was accepted, and J. A Waymire, Recorder elect, was appointed to fill the vacancy. Mr. Thompson has made an efficient and popular Recorder, and we cannot wish better fortune for his successor than that he may fill the position as well, and retire from it as well appreciated.

COUNCIL MEETING.—There was a meeting of the City Council held on Thursday evening at which a communication was received from the Medical Faculty setting forth that they were now of the opinion unanimously that the disease which is prevalent among us is smallpox, and recommending that some one physician be designated to attend all the cases and have no other practice for the time being, and also recommending that provision be made by ordinance that all persons residing in the city shall be vaccinated. The whole subject was referred to a special committee with instructions to report at a meeting of the Council to be held this evening.

THE CHEMEKETA HOUSE.—The work of furnishing and preparing this elegant hotel for the opening, is being pushed on with great energy and rapidity. In explanation of the announcement made in our advertising columns the opening will take place on the 26th instant, the day after Christmas, we will state that the hotel will be opened on that evening by a splendid entertainment, to be given by Mr. Cutting, who will keep the house. The doors will be opened at six o'clock. Many guests are expected from abroad, and the gentlemen and ladies of Portland, Albany and elsewhere along the river and on the line of the railroad, it is hoped, will be present in good numbers, and those who intend to be here can send to Mr Cutting and engage rooms in advance. The house offers five advantages for a pleasant entertainment of the kind, as it has spacious dining rooms, elegant parlors and long corridors, where young people can promenade delightfully. Tickets for the entertainment can be purchased previously of the book stores and other places to be designated and will cost five dollars for a gentleman and lady. It is to be hoped that the news of the opening will be carried far and wide so that friends outside of our city can be present and participate in the pleasures we propose to enjoy on that occasion.

PLAIN TALK ABOUT SMALLPOX.—In view of the fact that much misrepresentation prevails through the country regarding the existence of this disease in Salem, which may be greatly increased by our statement that the Council is about to take more thorough action to secure its examination, we wish to tell some things plainly and have the public understand that our statement is the entire truth without any material omission. To begin then, if we have smallpox here, it has been here for over six months, creating no alarm and not even being recognized as such until it attacked members of the Legislature. Since then the disease has prevailed among us in a mild form, two children having died of it, and in a few other instances it has been severe. The people of Salem have taken all reasonable precautions, and have not felt any alarm. About ten days ago there were only a few cases and those all convalescing and nearly well, and we hoped the disease was about to disappear, as it was confined to a few families who had had it for some time; but within the last ten days we hear of five more cases, two in a family where it has been for a month, two children of another family and a child of Dr. Fiske, who must have taken it from her father who has attended many who have had it. Just at the present time there is much less of it than there was a month ago, and as we want to eradicate it, the city authorities are taking action to effect that result. We do not advise any person to come to Salem who doesn't want to, but we see no reason why those who want to come should stay away, for the disease prevails in all cases at a distance from the business part of the city. We go about our business just as if there was nothing to be afraid of, but as smallpox is'nt healthy, and business doesn't prosper in that connection, we propose to do all things necessary to be done, to get rid of it, and that is all there is to be said, except that we ought to be thankful that having such a disease prevailing it has showed so mild a form.

A rural English woman had the right idea when, finding herself unable to whip her husband, she shouted to her son, who was up stairs in bed, "Bill, come down stairs and lick thi feyther, or else he'll be th' maister o' the whole house."

Berlin advices say there are 650,000 German troops in France—twenty-one corps—and three more corps under arms at home.

FRIDAY.

The President's Message.

The message of the President is too lengthy a document for us to publish, and we shall therefore give a plain summary of the various statements made in it.

After a reference to the national prosperity to our country, he gives particulars of the protection afforded by the Minister of the United States to foreigners in France, and explains the altitude of this country towards the French nation; also of the proposal to mediate, jointly with European nations for the purpose of securing peace. After alluding to the late massacre of French and Prussians in China, the ratification of a treaty with Great Britain of minor importance, and the proper location of our northern boundary he comes to the consideration of the

ALABAMA CLAIMS.

After stating that no conclusion has been arrived at for the settlement of this vexed question, and the difference of opinion that prevails between the two nations, the President says:

The Cabinet of London, so far as its views have been expressed, does not appear to be willing to concede that Her Majesty's Government was guilty of negligence, or did, or permitted any act during the war by which the United States has just cause of complaint. Our firm and unalterable convictions are directly the reverse. I therefore recommend to Congress to authorize the appointment of Commissioners to take proof of the amounts and ownership of vessels, and their claims, and that authority be given for the settlement of these claims by the United States, so the Government shall have the ownership of the private claims as well as the responsible control of all demands against Great Britain. Whenever Her Majesty's Government shall entertain a desire for a full and friendly adjustment of these claims, the United States will enter upon their consideration with an earnest desire for a conclusion consistent with the honor and dignity of both nations.

The next important matter of the message refers to the

PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF SAN DOMINGO.

The President repeats his conviction that the best interests of the country require the ratification of the Treaty for the purchase of that Island. He intimates that there is danger that European nations will secure the Bay of Samana as a free port if we do not speedily camplete that purchase. He adds:

The people of San Domingo are not capable of maintaining themselves in their present condition, and must look for outside support. They yearn for the protection of our free institutions and laws, our progress and civilization. Shall we refuse them? The acquisition of San Domingo is desirable because of its geographical position; it commands the entrance to the Carribean Sea, and the Isthmus transit of commerce. It possesses the richest soil, the best and most capacious harbors, most salubrious climate, and the most valuable products of the forests, mines, and soil of any of the West India islands. Its possession by the United States will, in a few years, build up a coastwise commerce of immense magnitude, which will go far toward restoring to the United States our lost merchant marine. It will give to us those articles which we consume greatly, and do not produce, thus equalizing our exports and imports. In case of a foreign war, it will give us command of all the islands referred to, and thus prevent any enemy from again possessing himself of a rendezvous upon our coast.

There follows a glowing picture descriptive of the advantages expected from the acquisition of that Island and an appeal to Congress to take immediate steps to negotiate its purchase.

CURRENCY AND BANKS.

After repeating recommendations previously made for establishing for the redemption of National Bank issues, the Presidnt says:

Coupled with this recommendation, I take this occasion to say that the banking system of the country appears to be well managed, and to answer reasonably the purpose for which it was established. It is no doubt true that the Treasury notes, in representing an equal amount of the public debt without interest, are the most economical circulation for the Government; but it should be considered that the banking institutions of the country are the agencies by which business is established and fostered. The whole system of banking should be extended only for the purpose of meeting the demands of business, but when the demands are urgent, a concession should be made, upon the ground that prosperity of business is more important than the mere saving of interest arising from the circulation of the Treasury notes.

We give below his words entire upon the

REVIVAL OF AMERICAN COMMERCE.

Our depressed commerce is a subject to which I called your special attention at the last session, and suggested that it would, in the future, have to look more to the countries south of us and to China and Japan, for its markets. Our representatives to all these Governments have exerted their influence to encourage trade between the United States and the countries to which they accredited, but the fact exists, we cannot control our due share of the commerce of the world. That between the Pacific States and China and Japan, is about all the carrying trade now conducted in American vessels. I would recommend a liberal policy toward that line of American steamers—one that will insure its success and its increased usefulness. The cost of building iron vessels—the only ones that can compete with foreign ships in the carrying trade—is so much greater in the United States than in foreign countries, that without some assistance from the Government, they cannot be successfully built here. There will be several propositions laid before Congress in the course of the present session, looking to a remedy for this evil; even if it should be at some cost to the National treasury, I hope such encouragement will be given as will revive American shipping on the high seas, and American ship-building at home.

RETURN TO SPECIE PAYMENT.

The average value of gold, as compared with national currency for the year 1869, was about 134, and for the eleven months of 1870 the same relative value has been about 115. This approach to a specie basis is very gratifying, but the fact cannot be denied that the instability of the value of our currency is prejudicial to our prosperity and tends to keep up prices to the detriment of trade. The evils of a depreciated and fluctuating currency are so great, that now, when the premium on gold has fallen so much that it would seem that the time has arrived when by prudent legislation Congress should look to a policy which would place our currency at par with gold at no distant day.

REDUCTION OF TAXATION.

The tax collected from the people has been reduced more than eight million dollars per annum, by steadiness in our present course; there is no reason why, in a few short years, the national tax gatherer may not disappear from the door of the citizens almost entirely. With the revenue stamps dispensed by postmasters in every community, a tax upon liquors of all sorts, and tobacco in all its forms, and by a nice adjustment of the tariff, which will put a duty only upon those articles which we could dispense with. known as luxuries, and on those which we use more of than we produce, revenue enough may be raised after a few years of peace and consequent reduction of indebtedness, to fulfill all our obligations.

REVENUE REFORM.

In addition to this, a reduction of internal accounts may be relied on to make this practicable. Revenue reform, if it means this, has my early support; if it implies a collection of all the revenue for the support of the Government, for the payment of principal and interest of tax, public debt, pensions, &c., by direct taxation on the people, then I am against revenue reform, and confidently believe the people are with me. If it means failure to provide the necessary means to defray all expenses of the Government and thereby repudiate the public debt, then I am still more opposed to such a kind of revenue. Revenue reform has not been defined by any of its advocates to my knowledge, but seems to be accepted as something which is to supply every man's wants, without any cost or effort on his part. A true revenue reform cannot be made in a day, but must be the work of National legislation, and of time. As soon as the revenue can be dispensed with, all duty should be removed from coffee, tea and other articles of universal use, not produced by ourselves. The necessities of the country compel us to collect revenue from our imports. An army of assessors and collectors is not a pleasant sight to the citizens, but that, or a tariff for revenue, is necessary. Such a tariff, so far as it acts as an encouragement to home products, affords employment to the laborer at living wages, in contrast to the Old World, and also in the development of home resources.

OTHER MATTERS.

The President pleads for a more powerful navy, and shows how inadequate our naval force is; the Postal Service is represented as working satisfactorily. Considerable space is given to a discussion of the trouble existing with reference to the Canadian fisheries, and the free navigation of the St. Lawrence as necessary to our commercial prosperity. Should the Canadas refuse to make fair terms with reference to the fisheries question and the navigation of that river, he recommends unfriendly legislation on our part to bring them to an understanding of their proper interests.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

Always favoring practical reforms, I would respectfully call your attention to an abuse of long standing, which I should like to see remedied by this Congress. It is a reform in the civil service of the country. I would have it go beyond the mere fixing of the tenure of offices of clerks and employees, who do not require the advice and consent of the Senate to make them complete. I would have it govern not the tenure, but the manner of making appointments. There is no duty which so much embarrasses the Executive and heads of Departments as that of appointments. Nor is there any such arduous and thankless labor imposed on Senators and Representatives as that of finding places for their constituents. The present system does not secure the best, and often not even fit men, for public place. The elevation and purification of the civil service of the Government will be hailed with approval by the whole people of the United States.

THE NEW POLICY TOWARD THE INDIANS.

Reform in the management of the Indian affairs has received the special attention of the Administration from its inauguration to the present day. The experiment of making it a missionary work was tried, with a few Agencies given to the denomination of Friends, and has been found to work most advantageously. All the Agencies and Superintendencies not so disposed of were given to officers of the army. The Act of Congress regulating the army renders army officers ineligible for civil positions; Indian Agencies being civil offices, I determined to give all the Agencies to such religious denominations as had heretofore established missionaries among the Indians, and perhaps to some other denominations who would undertake the work on the same plan as missionary work. The societies selected are allowed to name their own agents, subject to the approval of the Executive, and are expected to instruct and aid them as missionaries to Christianize and civilize the Indians, and train them in the arts of peace.

The Government watches over the official acts of these agents, and requires of them as strict an accountability as if they were appointed in any other manner. The confident hope that the policy now pursued will, in a few years, bring all the Indians upon the reservations, where they will live in houses, have schools and churches, will be pursuing peaceful and self-sustaining avocations, and where they may be visited by the law-abiding white man with the same impunity that he now visits the civilized white settlement. I call your special attention to the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for full information on the subject.

PUBLIC LANDS

The President's message contains the following upon this important subject:

During the last fiscal year, 8,095,413 acres of public lands were disposed of; of this quantity, 3,699,810 acres were taken under the Homestead law, and 2,159,515 acres were sold for cash. The remainder was treated with military warrants, college or Indian scrip, or applied in satisfaction of grants to railroads, or for other public uses. The entries under the Homestead law, during the last year, covered 961,545 acres more than those during the preceding year. Surveys have been vigorously prosecuted to the extent of the means applicable to the purpose. The quantity of land in market will amply supply the present demand.

The claim of the settlers under the homestead or pre-emption law is not, however, limited to lands subject to sale; at private entry unappropriated surveyed public land may be acquired under the former laws, if the party entitled to enter under them will comply with the requirements they prescribe in regard to the residence in cultivation. The actual settlers' preference to right of purchase is even broader and extends to lands which were unsurveyed at the time of his settlement; his right was formerly confined within much narrower limits and at one period of our history was conferred only by special statute. They were enacted from time to time to legalize what was then regarded as an authorized intrusion upon the public domain. The opinion that the public revenue should be regarded chiefly as a source of revenue is no longer maintained, for rapid settlement and successful cultivation of them is now justly considered of more importance to our well-being than is the fund which the sale of them would produce. The remarkable growth and prosperity of our new States and Territories attest the wisdom of the legislation which invites the tiller of the soil to procure a permanent home on terms within the reach of all.

The pioneer who incurs the dangers and privations of a frontier life, and thus aids in the foundations of new commonwealths, renders a signal service to his country and is entitled to its special favor and protection. The laws secure that object and largely promote the general welfare; they should therefore be cherished as a permanent feature of our system. Good faith requires us to give full effect to the existing grants.

The time-honored and beneficent policy of setting apart certain sections of public land for education purposes in the new States, should be continued, when public provision shall have been made for the objects.

I submit, as a question worthy of serious consideration whether the residue of our National domain should not be totally disposed of under the provisions of the homestead and preemption laws.

In addition to the swamp and overflowed lands granted to the States in which they are situated, the lands taken under the Agricultural College Acts, and for internal improvement purposes, under the Act of September 18th and the supplemental thereto, there had been conveyed up to the close of the last fiscal year, by patent or other equivalent, evidence of title to State and corporations, 2,783,625,713 acres. It is estimated that an additional quantity of 174,734,523 acres is still due under grants for like use.

The policy of thus aiding the States in building works of internal improvement was inaugurated more than forty years since, in the grants to Indiana and Illinois to aid those States in opening canals to connect the waters of the Wabash with those of Lake Erie, and the waters of Illinois with those of Lake Michigan; it was followed, with some modification, in the grant to Illinois of alternate sections of public land within certain limits of the Illinois Central Railroad.

Fourteen States and sundry corporations have received similar subsidies in connection with railroads completed, or in process of construction. As the reserved sections are rated at the double minimum, the sale of them at the enhanced price has thus, in many instances, indemnified the Treasury for the granted land. The construction of some of these thoroughfares has undoubtedly given a vigorous impetus to the development of our resources and the settlement of the more distant portions of the country.

It, may, however, be understood that much of our legislation in this regard has been characterized by indiscriminate and profuse liberality. The United States should not loan their credit in aid of any enterprise undertaken by States or Corporations, nor grant lands in any instance, unless the projected work is of acknowledged national importance. I am strongly inclined to the opinion that it is inexpedient and unnecessary to bestow subsidies of either description; but should Congress determine otherwise, I earnestly recommended that the rights of settlers and of the public be more effectually secured and protected by appropriate legislation.

City and County Items.

There is a message in the W. U. Telegraph Office for Jamos Tomlinson.

The Marion County Bible society has its Depository at the store of Messrs. Royal & Smith in Patton's Block.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.—W. W. Martin, the watchmaker and jeweler, has a notice of his wares in our columns to-day. He has many nice articles well suited to the holiday trade, besides the staple goods in his line.

Herman & Hirsch maintain their popularity and carry on a successful trade at the stand in the center of Griswold's block, and have in a card, new to-day, to keep their customers informed and attract new ones.

Friedman & Gosliner cannot keep long out of the newspapers, as they give us a new advertisement with every fresh stock of goods received, which accounts for the appearance they put in this morning.

Josephus Holmes, at the Universal Store, claims a full share of public patronage because he has the goods to sell and has lighter expenses than any body else. So he says at least.

Uzafovage & Wright have a column spoken for to-morrow, and when it appears the peblic will find out the reason why Christmas comes but once a year.

The Christmas campaign is commencing early this year and will be a vigorous one.

CITY COUNCIL.—The special meeting of the City Council was held last evening, at which the proposed Ordinance relating to appointment of a physician to attend smallpox patients, if any more cases occur, was debated at length and re-referred to a committee consisting of Aldermen Williams, Starkey and Skiff, to be reported on next Tuesday evening. There are five smallpox cases in town, existing in three families, each of which employs a different physician. The Medical Faculty consider it advisable that one physician be employed by the city to attend all such cases, which would reduce the danger of the spread of the disease. The Ordinance proposed contained much that we thought was unnecessary, but we hope no time will be lost in designating some particular physician to attend cases should such occur, for it is only reasonable to suppose that physicians will sometimes carry the disease with them in spite of all precautions. There are now very few cases in town, and with proper pains taken we can soon be rid of it. There has been no new cases for a week past.

FACTS NOT CONSTITUTING A ROMANCE.—The people of Salem were considerably surprised to hear, about a month since, that a lady who had been left in very comfortable circumstances by her late husband was wedded to a person considerably younger than herself, named W. B. Chandler. The day of the marriage he drew over $5,000 of her money from the bank, and they took the first train for Portland and went by steamer for San Francisco. The general prediction made here was that she had been deceived into marrying an adventurer who would secure what money he could easily lay hold of and make some excuse to forsake her. This prediction has been verified by the return of the lady, *solus*, and it appears that the day before the sailing of the steamer, just arrived, he furnished her with a pretended telegram, forged for the occasion, and signed with the name of her oldest son, which stated that her children at Salem were taken down with smallpox. She was therefore induced to return next day, while he found an excuse that he had important business which made it necessary that he should remain until the next steamer. The falsehood of the bogus dispatch gives the lie to this, and we must conclude that he has deliberately acted the villain. It is unpleasant to relate these things, but it is the duty of a public journal to expose dishonesty, and therefore make these facts known.

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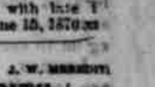
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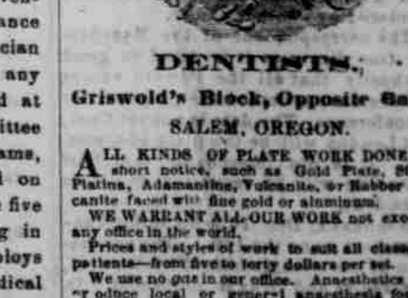
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