TWICE-A-WEEK.

Victoria Times.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

He Objects to Restrictions Placed on Trade With Outside Markets Especially.

The Sealers' Indemnity Should Have Been Paid—The Nation's Honor Demands It.

The Alaska, British Guiana, Venezuelan, Cuban and Other Questions Dealt With.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 3.—Both houses met at noon to-day. After the invocations and the reading of the journals, the President's executive clerk appeared with the annual message, which was read by the clerks in each house, amid the respectful attention of senators and representatives.

The message proceeds, in substance, as follows:

To the Congress of the United States: The present assemblage of the legislative branch our government occurs at a time when the interests of our people, and the needs of our country, give special prominence to the condition of our foreign relations and exigencies of our national finances. The reports of the heads of the several administrative departments of the government fully and plainly exhibit what has been accomplished within the scope of their respective duties, and present such recommendations for the betterment of our country's condition as patriots and intelligent labor and observation suggest. I, therefore deem my executive duty adequately performed at this time by presenting to congress the important phases of our situation as related to our intercourse with foreign nations, and a statement of the financial problems which confront us, omitting, except as they are related to these topics, any reference to departmental operations."

The President then touches upon the action of the Argentine Republic in reducing the duties on certain products of the United States in view of the free entry of wool into the United States afforded by the new tariff laws. Mention is also made of the decision of the commissions on the dispute between Argentine and Brazil by the President as arbiter, and the negotiations in progress for the revival of the Chilian claims commission.

The disordered condition of affairs in China, following upon the close of the war with Japan, the consequent weakening of the central authority of the government and the serious outbreak of the old fanatical spirit against foreigners are discussed. The demands of the United States and other powers for the punishment of the aggressors, and the compliance of the Chinese government therewith, are related, as is also the demand of the United States for a special commission to investigate the disturbances where they first broke out.

"The energetic steps which we have taken," says the President, "are all more likely to result in the future safety of our citizens in China, because the imperial government is, I am persuaded, entirely convinced that we desire only the liberty and protection of our citizens, and redress for any wrongs they may have suffered, and we have no ulterior designs or object, political or otherwise."

Of the Waller incident, the message says: "The customary cordial relations between this country and France have been undisturbed with the exception that a full explanation of the treatment of J. L. Waller, by the expeditionary military authorities of France still remains to be given." "An offivial record of the trial has been furnished to this government," says the message, "but the evidence adduced in support of the charges, which was not received by the French minister for foreign affairs till the first week in October, has thus far been withheld, the French government taking the ground that its production in response to our demand would establish a bad precedent. The efforts of our ambassador to procure it, however, have not been relaxed, and it is confidently expected that some satisfactory solution will shortly be reached. Meanwhile, it appears that Mr. Waller's confinement has every alleviation which the state of his health and all other circumstances of the case demand or permit.

Our relations with Germany are typical of the condition of things elsewhere found in countries whose positions and trade are similar to our own. The close rivalries of competing industries, the influence of the delusive doctrine that the internal development of the nation is promoted and its wealth increased by a policy which, undertaking to reserve its home markets for the exclusive use of its own producers, necessarily obstructs their sales in foreign markets and prevents the free access of their products to the world, the desire to maintain trade in time-worn ruts, regardless of inexorable laws, new needs and changed conditions of demand and supply, and our own halting tardiness in inviting a free exchange of commodities, and by this means imperilling our footing in external markets naturally open to us however, created a situation somewhat injurious to American export interests, not only in Germany, where it is perhaps most noticeable, but in adjacent countries. The effect of this, particularly on food products and also on our insurance companies, pointed out the necessity for open-handed fairness in dealing with the other nations stated. It is argued if it is necessary to provide restrictions similar to those from which we suffer in order to guard against unfair discrimination, the way to such a course is easy, but should not be lightly entered upon.

Our relations with Great Britain, always intimate and important, have demanded during the past year even a greater share of consideration than usual. Several vexatious questions were left undetermined by the Behring Sea arbitration tribunal. The application of principles laid down by that august body has not been followed by the results they were intended to accomplish, either because the principles themselves lacked breadth and definiteness, or because their execution has been more or less imperfect. Much correspondence has been exchanged between the two governments on the subject of preventing the exterminating slaughter of seals. The insufficiency of the British patrol in Behring sea, under the regulations agreed on by the two governments, has been repeatedly pointed out, and yet only two British ships have been on patrol duty during the season in those waters. We need a more effective enforcement of the existing regulations, as well as the adoption of such regulations as experience has shown to be absolutely necessary to carry out the intent of the award. All this has been earnestly urged upon the British government, but thus far without effective results. In the meantime the depletion of the seal herds by means of pelagic hunting has so alarmingly progressed that unless the slaughter is at once checked, extinction within a few years seems to be an absolute certainty.

The understanding by the which the United States was to pay Great Britain the sum of $425,000 in full settlement of all British claims for damages arising from the seizure of sealing vessels, authorized under the award of the Paris tribunal of arbitration, was not confirmed by the last congress, which declined to make the necessary appropriation. I am still of opinion that this arrangement was judicial and advantageous for the government, and I earnestly recommend it to be again considered and sanctioned. If, however, this does not meet with the favor of congress, it certainly will scarcely dissent from the proposition that the government is bound by every consideration of honor and good faith to provide for the speedy adjustment of the claims by arbitration as the only other alternative. A treaty of arbitration has, therefore, been agreed upon and will be immediately laid before the senate so that in one of the modes suggested a final settlement may be reached.

The matter of the enforcement of international rules to prevent collisions at sea is still in abeyance, although a proposal originated with Great Britain and was concurred in by the United States. But Her Majesty's government encountered opposition from British shipping interests, has announced its inability to accept a date to be set for carrying the rules into effect.

The commissioners appointed to mark the international boundary in Passamaquoddy Bay, according to the description in the treaty of Ghent, have not yet fully agreed.

The completion of the preliminary survey of the Alaskan boundary which follows the contour of the coast from the southermost point of Prince of Wales island until it strikes the hundred and forty-first meridan at or near the summit of Mt. Elias, awaits further necessary appropriations, which are urgently recommended. This survey was undertaken under the provisions of a convention entered into by this country and Great Britain in July, 1892, and a supplementary convention on February 3rd, 1894. As to the remaining section of the Alaska boundary, which follows the hundred and forty-first meridan northward from Mt. Elias to the frozen ocean, the settlement of which involves the actual location of the meridan mentioned, no conventional agreement has yet been made. The ascertainment of a given meridian at a particular point is a work requiring much time and careful observations and surveys. Such observations and surveys were undertaken by the United States coast and geodetic surveys in 1890 and 1891, while similar work in the same quarters under British auspices are believed to give nearly coincidental results, but the surveys have been independently conducted and no international agreement to mark those, or any other parts of the hundred and forty-first meridian by permanent monuments has yet been made. In the meantime the valley of the Yukon is becoming the highway through the hitherto unexplored wilds of Alaska, and untold mineral wealth has been discovered in that region, especially at or near the junction of the boundary meridan with the Yukon and its tributaries. In these circumstances it is expedient and imperative that the jurisdiction limits of the respective governments in this region be speedily determined. Her Britannic Majesty's government has proposed a joint delimitation of the hundred and forty-first meridian by an international commission of experts which, if congress will authorize it, and make due provisions therefor, can be accomplished with no unreasonable delay. It is impossible to overlook the vital importance of continuing the work already entered upon and supplementing it by further effective measures looking to the exact location of this entire boundary.

"I would call attention to the unsatisfactory delimitation of the respective jurisdiction of the United States and the Dominion of Canada in the Great Lakes at the approaches to the narrow waters that connect them. The waters in question are frequented by fishermen of both nationalities, and their nets are there used. Owing to the uncertainty and ignorance that prevails as to the true boundary, vexatious disputes and seizures of boats and nets by Canadian cruisers often occur, while any positive settlement thereof may be an accepted standard is not easily reached. A joint commission to determine the line in those quarters on a practical basis by measured courses following a range of marks on shore, is a necessity for which immediate provision should be made.

It being apparent that the boundary dispute between Great Britain and the republic of Venezuela, concerning the limits of British Guiana are approaching an acute stage, a definite statement of the interest and policy of the United States as regards the controversy seemed to be required, both on its own account and in view of the friendly relations of the powers directly concerned. In July last, therefore, a dispatch was addressed to our ambassador at London for communication to the British government, in which the attitude of the United States was fully and distinctly set forward. The general conclusion therein reached was that the established policy of this government, being firmly opposed to the forcible increase by any European power of its territorial possessions on this continent, and that as this policy is well founded in principle and strongly supported by numerous precedents, as a consequence the United States was bound to protest against any enlargement of the area of British Guiana in derogation of the rights, and against the will of Venezuela; that considering the disparity in strength between Great Britain and Venezuela, the territorial dispute between them can only be reasonably settled by an impartial arbitration, and the reports of such arbitration should include the whole controversy, and further than that, the United States is not satisfied if one of the powers concerned be permitted to draw an arbitrary line through the territory in dispute and declare it will submit to arbitration only the portion lying on one side of it. In view of this conclusion the dispatch in question called upon the British government for a definite answer to the question whether it would or would not submit the territorial controversy between itself and Venezuela in its entirety to an impartial arbitration. The answer of the British government has not yet been received, but it is expected shortly, when a further communication on the subject will probably be made to congress."

Of Cuba the President says the United States must preserve international faith, however much our citizens sympathize with the insurgents. He continues: 'Though neither the warmth of our people's sympathy with the Cuban insurgents, nor our loss nor material damage consequent upon the futile endeavors thus far made to restore peace and order, nor any shock that our humane sensibilities may have received from the cruelties which appear to especially characterize this sanguinary and fiercely conducted war, have in the least shaken the determination of the government to honestly fulfil every international obligation, yet it is earnestly hoped on every ground that the devastation by this armed conflict may speedily be stayed and order and quiet restored to the distracted island, bringing in their train activity and thrift, and peaceful pursuits. The Allianca incident, and Spain's disavowal of it, and her assurance of a non-recurrence of similar interference are stated."

The President expressed his regret that the Turkish government should have thwarted the purpose to send to the disturbed quarter of the empire, the United States consul at Sivas in order to investigate and report. Every effort, he says, is put forth to ensure the safety of the American citizens, and the United States minister is alert; but, he goes on, "Several most powerful European Powers have assumed a duty as agents of the Christian world in Turkey to restrain fanatical brutality, and it is earnestly hoped that prompt and effective action on their part will not be delayed."

This concludes that part of the message relating to international affairs. The remainder and greater half of the message is devoted to the discusson of the financial situation in the United States.

"By command of the people," the message says, "the customs revenue system designed for the protection of the favored classes at the expense of the great mass of our countrymen has been superseded by a tariff policy which in principle denies the right of the government to accord especial advantages to favorites, and, while encouraging our intercourse and trade with other nations, recognizes the fact that American self-reliance, thrift and ingenuity can build up our country's industries and develop its resources more surely than enervating paternalism. But this and the repeal of the silver law, it is said, fall far short of curing the financial evils from which we are suffering. The constant depletion of the gold reserve is reviewed, and the constant subsequent falling off pointed out, from which the President derives this conclusion: "The only thorough and practical remedy for our troubles is found in the retirement and cancellation of our United States notes, commonly called greenbacks, and the outstanding treasury notes issued by the government in payment of silver purchases under the act of 1890."

The method he proposes is an exchange for bonds, small and large, and bearing a low rate of interest and for a long term, to replenish the diminution of the currency caused by the retirement of the United States and treasury notes, amounting probably to less than $486,000,000. He proposes that national banks should be allowed to issue circulation equal in par value to the bonds they deposit to secure it, and the tax on their circulation should be reduced to one-fourth of one per cent., which would undoubtedly meet all the expenses the government incurs on their account. In addition they should be allowed to substitute or deposit in lieu of the bonds now required as security for their circulation, those which would be issued for the purpose of retiring the United States notes and treasury notes.

The President says there might not be such a necessity for an addition to the currency by issue of bank circulation as at first glance indicated. If we should be relieved from maintaining a gold reserve under the conditions that constitute it the barometer of our solvency and our treasury should no longer be foolish purveyors of gold for nations abroad, or for speculation and hoarding by our citizens at home. I snould expect to see gold resume its normal functions in the business affairs of the country and cease to be an object lesson of exciting the sensitive imagination of the people.

The silver left in the treasury, he thinks, might be gradually converted into fractional coin. Continuing, he says: "The important question is not the quantity of money received in revenue payments, but the kind of money we maintain, and our ability to continue in a sound financial condition. We are considering the government's holdings of gold as related to the soundness of our money, and as affecting our national credit and monetary strength."

The government, he says, receives no gold in payment of revenues, nor would it if the revenues were increased. A lengthy argument follows on the impossibility of securing gold for the treasury from the present treasury receipts. Withdrawals of gold, he says, are due to fright, and nothing will stop them but a cure of the fright. It is denied that bonds have been issued to supply insufficient revenue. The President then takes up the free coinage question, and strongly condemns the system.

A lengthy argument against the theory of the government's power to maintain the value of silver follows on his well known lines, and the value of a safe and stable currency is enlarged upon in general terms. Following this he says: "I have ventured to express myself upon this subject with earnestness and plainness of speech, because I cannot rid myself of the belief that there lurks in the proposition for the free coinage of silver, so strongly approved and so freely advocated by a multitude of my countrymen, a serious menace to our prosperity, and an insidious temptation of our people to wander from the allegiance they owe to public and private integrity. Even continued agitation on the subject adds greatly to the difficulty of the dangerous financial situation already forced upon us."

Washington, D. C., Dec. 3.—Mr. Lodge, Republican, has introduced a resolution in the senate forcibly approving of the Monroe doctrine, and Mr. Call, Democrat, has introduced a resolution directing that the insurgents of Cuba be accorded belligerent rights.

The message concludes thus: "I especially entreat the people's representatives in congress, who are charged with the responsibility of the inauguration of measures for the safety and prosperity of our common country, to promptly and effectively consider the ills of our critical financial plight. I have suggested the best remedy which my judgment approves. I desire, however, to assure congress that I am prepared to co-operate with it in perfecting any measures promising a thorough and practical relief, and I will gladly labor with it in any patriotic endeavor to further the interests and guard the welfare of our countrymen, who in our respective places of duty, we have undertaken to serve."

None But Ayer's at the World's Fair.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla enjoys the extraordinary distinction of having been the only blood purifier allowed on exhibit at the World's Fair, Chicago. Manufacturers of other sarsaparillas sought by every means to obtain a showing of their goods, but they were all turned away under the application of the rule forbidding the entry of patent medicines and nostrums. The decision of the World's Fair authorities in favor of Ayer's Sarsaparilla was in effect as follows: Ayer's Sarsaparilla is not a patent medicine. It does not belong to the list of nostrums. It is here on its merits."

AN EXAMPLE FOR VICTORIA.

Toronto Gets a Share of the Street Car Company's Profits.

London, Dec.—Judge McDougall opened the court of general sessions yesterday. The most important case on the list is the charge of arson against Wm. McMillan, who, it is alleged, fired the Osgoodby building on January 10th last, causing a fire doing $700,000 damage.

Toronto, Dec. 4.—The street railway receipts for the month of November totalled $78,582, against $74,175 last year in the same month. The city's share is $6,287.

Montreal, Dec. 4.—The C. P. R. traffic receipts for the week ending Nov. 30 amounted to $587,000; same week last year $536,000.

Ingersoll, Dec. 4.—At the first annual convention of the newly organized Oxford county constables association it was resolved that a Dominion insurance bureau and annuity fund be arranged for and a protective association for the county formed.

Kingston, Dec. —William Wilson, formerly manager of the Dominion cotton mill here, died in England Saturday.

HONEST HELP.

Thousands of men are suffering because they lack the courage to make known their early errors and to endeavor to remedy them. Nervous weakness, loss of manhood and the many ills due to early indiscretions, excesses or overwork can be quickly, successfully and permanently cured, if you will only let the right people know what ails you. Write to me in confidence and I will tell you, free of charge, how to get cured. I have nothing to sell, but am desirous of honestly helping you. Perfect secrecy assured. Describe your case and address with stamp:—L. A. Edwards, P. O. Box 55, Jarvis, Ont. *

THEY MUST HAVE HELP

And Get Sir Charles Tupper Over—Premier Denies Any Political Significance.

Says the Visit is in Connection With the Atlantic Mail and Pacific Cable.

Government Members Are Haunting Ottawa for Bribes for Their Constituencies.

Ottawa, Dec. 4.—Premier Bowell says that Sir Charles Tupper comes to Canada from London in connection with the fast Atlantic steamship service and Pacific cable schemes, and that his visit has no political significance. He will be here in about three weeks.

It was Algoma's day for a subsidy for a railway yesterday, and to-day the Tory candidate for North York is here with a delegation for a subsidy for a road in his riding, and every government candidate wants a bribe for his constituents.

Messrs. Ives and Sandford Fleming are spoken of as delegates to the colonial conference on the subject of the Pacific cable.

The council of Low township have deferred for the present the payment of the bill incurred in connection with the recent military expedition, and will take legal advice as to their liability to pay.

An action has been taken by Rev. Father Whelan, of St. Patrick's church, against the publishers of the Owl, the official organ of Ottawa university, claiming $10,000 for a libellous publication concerning him in connection with the controversy regarding the establishment of a Roman Catholic high school in St. Patrick's parish.

Messrs. W. R. Brock and J. J. Foy, of Toronto, and Macdonnell, M. P., interviewed Hon. Messrs. Haggart and Foster to-day, and urged the granting of a subsidy to the Ontario and Rainy river railway.

TO SENTENCE DURRANT.

Almost a Foregone Conclusion That a New Trial Will Be Denied.

San Francisco, Dec. 4.—General Dickenson, counsel for Theodore Durrant, yesterday concluded his argument on the motion for a new trial. He contended that the court had erred in not granting Durrant a change of venue. In reply, District Attorney Barnes submitted a brief, citing authorities without argument. Judge Murphy announced that he would pass upon the motion next Friday. The foregone conclusion is that the motion will be denied, and it is expected that the death sentence will then be pronounced.

THE EVANDALE OVERDUE.

May Have Gone Down in the Storm That Sank the Strathnevis.

San Francisco, Dec. 4.—There is a little anxiety in the office of the Occidental and Oriental Steamship company concerning the steamer Evandale, which left here on Nov. 6th for Yokohama and Hong Kong. The Evandale is a tramp, and was chartered at Hong Kong to take the place of the Belgic, which went on the rocks on the Japan coast. The steamer arrived here on Nov. 1, after a voyage of 22 days from Yokohama. On November 6th she left on her return voyage, loaded with nearly 6000 tons of freight and a number of Chinese. Taking into consideration that the steamer is a slow one, her arrival at Yokohama was due three days ago. There has been heavy weather off the Japanese coast of late. The steamer Tacoma, which arrived at Tacoma a few days ago, reported encountering a gale when out a few days from Japan, that threatened for a time to send her to the bottom.

Captain Lewis, of the British ship Senator, now in port, brings word of the almost certain destruction of the German bark Iron Duke, about which there has been so much anxious inquiry. On September 4 the Senator spoke the Iron Duke in latitude 53 degrees south, longitude 65 degrees west. On September 16 the Senator encountered a hurricane which swept away her rigging and almost disabled her. Then the Iron Duke was seen again, badly disabled, her hull so low in the sea that great waves broke over her. The captain of the Senator believes that the Iron Duke undoubtedly went to the bottom in the gale.

A FOOTPAD'S FACE SMASHED.

He Held Up the Son of the Author of the Queensberry Rules.

San Francisco, Dec. 4.—Lord Sholto Douglas, who has looked through prison bars, faced an irate mother-in-law and "jollied" theatrical managers, has encountered a real footpad. He met the highwayman Saturday night, refused to be held up, had to fight for it, and won. He landed all the uppercuts and crosscounters known to the Queensberry cult on the face of his assailant, compelling the hold-up to take to his heels in defeat.

After the performance at the Alcazar theatre Saturday night Lord Sholto walked to O'Farrell and Mason streets with Leonard Grover, jr. There they parted, Douglas proceeding down Mason toward Ellis, on the west side of the street. Half-way in the block is a small alley, and as he reached it a man jumped out in front of him. "Say, young fellow, how much money have you?" asked the hold-up, as Lord Sholto stopped. "What do you want to know for?" returned Lord Douglas. "Oh, I just wanted a little." "Well, I have none for you." "Come, now, don't tempt me, but just hand out and say nothing." Before the last words had passed the man's lips Lord Douglas raised his right clenched fist and landed on his assailant's jaw. He followed this up with several stiff punches, laid him out on the pavement, and, as the footpad rose, planted him a sturdy British kick that would have won the admiration of a citizen of Seven Dials. Surprised, pained and stunned, the hold-up still had sense enough to turn tail and flee as fast as his legs would carry him. Lord Sholto followed him for some distance, but finally lost sight of him in the crowd.

THE EXILE RETURNS HOME.

The Sultan Condescends to Listen to a Grand Petition.

Columbus, Ind., Dec. 4.—About a year ago Rev. Z. T. Sweeney of this city, formerly consul-general at Constantinople under President Harrison, was asked to carry a petition to Washington City representing the Christian Women's Board of Foreign Missions of the United States for the pardon of Sahag Madissian, an Armenian school teacher, who translated a sentence of Scripture for a friend, who circulated it in the market place of an interior Turkish town. For this offence both were arrested and sent into exile to Moorzook, in the oasis of Fezzan, in the desert of Sahara. The friend died, but Sahag has lived through great abuse and suffering. The Rev. Mr. Sweeney while in office opened up communication with Sahag and sent him money through Sir Drummond Hay, English consul-general at Tripoli. Then missionary societies took up his case and Elder Sweeney in company with ex-Congressman George W. Cooper, presented a petition signed by 400,000 Christian women to the state department at Washington City, which forwarded it to the Sultan. News has just reached here that Sahag has been pardoned and has reached Tripoli on his way home.

A SALVADOREAN EXPEDITION.

Talk of a Revival of the Ezeta Movement Indulged In.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 4.—Manuel Caesin, General Antonio, Ezeta's right-hand man, has chartered a small tug, and vague stories of an expedition against Salvador are floating about. The supposition is that Ezeta will be taken on board at Acajutla, and that some plan to get him and his friends into Salvador has been determined upon. The tug will sail south to-day or to-morrow.

BRAZIL HAS SPOKEN OUT.

She Will Not Submit Either of Her Disputes to Arbitration.

Buenos Ayres, Dec. 4.—A Rio de Janeiro dispatch says that the Brazilian council of ministers has decided to refuse to submit either the Trinidad dispute with England or the Amapa dispute with France, to arbitration. The Trinidad dispute relates to the sovereignty of the little island of Trinidad and the Amapa dispute relates to the boundary line of French Guiana.

PRICE OF BREAD GOES UP.

France Puts the Calender Back a Century or So.

London, Dec. 4.—A Paris dispatch to the Times says that the tariff committee has agreed upon a bill which will empower the government to apply a sliding scale to the import duty on corn proportionate to the market price. Thus the duty on wheat will be made still higher.

A. Leflar.

DISEASED LUNGS

CURED BY TAKING

AYER'S Cherry Pectoral.

"I contracted a severe cold, which settled on my lungs, and I did what is often done in such cases, neglected it. I then consulted a doctor, who found, on examining me, that the upper part of the left lung was badly affected. The medicines he gave me did not seem to do any good, and I determined to try Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. After taking a few doses my trouble was relieved, and before I had finished the bottle I was cured."—A. LEFLAR, watchmaker, Orangeville, Ont.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

Highest Awards at World's Fair.

Ayer's Pills Cure Indigestion.