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By M. MACLEAN.

TERMS:—Published weekly at three dollars a year; with an addition, when not paid within three months, of twenty per cent per annum. Two new subscribers may take the paper at five dollars in advance; and ten at twenty. Four subscribers, not receiving their papers in town, may pay a year's subscription with ten dollars, in advance. A year's subscription always due in advance. Papers not discontinued to solvent subscribers in arrears. Advertisements not exceeding 16 lines inserted for one dollar the first time, and fifty cents each subsequent time. For insertions at intervals of two weeks 75 cents after the first, and a dollar if the intervals are longer. Payment due in advance for advertisements. When the number of insertions is not marked on the copy, the advertisement will be inserted, and charged till ordered out. The postage must be paid on letters to the editor on the business of the office.

AGRICULTURAL

From the Essex (Mass.) Agricultural Society's Transactions.

ON RECLAIMED MEADOWS.

In submitting their report for the current year, the committee have great pleasure in remarking that they have reason to believe that there is an increasing attention paid to these improvements.

The number and length of the statements that have been furnished to the committee, and which are annexed, seem to render it proper that they should abstain from a report any more detailed than is absolutely necessary.

They have viewed the premises described in the several statements, and have examined with attention the claims made for the improvements.

They award the first premium of twenty dollars to Timothy H. Brown, of Saugus, and the second of ten dollars, to William Osborn, Jr., of Salem, for his lands in Saugus. For the Committee, N. W. HAZEN.

N. W. HAZEN, AMOS SHELDON, ASA T. NEWHALL, DANIEL PUTNAM, Committee.

Timothy H. Brown's statement.

To the Committee on the Improvement of Wet Meadow and Swamp Lands:

Gentlemen:—The improvement that I submit to your examination has been made upon between five and six acres of swamp land, situated in the town of Saugus. The mud or soil varies from two to twelve feet in depth. Two years ago, it was so thickly covered with briars and bushes, that a dog would have found difficulty in passing through it. These bushes I mowed and burnt on the ground. There were so many stumps and logs that it was impossible to plough; so I commenced cutting the surface into squares about fifteen inches each way, and then with forked hoes, made very strong, pulled off the sod and cleared out the stumps and logs. Then using the same hoes, cleared out all the small roots, levelled the surface, and placed back the sods the other side up. This part of the work I did in strips of about one rod in width. In August, 1837, I commenced this. In 1838 I mowed the bushes and dug one ditch. The stumps and logs I took out without the help of oxen. Some of the stumps I should judge had nearly half a cord of wood in them. There were a considerable number of trees that had blown down, and the meadow had formed over them. Many of them were perfectly sound, and some measured sixty feet in length. The stumps were very numerous. I found three tier deep, and under the bottom lay a pine log, that had some time or other been on fire. After going over the surface and clearing in the manner I have described, I found the expense to have been, at a fair estimate for the labor, \$504.

In the winter I hauled off the wood and piled it up for coaling. The largest of the small roots I selected for my own fire—the smallest I burnt on the ground. I commenced harrowing with an iron tooth harrow, as soon as the frost began to come out of the ground. The sods being fastened down by the frost, and the harrow passing over the upper side, they tumbled away as fast as the frost would admit; and when the harrow had got to the depth of the sods, they were worked up pretty fine, the frost below making a bridge for the team to pass on. About the first of last May, I began planting with potatoes, without any manure. I cut the seed very fine, and planted the hills with a hoe, then a man followed after with the seed, and then another man to cover it. So I made speedy work in planting. I calculated to have the seed, when covered, one inch from the surface. I used sixty-nine bushels of seed, that is, about fourteen bushels to an acre. I should not have seeded so light, had I not felt an uncertainty about obtaining a crop, without the use of manure. There was but one man, among those whom I consulted, who gave me any encouragement. Many said I should lose my labor. To their astonishment I harvested 927

bushels of excellent potatoes. The expense incident to planting, hoeing, harrowing, &c., including the seed, I estimate at \$117. The land is now in a state that I can plough it at pleasure. On a small piece of the land I planted corn, and it ripened well. On a small piece I sowed wheat, but it came to no perfection, either in the straw or grain.

The wood was converted into charcoal. In 1837 I coaled 1201 bushels, which sold in the market for \$166 40. In 1838 I coaled 4200 bushels, which sold on the hearth for \$333 33, and I ascertained from the purchaser that it sold in Boston market for \$630. I sold wood to the amount of \$30, and I estimate that which I used for my own fire worth \$50 more. I have on hand one hundred cart loads of the bottom of the coal pits, which I value at \$73, having had some knowledge of its virtue as a manure.

The account may be thus stated:

Proceeds of coal in 1837, -	\$166 40
Do do in 1838, -	333 33
Value of crop of potatoes, at 50 cts. a bushel, -	463 50
Value of ashes for manure, &c., -	75 00
Value of wood sold, -	50 00
Value of wood used, -	50 00
Increased value of the land, it being now worth \$125 an acre, and originally thought to be worth only \$12 an acre	565 00
	\$1702 23
Labor, &c.	
Leveling and clearing the land, &c., -	\$504 00
Carting wood & roots -	35 00
Harrowing, &c., -	12 00
Planting, hoeing, harrowing, &c., -	117 00
Coaling in 1837, -	40 00
Coaling in 1838, -	100 00
	808 00

Balance in favor of the exp- periment, -

\$894 00

I have about two acres more of similar land, which I am about to manage in the same way. It requires much hard labor, but it yields a fair reward.

Yours with respect,

TIMOTHY H. BROWN.

Saugus, December 7, 1838.

William Osborn, Jr.'s statement.

The subscriber presents the following statement to the Committee on Reclaimed Meadows:

The piece of meadow land reclaimed and cultivated by the subscriber lies in Saugus, and contains 4 acres, very wet, and peaty bottom, and admitted of running a pole in some places 10 feet without reaching hard bottom; covered with a large quantity of pine stumps, and a young growth of maples, alders, dog-wood, &c.

In the first place I commenced removing the sods and roots from about one-fourth of an acre, and burning the same, but finding the land would not be made sufficiently dry by this process, I turned the sods over the whole piece in the fall (1837), and let them remain for the action of the frost until spring (1838), then had them chopped with large grub hoes, fine enough for planting potatoes, &c. The process of turning over the sods and getting out stumps were both done at the same time; after doing this I run a ditch around the piece, and four ditches across it, 3 feet deep and 4 feet wide, with an outlet sufficient to drain the land at all times last season, to 15 inches below the surface.—I annex a rough sketch of the different lots, which I will describe.

Lot No. 1. Containing one-fourth of an acre, nearest the upland, was cleared in the fall and spring by chopping and clearing the small roots, and made in a good condition for cabbages; manured with compost of loam and manure, and a small portion of unbleached ashes put in each hill. Crop, 50 dozen large cabbages.

Lot No. 2. One-fourth of an acre, paraded and burned; sods not fully burned collected into heaps and mixed with stable manure, lime, and salt; in spring chopped fine and spread in drills: planted with ruta baga. Crop, 100 to 150 bushels—mixed with others, and I cannot give the exact number.

Lots No. 3 and 4. Sods turned and mud wheeled on from the ditches and spread; raked in rye and grass seed.—Crop, 5 1/2 bushels rye, and 12 to 20 cwt. of hay, without manure.

Lots No. 5 and 6. Potatoes, squashes, pumpkins, &c., with coarse barn and stable manure.

Lot No. 7. Corn, potatoes, & squashes. The amount of manure used on the whole piece, about 6 cords; 2 casks of lime, 1 bushel salt.

Estimate worth of crops, and expenses.

327 bushels potatoes, at 60 cents per bushel, -	\$196 20
5 1/2 bushels rye, at \$1 25 per bushel, -	6 87
8 1/2 bushels corn at \$1 per bush., -	8 50
100 " ruta bagas, at 80 cts. per bushel, -	30 00

18 to 20 cwt. hay, -	12 00
50 doz cabbages, at 50 c. per doz. -	25 00
2000 lbs. squashes, -	20 00
Value of fuel taken off, at least	25 00
	\$833 57

Expenses.

Cost of land, -	\$25 00
Labor, per contract, -	86 50
94 days' help on farm, -	70 50
Seed potatoes, -	15 00
Rye and grass seed, -	1 17
Six cords manure, -	30 00
Two casks lime, -	2 00
22 days' labor, gathering crops, -	16 00
	246 67

Net profit, -

\$74 90

The present value of the land I leave for the judgment of the committee.

WM. OSBORN, JR.

December, 1838.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States:

We have continued reason to express our profound gratitude to the Great Creator of all things for numberless benefits conferred on us as a People. Blessed with genial seasons, the husbandman has his garners filled with abundance, and the necessities of life, not to speak of its luxuries, abound in every direction. While in some other portions steady and industrious labor can hardly find the means of subsistence, the greatest evil which we have to encounter is a surplus of production beyond the home demand, which seeks, and with difficulty finds, a partial market in other regions. The health of the country, with partial exceptions, has for the past year been well preserved; and under their free and wise institutions, the United States are rapidly advancing towards the consummation of the high destiny which an overruling Providence seems to have marked out for them. Exempt from domestic convulsion, and at peace with the world, we are left free to consult as to the best means of securing and advancing the happiness of the People. Such are the circumstances under which you now assemble in your respective chambers, and which should lead us to unite in praise and thanksgiving to that great Being who made us, and preserves us a nation.

I congratulate you, fellow-citizens, on the happy change in the aspect of our foreign affairs since my last annual message. Causes of complaint at that time existed between the United States and Great Britain, which, attended by irritating circumstances, threatened most seriously the public peace. The difficulty of adjusting amicably the questions at issue between the two countries was in no small degree augmented by the lapse of time since they had their origin. The opinions entertained by the Executive on several of the leading topics in dispute were frankly set forth in the Message at the opening of your late session. The appointment of a special Minister by Great Britain to the United States, with power to negotiate upon most of the points of difference, indicated a desire on her part amicably to adjust them, and that Minister was met by the Executive in the same spirit which had dictated his mission. The treaty consequent thereon having been duly ratified by the two Governments. The question of peace or war between the United States and Great Britain is a question of the deepest interest not only to themselves, but to the civilized world, since it is scarcely possible that a war could exist between them without endangering the peace of Christendom. The immediate effect of the treaty upon ourselves will be felt in the security afforded to mercantile enterprise, which, no longer apprehensive of interruption, adventures its speculations in the most distant seas, and, freighted with the diversified productions of every land, returns to bless our own. There is nothing in the treaty which in the slightest degree compromises the honor or dignity of either nation. Next to the settlement of the boundary line, which must always be a matter of difficulty between States as between individuals, the question which seemed to threaten the greatest embarrassment was that connected with the African slave trade. By the 10th article of the treaty of Ghent it was expressly declared that "whereas the traffic in slaves is irreconcilable with the principles of humanity and justice, and whereas both His Majesty and the United States are desirous of continuing their efforts to promote its entire abolition, it is hereby agreed that both the contracting parties shall use their best endeavors to accomplish so desirable an object." In the enforcement of the laws and treaty stipulations of Great Britain, a practice had threatened to grow up on the part of its cruisers of subjecting to visitation ships sailing under the American flag, which, while it seriously involved our maritime rights, would subject to vexation a branch of our trade which was daily increasing, and which required the fostering care of the Government. And although Lord Aberdeen, in his correspondence with the American envoys at London, expressly disclaimed all right to detain an American ship on the high seas, even if found with a cargo

of slaves on board, and restricted the British pretension to a mere claim to visit and inquire, yet it could not well be discerned by the Executive of the United States how such visit and inquiry could be made without detention on the voyage, and consequent interruption to the trade. It was regarded as the right of search, presented only in a new form, and expressed in different words; and I therefore felt it to be my duty distinctly to declare, in my annual message to Congress, that no such concession could be made, and that the United States had both the will and the ability to enforce their own laws; and to protect their flag from being used for purposes wholly forbidden by those laws, and obnoxious to the moral censure of the world. Taking the message as his letter of instructions, our then Minister at Paris felt himself required to assume the same ground in a remonstrance which he felt it to be his duty to present to M. Guizot, and through him to the King of the French, against what has been called the Quintuple treaty; and his conduct, in this respect, met with the approval of this Government. In close conformity with these views the eighth article of the treaty was framed, which provides that "each nation shall keep aloof in the African seas a force not less than eighty guns, to act separately and apart, under instructions from their respective Governments, and for the enforcement of their respective laws and obligations." From this it will be seen that the ground assumed in the message has been fully maintained, at the same time that the stipulations of the treaty of Ghent are to be carried out in good faith by the two countries, and that all pretence is removed for interference with our commerce for any purpose whatever by a foreign Government. While, therefore, the United States have been standing up for the freedom of the seas, they have not thought proper to make that a pretext for avoiding a fulfillment of their treaty stipulations, or a ground for giving countenance to a trade reprobated by our laws. A similar arrangement by the other great Powers could not fail to sweep from the ocean the slave trade, without the interpolation of any new principle into the maritime code. We may be permitted to hope that the example thus set will be followed by some, if not all of them. We thereby also afford suitable protection to the fair trader in those seas, thus fulfilling at the same time the dictates of a sound policy, and complying with the claims of justice and humanity.

It would have furnished additional cause for congratulation, if the treaty could have embraced all subjects calculated in future to lead to a misunderstanding between the two Governments. The territory of the United States, commonly called the Oregon Territory, lying on the Pacific ocean, north of the 42d degree of latitude, to a portion of which Great Britain lays claim, begins to attract the attention of our fellow-citizens, and the tide of population which has reclaimed what was so lately an unbroken wilderness, in more contiguous regions, is preparing to flow over those vast districts which stretch from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific ocean. In advance of the acquisition of individual rights to these lands, sound policy dictates that every effort should be resorted to by the two Governments to settle their respective claims. It became manifest at an early hour of the late negotiations, that any attempt for the time being satisfactorily to determine those rights would lead to a protracted discussion, which might embrace in its failure other more pressing matters, and the Executive did not regard it as proper to waive all the advantages of an honorable adjustment of other difficulties of great magnitude and importance, because this, not so immediately pressing, stood in the way. Although the difficulty referred to may not for several years to come involve the peace of the two countries, yet I shall not delay to urge on Great Britain the importance of its early settlement. Nor will other matters of commercial importance to the two countries be overlooked; and I have good reason to believe that it will comport with the policy of England, as it does with that of the United States, to seize upon this moment, when most of the causes of irritation have passed away, to cement the peace and amity of the two countries by wisely removing all grounds of probable future collision.

With the other Powers of Europe our relations continue on the most amicable footing. Treaties now existing with them should be rigidly observed, and every opportunity, compatible with the interests of the United States, should be seized upon to enlarge the basis of commercial intercourse. Peace with all the world is the true foundation of our policy, which can only be rendered permanent by the practice of equal and impartial justice to all. Our great desire should be to enter only into that rivalry which looks to the general good, in the cultivation of the sciences, the enlargement of the field for the exercise of the mechanical arts, and the spread of commerce—that great civilizer—to every land and sea. Carefully abstaining from interference in all questions exclusively referring themselves to the political interests of Europe, we may be permitted to hope an equal exemption from the interference of the European Governments in what relates to the States of the American Continent.

On the 23d of April last, the commissioners on the part of the United States, under the convention with the Mexican Republic, of the 11th of April, 1839, made to the proper department a final report in relation to the proceedings of the commission. From this it appears, that the total amount awarded to the claimants by the commissioners and the umpire appointed under that convention, was two millions twenty-six thousand and seventy-nine dollars and sixty-eight cents. The arbitrator having considered that his functions were required by the convention to terminate at the same time with those of the commissioners, returned to the board, undecided for want of time, claims which had been allowed by the American commissioners, to the amount of nine hundred and twenty-eight thousand six hundred and twenty dollars and eighty-eight cents. Other claims, in which the amount sought to be recovered was three millions three hundred and thirty-six thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven dollars and five cents, were submitted to the board too late for its consideration. The minister of the United States at Mexico, has been duly authorized to make demand for the payment of the awards according to the terms of the convention, and the provisions of the act of Congress of the 12th of June, 1840. He has also been instructed to communicate to that Government the expectations of the Government of the United States in relation to those claims which were not disposed of according to the provisions of the convention, and all others of citizens of the United States against the Mexican Government.

He has also been furnished with other instructions, to be followed by him in case the Government of Mexico should not find itself in a condition to make present payment of the amount of the awards, in specie or its equivalent.

I am happy to be able to say that information which is esteemed favorable, both to a just satisfaction of the awards, and a reasonable provision for other claims, has been recently received from Mr. Thompson, the Minister of the United States, who has promptly and efficiently executed the instructions of his Government, in regard to this important subject.

The citizens of the United States who accompanied the late Texan expedition to Santa Fe, and who were wrongfully taken and held as prisoners of war in Mexico, have all been liberated.

A correspondence has taken place between the Department of State and the Mexican Minister of Foreign Affairs, upon the complaint of Mexico that citizens of the United States were permitted to give aid to the inhabitants of Texas in the war existing between her and that Republic. Copies of this correspondence are herewith communicated to Congress, together with copies of letters on the same subject, addressed to the Diplomatic corps at Mexico, by the American Minister and the Mexican Secretary of State.

Mexico has thought proper to reciprocate the Mission of the United States to that Government, by accrediting to this minister of the same rank as that of the representative of the United States in Mexico. From the circumstances connected with his mission, favorable results are anticipated from it. It is so obviously for the interest of both countries as neighbors and friends that all just causes of mutual dissatisfaction should be removed, that it is to be hoped neither will omit or delay the employment of any practicable and honorable means to accomplish that end.

The affairs pending between this Government and several others of the States of this hemisphere, formerly under the dominion of Spain, have again within the past year, been materially obstructed by the military revolutions and conflicts in those countries.

The ratifications of the Treaty between the United States and the Republic of Ecuador, of the 13th of June, 1839, have been exchanged, and that instrument has been duly promulgated on the part of this Government. Copies are now communicated to Congress with a view to enable that body to make such changes in the laws applicable to our intercourse with that Republic, as may be deemed requisite.

Provision has been made by the Government of Chile for the payment of the claim on account of the illegal detention of the brig Warrior at Coquimbo, in 1820. This Government has reason to expect that other claims of our citizens against Chile, will be hastened to a final and satisfactory close.

The Empire of Brazil has not been altogether exempt from those convulsions which so constantly afflict the neighboring Republics. Disturbances which recently broke out, are, however, now understood to be quieted. But these occurrences, by threatening the stability of the Governments, or by causing incessant and violent changes in them, or in the persons who administer them, tend greatly to retard provisions for a just indemnity for losses and injuries suffered by individual subjects or citizens of other States. The Government of the United States will feel it to be its duty, however, to consent to no delay, not unavoidable, in making satisfaction for wrongs and injuries sustained by its own citizens. Many years having in some cases elapsed, a decisive and effectual course of proceeding will be demanded of the respective Governments

against whom claims have been preferred.

The vexatious, harassing, and expensive war which so long prevailed with the Indian tribes inhabiting the peninsula of Florida, has happily been terminated; whereby our army has been relieved from a service of the most disagreeable character, and the treasury from a large expenditure. Some casual outbreaks may occur, such as are incident to the close proximity of border settlers and the Indians; but these, as in all other cases, may be left to the care of the local authorities, aided, when occasion may require, by the forces of the United States. A sufficient number of troops will be maintained in Florida, so long as the remotest apprehensions of danger shall exist, yet their duties will be limited rather to the garrisoning of the necessary posts, than to the maintenance of active hostilities. It is to be hoped that a territory so long retarded in its growth, will now speedily recover from the evils incident to a protracted war, exhibiting, in the increased amount of its rich productions, true evidences of returning wealth and prosperity.

By the practice of rigid justice towards the numerous Indian tribes residing within our territorial limits, and the exercise of a parental vigilance over their interests, protecting them against fraud and intrusion, and at the same time using every proper expedient to introduce among them the arts of civilized life, we may fondly hope not only to wean them from their love for war, but to inspire them with a love for peace and all its avocations. With several of the tribes great progress in civilizing them has already been made. The schoolmaster and the missionary are found side by side, and the remnants of what were once numerous and powerful nations may yet be preserved as the builders up of a new name for themselves and their posterity.

The balance in the Treasury on the 1st of January, 1842, exclusive of the amount deposited with the States, Trust Funds and Indemnities was \$230,483 69. The receipts into the Treasury during the three first quarters of the present year, from all sources, amount to \$29,616,592 78; of which more than fourteen millions were received from customs, and about one million from the public lands. The receipts for the fourth quarter are estimated at nearly eight millions; of which four millions are expected from Customs, and three millions and a half from Loans and Treasury notes. The expenditures of the first three quarters of the present year exceed twenty-six millions; and those estimated for the fourth quarter amount to about eight millions; and it is anticipated there will be a deficiency of half a million on the 1st of January next—but that the amount of outstanding warrants (estimated at \$800,000) will leave an actual balance of about \$24,000 in the Treasury. Among the expenditures of the year, are more than eight millions for the public debt, and \$600,000 on account of the distribution to the States of the proceeds of sales of the public lands.

The present tariff of duties was somewhat hastily and hurriedly passed near the close of the late session of Congress. That it should have defects can, therefore, be surprising to no one. To remedy such defects as may be found to exist in many of its numerous provisions will not fail to claim your serious attention. It may well merit inquiry, whether the exacting of all duties in cash does not call for the introduction of a system which has proved highly beneficial in countries where it has been adopted. I refer to the warehousing system. The first and most prominent effect which it would produce would be to protect the market alike against redundant or deficient supplies of foreign fabrics—both of which, in the long run, are injurious as well to the manufacturer as the importer. The quantity of goods in store being at all times readily known, it would enable the importer, with an approach to accuracy, to ascertain the actual wants of the market, and to regulate himself accordingly. If, however, he should fall into error, by importing an excess above public wants, he could readily correct its evils by availing himself of the benefits and advantages of the system thus established. In the warehouse the goods imported would await the demands of the market, and their issues would be governed by the fixed principles of demand and supply. Thus an approximation would be made to a steadiness and uniformity of price, which, if attainable, would conduce to the decided advantage of mercantile and mechanical operations.

The apprehension may be well entertained that, without something to ameliorate the rigor of cash payments, the entire import trade may fall into the hands of a few wealthy capitalists in this country and in Europe. The small importer, who requires all the money he can raise for investments abroad, and who can but ill afford to pay the lowest duty, would have to subduct in advance a portion of his funds in order to pay the duties, and would lose the interest upon the amount thus paid for all the time the goods might remain unsold, which might absorb his profits. The rich capitalist abroad, as well as at home, would thus possess, after a short time, an almost exclusive monopoly of the import trade, and laws designed