

# THE EXAMINER.

VOL. 2. CHARLOTTETOWN, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1877. NO 182

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July 24 1877.

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1878.

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ADDRESS,

**W. L. COTTON,**  
Manager Examiner Printing and Publishing Company,  
Ch'town, Dec. 6, 1877.

President Hayes' Message.

President Hayes sends to Congress this year a message exceeding most if not all the messages of his predecessors in length. He begins with a defence of his Southern policy, saying in effect that the wounds left by the war cannot be left open forever, and that the national army could no longer be used to sustain local Governments. The claim is made that the policy of leaving the South to its own local Government has actually succeeded, and that the country is the better for the change. Fatal collisions have almost entirely ceased, and political turmoil and turbulence have disappeared; while trade is rapidly improving; all which goes to show that the right course, and the one suitable to the country's circumstances, has been taken. The Southern people, it is affirmed, are well pleased with the change, but whether the blacks are included in this designation is not very distinctly indicated. On his Southern policy the President is cheerful and confident, and shows no signs of "going back" on what he has begun.

The President was very clear and emphatic in insisting that the public debt and interest thereon must be paid in gold—in a currency that will be accepted the world over at its face value. He holds that both internal and external trade suffer greatly from the present uncertainty, which profits none but those whose business it is to deal in money of fluctuating value. The policy of resumption of specie payments should be pursued by every suitable means, and without wavering of purpose. He sees no reason, however, for disparaging silver, as if it were not a precious metal at all. Both gold and silver should be used as currency, a fair volume of both being made available. To do this, certain conditions of commercial value and limited legal tender must be observed; which means that ninety-three cents is not sufficient intrinsic value for a silver dollar, that, in fact, it must come pretty near to 100 cents, and that a fair limit must be set to the amount for which it can be made legal tender. Were the United States to insist upon paying its debt in silver dollars worth only ninety-three cents, the loss from having to pay higher interest would greatly overbalance the profit. There are now outstanding some fourteen hundred millions of six and seven per cent. bonds, and if the interest on these could be brought down to four per cent.—a reduction of say one-third—the Government would save far more than it would by paying in silver dollars, worth only ninety-three cents. What the Message says on this point intimates to the country that the President will sign a moderate silver bill, but not such a one as that lately passed in the House.

On former occasions he declared for reform of the Civil Service, and he claims that now he is merely trying to carry out what he promised before, amid general approval. He virtually charges hypocrisy upon both political parties, citing the fact that both have made sounding platform declarations in favor of Civil Service Reform, while the President who tries it gets the vigorous opposition of both whenever he endeavors to put it in force. What he says may fairly be condensed into this—that the politicians are in favor of the law, but against its execution.

Relations with foreign States are satisfactory, except in the case of Mexico, and the hope is expressed that the Government of that country will do its duty, and put an end to incursions of marauders on American soil. The Paris Exhibition, and questions as to passports and naturalization, are touched upon. Extradition between the United States and the British Dominions is expected to be put shortly on a permanent and satisfactory basis. Of the Fishery Commission lately sitting in Halifax, he merely says that the result will be duly reported to Congress. He laments the continuation of the war in Cuba, and looks for improved commercial understanding and larger trade with the various South American States.

The President mentions with satisfaction the special effort made by the State Department to obtain from its diplomatic and consular agents abroad information as to the prospect of finding markets for American goods and produce, and appears to think that this move will lead to something important. He is no believer in the doctrine maintained by some so-called "statesmen" among ourselves—that the more we buy abroad the richer we are; but cites the fact of 166 millions odd of excess of exports over imports as a proof of the nation's prosperity. He recommends a duty of ten cents per pound on tea, and two cents on coffee, for the reason that these would be easily collected, also because the twelve millions, which it is expected they would produce, would render convenient the abrogation of a number of petty and vexatious imposts, lingering relics of the war, which yet remain. Congress is invited in its wisdom to consider what is to be done for the shipping interest.

The closing paragraphs of the Message are devoted to the army, navy, the Indian question, present agricultural prosperity, the duty of the national Government and of Congress with regard to scientific education, and various other topics.

Between two and three hundred liquor dealers were arrested on Thursday night in New York for violation of the liquor law.

Fourteen cases of hydrophobia have occurred in London since the beginning of the year, the average for some years previous being four.

Caution to Policemen.

Mr. Justice Manisty has decided an important point in the law of homicide. At the Stafford Assizes, Thomas Hayden was charged with shooting at a police constable with intent to murder him. The constable, accompanied by several others in plain clothes, visited Hayden's house late at night for the purpose of apprehending a mar. They burst open the door, and as the constable, who was also in plain clothes, stepped into the place he received a charge of shot in his side. Counsel for the defence urged that as the police were trespassers there was no case. Justice Manisty admitted the validity of the contention. His Lordship remarked that this was a case in which the constable forced his way into Hayden's premises without notice, and Hayden having committed no crime, and no warrant being held against him, he was justified in shooting, as he imagined for the protection of his property. The Liverpool "Courier" remarks: "It may therefore be assumed that an Englishman's house is still his castle, and that under circumstances a policeman incurs as much risk in breaking into it as does a burglar."

Horrible Affair at a Reformatory.

We are informed that the most horrible discoveries have been made in the Jamaica Reformatory for native boys, which is situated on a hill about nine miles from Kingston. Some time ago, under the governorship of Sir William Grey, a Baptist clergyman was appointed superintendent of the reformatory, with a salary of £400 a year, besides a house and other perquisites. But these appear not to have been sufficient for the reverend gentleman, who applied the food allotted for the 400 poor boys under his charge to fattening pigs for the market. Meanwhile the little wretches were starved, and growing desperate—they actually fought with the pigs for the food thrown to them. The miserable creatures were neglected in every possible way. A nasty insect, called a tick, well known to every traveller in the tropics, burrowed into their feet, and, as the doctor had to look after his private patients, the wounds, which if examined in time would have been trifling, became so serious that amputation of toes or feet were necessary in no less than eighty cases. Starved and neglected, the lads became unruly. The offenders were shackled together in pairs and consigned to the cells, where some were forgotten for three days and left without food or drink. All this at last came to light by mere accident. The boys were entrusted with knives to cut down some guinea grass outside, in charge of one warden only; they naturally used their liberty to satisfy their cravings of hunger by plundering the neighboring gardens. The owners dare not interfere, but reported the matter to the Governor. This led to investigation and reform, and we understand that Lord Carnarvon has, in a strongly worded dispatch, denounced this horrible affair as a disgrace to the colony and to the whole government.

This is the extent to which the refunding of the public debt of the United States has been carried: \$2,050,000,000 of old bonds, bearing a high rate of interest, have been converted into 4 1/2 per cents; and of 4 per cent. \$75,496,556 have been taken by the public and paid for. The result is, that, within little more than a year, the interest on the debt has been reduced by \$3,775,000. There is still \$729,000,000 which bears six per cent. interest, and \$708,000,000 which bears five. An attempt will naturally be made to carry the refunding process further. The United States must now be ranked among the countries whose credit stands high in the market of the world.

The wife of one of our leading bankers, in a spirit of fun, appeared the other night as Capital. She honeyed her husband into humoring her freak, which was to cover herself with the representative of value—greenbacks and diamonds. She was literally loaded down with wealth. The dress, cut Princess, en traine, was covered on the skirt so as to make it appear one piece, with \$100 and \$500 bills. The waist and sleeves were \$1,000 bonds sewed in, and her fingers and ears blazed with diamonds as large as peas. The tiara was said to have been worth \$80,000, and the total value of the notes and diamonds on her person was \$260,000. Two pages carried her train, and watched lest the jewels and greenbacks should roll or fall to the floor.—New York Letter.

Some idea may be formed of the existing depression in the South Wales iron and coal trade when it is stated that in the parish of Merthyr alone there are at the present moment 1,000 houses standing unoccupied and untenanted. The occupiers have left the district owing to the existing depression, and may now be found in the county of Monmouth or in the fields of the Rhondda Valley. So extensive an emigration has not taken place for years, and the owners of the cottage property in the district are feeling the disastrous effects of the exodus of the colliers. Their cottages, so far as the wooden portion of them can be removed, are being carried away piecemeal for firewood, windows are smashed by buys, and the cottages themselves are like the tenants, fast disappearing. The squalor and misery now existing amongst the poorer class adds to the overflowing difficulties of the owners of cottage property. Such is the state of the once flourishing district of Merthyr, South Wales.