

ber last. They were called together by virtue of an act of the territorial legislature, whose lawful existence had been recognized by Congress in different forms and by different enactments. A large proportion of the citizens of Kansas did not think proper to register their names and to vote at the election for delegates; but an opportunity to do so having been fairly afforded their refusal to do so cannot affect the legality of the convention.

This convention proceeded to frame a constitution for Kansas, and finally adjourned on the 7th day of November. But little difficulty occurred in the construction of the subject of slavery. The truth is that the general provisions of our recent State constitutions are so similar—and, I may add, so excellent—that the difference between them is not essential. Under the earlier practice of the government, no constitution framed by the convention of a Territory preparatory to its admission into the Union was ever admitted to the people. I trust, however, the example set by the last Congress, requiring that the constitution of Minnesota should be subject to the approval and ratification of the people of the proposed State, may be followed on future occasions. I took for granted that the convention of Kansas would act in accordance with this example, and, as it is, on correct principles, and hence my instructions to Governor Walker, in favor of submitting the constitution to the people, were expressed in general and unqualified terms.

In the Kansas Nebraska act, however, this restriction is applicable to the constitution, but not to the act of admission. The convention were not bound by its terms to submit any other portion of its instrument to an election, except that which relates to the domestic institutions of slavery. This will be rendered clear by a simple reference to its language. It was not the act of admission, but the act of admission, which was to be subject to the approval and ratification of the people of the proposed State. According to the plain construction of the sentence, the words "domestic institutions" have a direct reference to the subject of slavery. "Domestic institutions" are not confined to the subject of slavery, but include all other institutions, and are entirely distinct from institutions of a political character. Besides, there was no question then before Congress, nor indeed has there since been any serious question before the people of Kansas of the country, except that which relates to the "domestic institutions" of slavery.

The convention, after an angry and excited debate, finally determined, by a majority of only two, to submit the question of slavery to the people. At the last forty-three of the fifty delegates present affirmed their signature to the constitution.

A large majority of the Convention were in favor of establishing slavery in Kansas. They accordingly inserted an article in the constitution for this purpose similar in form to those which had been adopted by other territorial constitutions. In the schedule, however, providing for the transition from a territorial to a State government, the question was left open, whether they will be admitted to the Union with or without slavery. It declares that, before the constitution adopted by the convention shall be sent to Congress for admission into the Union as a State, an election shall be held in the Territory, at which all the white male inhabitants of the Territory above the age of 21 are entitled to vote. The result of the election shall be the basis of a consultation with slavery, and the constitution with or without slavery. If there be a majority in favor of the constitution with slavery, then it is to be transmitted to Congress by the president of the convention in the original form, and the question of admission with or without slavery. If there be a majority in favor of the constitution with slavery, then it is to be transmitted to Congress by the president of the convention in the original form, and the question of admission with or without slavery. If there be a majority in favor of the constitution with slavery, then it is to be transmitted to Congress by the president of the convention in the original form, and the question of admission with or without slavery.

At this election every citizen will have an opportunity of expressing his opinion by his vote. If he votes in favor of the constitution with slavery, then it is to be transmitted to Congress by the president of the convention in the original form, and the question of admission with or without slavery. If there be a majority in favor of the constitution with slavery, then it is to be transmitted to Congress by the president of the convention in the original form, and the question of admission with or without slavery.

Kansas has for some years occupied too much of the public attention. It is high time she should be allowed to take her own course. When once admitted to the Union, whether with or without slavery, the excitement beyond her own limits will speedily pass away, and she will then for the first time be left, as she ought to have been, to manage her own affairs in her own way. If her constitution on the subject of slavery or on any other subject, be displeasing to a majority of the people, no human power can prevent them from changing it within a brief period. Under those circumstances, it may well be questioned whether the peace and quiet of the whole country are not of greater importance than the mere quarrels of either of the political parties in Kansas.

Should the constitution without slavery be adopted by the votes of the majority, the rights of property slaves now in the Territory are reserved. The number of these is very small; but if they were greater the provision would be equally just and reasonable. These slaves were brought into the territory under the constitution of the United States, and are now in the hands of their masters. This point has at length been finally decided by the highest judicial tribunal of the country—and this upon the plain principle that when a confederacy of sovereign States acquires a new territory at their joint expense, both equity and justice demand that the citizens of one and all of them shall have the right to take into it whatsoever they may lawfully acquire. The common Constitution has summarily confiscated the property in slaves already in the Territory, would have been an act of gross injustice, and contrary to the practice of the older States of the Union which have abolished slavery. A territorial government was established in Utah by act of Congress approved the 9th of Sept., 1850, and the constitution and laws of the United States were thereby extended over it "so far as the same, or any provisions thereof, may be applicable." This act provided for the appointment by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, of a governor, and also of a chief justice, three judges of the supreme court, a

marshal and a district attorney. Subsequent acts provided for the appointment of the officers necessary to extend our land and our Indian system over the Territory. Brigham Young was appointed first governor on the 20th September, 1850, and this held the office ever since.

When Governor Young has been both governor and superintendent of Indian affairs throughout this period, he has called at the same time the head of the church of the Latter-day Saints, and professes to govern its members and dispose of their property by direct inspiration and authority from Almighty God. The power has been, therefore, absolute over both Church and State. The people of Utah, almost exclusively, belong to this church, and believing with a financial spirit that he is governor of the Territory by Divine appointment, they obey his commands as if those were direct revelations from Heaven. It is therefore, unquestionably, the most extraordinary alliance with the government of the United States, the members of the Mormon church will yield implicit obedience to his will. Unfortunately, existing laws leave but little doubt that such a submission, without entering upon a minute history of occurrences, is a violation of the Constitution of the United States. A judicial and executive, with the single exception of two Indian agents, have, and it is necessary for their own personal safety to withdraw from the Territory, and no longer remains any government in Utah but the despotism of Brigham Young. This being the condition of affairs in the Territory, it is not surprising that the government ought not to undertake the work, itself by means of its own agents. This ought to be committed to other agencies, which Congress might assist either by grants of land or money, or by both, upon such terms and conditions as they may deem most expedient.

It is not only for the safety of the United States, but also of the public credit, that the commercial interests of the whole country, both East and West, would be greatly promoted by such a road, and above all, it would be a general additional benefit of immense value. Although the advantages of the kind, whether postal, commercial, or political, cannot confer constitutional power, yet they may furnish auxiliary arguments in favor of expending a work which, in my judgment, is clearly embraced within the making power.

For these reasons I commend to the friendly consideration of Congress the subject of the Pacific Railroad. For obvious reasons, I confine myself to any particular route, but the report of the Secretary of the Treasury will furnish a detailed statement of the condition of the public finances, and of the respective branches of the public service, which will be found in the report of the Secretary of the Treasury. The amount of revenue for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1857, amounted to \$20,000,000, and the amount of disbursements for the same period was \$20,000,000. The balance of the public debt at the end of the year was \$20,000,000. The amount of the public debt at the end of the year was \$20,000,000. The amount of the public debt at the end of the year was \$20,000,000.

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limited power to make and conduct war, and at the same time deny to the only means of reaching and defeating the enemy at all points, and without a single exception of the Pacific possessions "against invasion." We cannot but regard this as a most extraordinary and unjust restriction of our power. We cannot but regard this as a most extraordinary and unjust restriction of our power.

Experience has proved that the routes across the Isthmus of Central America are not only very uncertain and unreliable, but also of communication. But even in the case of the route, it would at once be closed against us in the event of war with a naval power so much stronger than our own as to enable it to blockade the ports of either end of the route. After all, therefore, we can only rely upon a military road through our own territories, and ever since the organization of the government Congress has been in the practice of appropriating money from the public treasury for the construction of such roads.

The difficulties and the expense of constructing a military road to connect our Atlantic and Pacific States have been greatly exaggerated. The distance from the Azores on the north to the western boundary of Texas on the Rio Grande and the eastern boundary of California on the Colorado, for both of which explorations now within our knowledge, does not exceed four hundred and seventy miles, and the distance of the route is not more than 1,000 miles. The route is not more than 1,000 miles. The route is not more than 1,000 miles.

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existing circumstances to be indispensable. I would call the special attention of Congress to the recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy to the construction of a Pacific mail steamer of light draught. For many years the government has been obliged on many occasions to hire such steamers from individuals to supply its pressing wants. At the present moment we have no armed vessel in the navy which can penetrate the river of China. We have but few which can, although many millions of dollars are expended annually to pass in and out of these harbors. Some of our most valuable interests and most valuable points are thus left exposed. This class of vessels of light draught, great speed, and heavy guns, would be formidable in coast defence. The cost of their construction will not be great, and they will require but a comparatively small expenditure to keep them in commission. In the opinion of the Secretary of the Navy, they will prove as effective as much larger vessels, and often more useful. One of them should be at every station where we maintain a squadron, and three or four should be constantly employed on our Atlantic and Pacific coasts. Economy, utility and efficiency combined, they would be the most desirable vessels of the kind. Ten of these small vessels would be of inestimable advantage to the naval service, and the whole cost of their construction would not exceed two million three hundred thousand dollars, or \$2,300,000 each.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior is worthy of general consideration. It reports that the land office has been very successful in the disposal of public lands, and that the revenue from the sale of such lands has been very large. The report also states that the land office has been very successful in the disposal of public lands, and that the revenue from the sale of such lands has been very large.

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proved August 18, 1856, and by the appropriation of \$666,883 made by the act of March 3, 1857, for the sum of \$252,763 to be applied to the credit of the department in the accounts of the current year. I commend to your consideration the report of the department in relation to the establishment of the overland mail route from the Mississippi river to San Francisco, California. The route was selected with my full concurrence, as the one, in my judgment, best calculated to obtain the important objects contemplated by Congress.

The late disastrous monetary revolution may have one good effect, should it return to the practice of a wise and judicious economy, both in public and private expenditures. An overflowing treasury has led to habits of profligality and extravagance in our legislation. It has induced Congress to make large appropriations for objects for which they never would have provided had it been necessary to raise the amount of revenue required to meet them by increased taxation or by loans. We are now compelled to pause in our career and to scrutinize our expenditures with the utmost vigilance, and in performing this duty, I pledge my cooperation to the extent of my constitutional competency.

It ought to be observed at the same time, that true public economy does not consist in withholding the means necessary to accomplish important national objects entrusted to us by the confidence of our constituents. It is necessary for the common defence, in the present crisis of the country it is our duty to confine our appropriations to objects of this character, unless in cases where justice to individuals may demand a different course.

In all cases care ought to be taken that the money granted by Congress shall be faithfully and economically applied. Every bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate shall, before it becomes a law, be approved and signed by the President, and if not approved, he shall return it with his objections to that house in which it originated. In order to perform the best and most responsible duty, sufficient time must be allowed the President to read and examine every bill presented to him for approval. Unless this be afforded, the constitution becomes a dead letter in this particular; and even worse, it becomes a means of deception. Our constituents, seeing the President's approval and signature attached to each act of Congress, are induced to believe that he has actually performed his duty, when, in truth, nothing is, in many cases, more unfounded.

From the practice of Congress, such an examination of each bill as the constitution requires, has been rendered impossible. The most important business of each session is generally crowded into a few days, and the bills are hurriedly passed, without any opportunity for the President to read and examine every bill presented to him for approval. Unless this be afforded, the constitution becomes a dead letter in this particular; and even worse, it becomes a means of deception.

It is a practice which has grown up of late years, and which is entirely contrary to the spirit of the constitution, that the President is not allowed to examine every bill presented to him for approval. Unless this be afforded, the constitution becomes a dead letter in this particular; and even worse, it becomes a means of deception.

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### THE WATCHMAN.

BELLEFONTE, PENNA.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1857.

**The Message.**  
We present to our readers this week, the Message of President Buchanan to Congress. It is a plain, straight forward document, and will be read with interest and profit by all. There is no ostentatious display—not a word that is got in place and without meaning. All the important questions are treated in a just and masterly spirit, and cannot fail to have a salutary bearing upon the issues involved.

In noticing the President's views in reference to Kansas, the Ledger remarks: "The trouble in Kansas is reviewed at some length, and a speedy termination of it by the adoption of a State Constitution is considered desirable for then the excitement which has pervaded the whole country will be confined to local limits. The President thinks, and many others will concur with him, that entirely too much attention has been bestowed upon Kansas affairs, and the same energy is left to manage the more important duties of the Government. The recommendation of a direct measure and a determined course with regard to Brigham Young will remove the support and sanction of all. He recommends the raising of four additional regiments to protect and assert the authority of the general government over that Territory."

**Prepare for Merry Christmas.**  
We pertinently say the New York Express has had a blue autumn. Let us have a white winter. The season has been a sad one; let us do what we can to make the future more pleasant and cheerful; and if not for the old folks at home, than for the young children, to whom the Christmas holidays are the brightest anticipations of the year. December is upon us. Be for a merry Christmas! Let it be a season of liberal giving to the poor—for giving work to unemployed—for opening a new set of books—beginning new enterprises, founded upon prudence and common sense. Men of the stores, come from your hiding places. Let the public know you are here, and what you have. Bring out your goods, and make the people sleep in smiles, and good humor. There is no better time than this for a good heart, bright hopes, and a strong will in times like the present. You who are for a merry Christmas, brush away the cobwebs, and make others prosperous and happy by beginning to feel no yourselves.

**A Mormon Place of Refuge.**  
It is stated that the Mormons, among their other preparations, have not forgotten to look out a place of refuge, in case the United States should declare too severely with their patriarchal institutions. The "Saviors" have, it appears, a well opened road from their southern settlements to a settlement of their own on the confines of Lower California. This colony consists of between one and two thousand picked soldiers, brave, prudent, and brave, and will be instructed to give obedience to their Christian neighbors. The colony keeps up a steady communication with Salt Lake, six hundred miles distant, and it is scarcely to be doubted that they have planted other stations along this route, and the fertile is obvious, from the systematic arrangement which opens the way to Sonora and Lower California, that the Mormons have contemplated the possibility of a retreat beyond the United States jurisdiction. They affiliate with the Indians are strong enough to hold both Sonora and Lower California against Mexico, and nothing but a large volunteer force and the establishment of a cordial military settlement can reduce the Mormons to submission.

At a caucus of the Democratic members of the Senate, which was held on the 11th, the standing committee were agreed upon. Mr. Mason will continue as chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations; Mr. Douglas of the Committee on Territories; Mr. Hunt of the Committee on Finance; Mr. Stuart of the Committee on Public Lands; Mr. Bayard of the Committee on the Judiciary; Mr. Butler; and Mr. Yule, of the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads, vice Rank. An effort was made at the caucus to elect new officers of the Senate, but the proposition was postponed. The nomination of a public printer will come up in the caucus to be held on Monday next. Much interest is manifested concerning their action on the subject.

It is stated in the Boston papers, that a new secret political society has been organized in that city, called the "Heart-land Club." There are a number of pass-words, signals, and grips, but there is no initiation fee, nor any expense beyond a voluntary contribution to pay the expenses of the hall. The particular objects or policy of the order is not given.

AN EDITOR IN LUCK.—Mr. Allen, the new Clerk of the U. S. House of Representatives has just appointed as his Chief Assistant Col. John F. Carter, of Pennsylvania. Col. Carter is an old member of the press-gang. He formerly edited the *Lancaster Gazette*, was subsequently connected with *The Pennsylvania*, and for several years has held the situation of assistant editor of the *Washington Union*.

"The extreme length of the President's Message, has crowded out our usual variety.

**By Telegraph.**  
WILLIAMSPORT, Dec. 14, 1857.  
To Jas. Schnell, Operator, Bellefonte.  
Col. Wincock and his man servant went out hunting pheasants yesterday, and while creeping through the bushes with their guns cocked, Mr. Wincock being about six feet ahead of his servant, a stock caught the trigger of his servants gun, discharging the whole load of shot into his leg, causing his death in fifteen minutes. Col. Wincock lives near Pottsville.

WILLIAMSPORT, Dec. 11th, 1857.  
To Jas. Schnell, Operator, Bellefonte.  
This evening as the Train was approaching the Depot at this place, Mr. T. Rail was lying on the track—he did not hear the bell, and the whole train passed over him. The amount of his injuries has not been ascertained.

We are indebted to Mr. Schnell, operator at this place, for the above despatches—and for his promptness in furnishing us late news—but the last despatch is rather old news to us, as Mr. T. Rail is run over every day, and we know anything about Rail Roading.—  
"Drawn on that line," Schnell.

**AMPHOTYPE AND DAGUERRIAN GALLERY.**  
A new and most beautiful style of likenesses are now introduced to the public at the picture rooms of J. S. Barnhart, in the Arcade building, in this place. The utility of these pictures consists in the fact that they are not easily defaced, and can be sent through the mail without any additional cost of postage. They are transferred to the finest quality of French patent leather. In depth of color, boldness of relief, and the general richness of effect produced in this description of likenesses, they are equal to any process in picturing, that has come under our observation. The public are respectfully invited to call and examine specimens of this interesting branch of sunlight painting. Without being exceed the price of a likeness will not exceed that of an ordinary Ambrotype.

**THE MISSISSIPPI TO EMANUEL.**—The rumor that Hon. J. Ganey Jones, of Pennsylvania, is to be appointed Mr. Dallas's successor in the London mission, is revived in diplomatic circles. As Mr. Buchanan recom-mended Mr. Jones to the late President as his own successor, the rumor is considered at Washington not an improbable one.

**APPOINTED AND RECALLED.**—Mr. John Morgan, of Williamsport, Pa., has been appointed to a place under the House Postmaster, Washington, vice R. C. Dornmeyer Indiana resigned. Salary \$3,400.

**TWO LATE EMIGRANT MASSACRES.**—EXAGGERATED. The Memphis Bulletin of December 10th, publishes a new version of the 1854 massacre of emigrants by Indians in Utah which, if correct, shows that the accounts of that tragedy heretofore received, were but exaggerations. The Bulletin's authority is a letter received by a citizen of St. Louis from a native who was in the company of the party to Lake Ute. According to the letter, the train was attacked by a very large body of Indians, but the latter were repulsed, with the loss of only a few lives.

**PEN, PASTE & SCISSORS.**  
Palm in Job Work  
Beautiful The Weather  
Coming on The Holidays  
Ready for Our Turkey Pie  
Increasing Our Subscription list  
In the town at the January Court  
Washing Postage  
Remember To work for living, we are ready to help you  
Mrs. Cunningham received one box of New York for the late election  
It is a mistake to suppose every man you meet is a friend  
The proceedings of the Senate and House will be found on the fourth page  
Why is a letter in printing office like a stable tree  
Because we are glad when he comes  
Have a good time of it. The young lady who writes her letter to keep company with whom she pleases  
Would make a good tailor.—The individual who is not afraid to help himself to his neighbor's clothes  
Not paid yet.—The Brass Band for their services at the Wilson Mass Meeting. Fork over to the Treasurer of the Committee  
What is the best way to get a letter?—Put it in a box, and let it go  
One of the hands employed in our office did a very good job of work. He had a very good time of it  
A man who will speak well of his neighbor will be well liked by all  
All right enough, but what is a man get married?—What say you did that before?  
Lost News.—We regret to receive from our friends, letters containing items of loss. They are not only a source of grief, but they also contribute to make our columns interesting. We will pay attention to the way of postage. Those who write to us, please to mail their letters so that we can get them by the mail of Monday, for we have our paper made up by Tuesday night  
Barnes's 50¢ paper can.—We understand that the editor of the *Washington Union* has been ordered to pay for the paper of his friend and excellent artist, Henry Briggs, in a very striking manner. It is a very good thing to be rewarded for the indefatigable manner in which he has applied himself to the advancement of the art. He is a very good man, and we are glad to hear that he is so well rewarded. He is a very good man, and we are glad to hear that he is so well rewarded.  
Will be tested.—By the Harrisburg Telegraph, the authority of the Auditor General to cut down Printer's bills for advertising  
Right.—Mr. Fry has no right to a usual contract made by the Secretary of State. When we see a man over-anxious to save money for the State by retaining that which justly belongs to others, we wish our opinion of him, and that is not a very favorable one.

It is stated in the Boston papers, that a new secret political society has been organized in that city, called the "Heart-land Club." There are a number of pass-words, signals, and grips, but there is no initiation fee, nor any expense beyond a voluntary contribution to pay the expenses of the hall. The particular objects or policy of the order is not given.

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