

Cambria Freeman.

FRIDAY MORNING, : : DEC. 9, 1871.

At the election for Mayor, held in Pittsburgh, on last Tuesday, Jas. Blackmore, democrat, was elected over B. F. Morgan, the radical candidate, by about 1,200 majority. This is a victory of the people over corrupt political rings, and is indicative of a popular sentiment that is destined to spread itself over the entire country.

A MOVEMENT has been made in the House toward stifting the President's military usurpations in the South. Mr. Beck offered a resolution, asking information of the President relative to the proclamation of martial law in South Carolina, and of all the facts on which the proclamation was based. Referred to the Committee on Insurrectionary States.

To the exclusion of our usual variety, we publish, partly condensed, the third annual message of President Grant, but have neither time or space to comment upon the document at present. The message, like the President's speeches, has at least the merit of brevity, and therein we commend it. Whatever other merits or demerits it has we shall probably refer to in our next issue. In the meantime we ask for it a careful perusal.

PENNSYLVANIA, under Radical lead, says the Age, has played second fiddle to New England for the last ten years. And note the result in the material forced into the Committee of Ways and Means by Speaker Blaine. Seven to two against this State and her prominent interests. Henceforth, we will have to feed upon broken food from the table of our New England masters. This is the work of Radical leaders in this State. How is it rebuked by iron and coal men?

THE Lancet Intellegencer notes as one of the remarkable features of the Message the announcement in the concluding paragraph, that it was "hastily summed up." It would be a satisfaction to the people to know why and wherefore a document of so much importance should be sent to Congress without having been well and wisely considered. It was surely not for want of time on the part of the President, unless junkings and dissipations, extending over fully six months, are to be regarded as of paramount importance to the affairs of State.

EX-GOVERNOR JOHN BIGLER of California died at Sacramento on last Thursday week, in the sixty-seventh year of his age. He was a brother of ex-Governor Wm. Bigler of this State, and was elected Governor of California by the Democratic party in 1851, the same year in which his brother William was chosen to the same office in Pennsylvania. He was re-elected the second time and became the candidate of his party for a third term, but was defeated by a small majority. During the administration of Mr. Buchanan he was appointed United States Minister to the Republic of Chili, in South America. He was a man of ability and unblemished reputation.

THE question as to what is the true policy to be pursued by the Democratic party in the next Presidential election, is being very generally discussed by the newspaper press of the party throughout the country. The "Missouri movement," or as it is more commonly called, the "passive policy," to which we have heretofore referred at some length, meets with the very decided approval of many leading and influential Democrats, while it is regarded with suspicion and is denounced by others, who prefer the established rule of the past and demand a regular party nomination. Whatever course may ultimately be adopted, it is very evident that a coalition between the Democratic party and the conservative or liberal element in the Republican ranks, is not only viewed with alarm, but is greatly feared by the active and prominent friends of the national administration. This is a confession of the danger which they apprehend from the proposed combination, and is an argument in its favor, since it has always been regarded as wise policy in war, and the same is true in politics, to do that which the enemy neither wishes nor expects you to do. Some of the greatest and most decisive victories of modern times have been brought about by a sudden and unexpected movement in violation of the well established rules of warfare, and for that reason alone not expected and therefore not guarded against by the opposing power. As Congress is now in session, affording the Democratic members from the different States a full opportunity for mutual consultation and deliberation, this question will doubtless engage their early and serious consideration, and the conclusion which may be reached will be awaited with much interest, coming as it will from the immortal representatives of the masses of the Democracy.

President's Message.

WASHINGTON, December 4.—In addressing my third annual message to the law making branch of the government, it is gratifying to be able to state that during the past year success has generally attended the effort to execute all laws found upon the statute book. The policy has been not to inquire into the wisdom of laws already enacted, but to learn their spirit and intent and to enforce them accordingly. The past year has, under wise Providence, been one of general prosperity with the nation. It has, however, been attended by more than usual chastisement in less of life and property from these causes. These disasters have served to call forth the best elements of human nature in our country and develop a friendship for us on the part of foreign nations which goes far towards alleviating the distresses occasioned by these calamities, and the benevolent who have so generously shared their means with the victims of these misfortunes will reap their reward in the conclusion of having performed a noble act, and in receiving the grateful thanks of men, women and children whose sufferings they have relieved.

The relations of the United States with foreign powers continue to be friendly. The year has been an eventful one, in witnessing two great nations, speaking one language, settling by peaceful arbitration disputes of long standing and libelous at any time in the conclusion of having performed a noble act, and in receiving the grateful thanks of men, women and children whose sufferings they have relieved.

I recommend Congress at an early day to make the necessary provision for the treaty-making power of the United States, called for by the treaty. His Majesty the King of Italy, the President of the Swiss confederation, and His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, have consented on the joint request of the two powers, to name an arbitrator for the boundary between them. I have caused my thanks to be suitably expressed for the readiness with which the joint request has been complied with by the appointment of certain commissioners of high standing to these important positions. His Majesty the Emperor of Germany has been pleased to comply with the joint request of the two governments and has consented to act as arbitrator of the disputed water boundary between the United States and Great Britain. The contracting parties in the treaty have undertaken to regard as between themselves certain boundaries for public lands which the United States have contended from the commencement of their history. They have also agreed to bring these principles to the knowledge of other maritime powers, and to invite them to accede to them. Negotiations are going on as to the form and mode by which invitation is to be extended to other powers.

I recommend that the legislation necessary on the part of the United States to bring into effect the articles of great interest to the fisheries and to other matters touching the relations of the United States toward North American provinces, to become operative as soon as proper legislation shall be had on the part of Great Britain and its possessions. It is much to be desired that this legislation may become operative before the fisheries of the United States begin to make arrangements for the coming season. I have directed a commissioner to be appointed a copy is transmitted herewith, to the governors of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin, urging upon the governors of these States respectively the necessary action on their part to carry into effect the object of the article of the treaty, which contemplates the use of canals on either side, connected with the States of the lakes and rivers forming the boundary, in terms of equal rights to the inhabitants of both countries. It is to be hoped that the importance of the object and the benefits to flow therefrom, will secure the speedy approval and legislative sanction of the States concerned. I renew the recommendation for an appropriation for determining the true position of the forty-third parallel of latitude, where it forms the boundary between the United States and the British North American provinces, between the Lake of the Woods and the summit of the Rocky mountains. The early action of Congress on this recommendation would put it in the power of the war department to place a force in the field during next summer.

The resumption of diplomatic relations between Germany and Germany has enabled me to give effect to the withdrawal of protection extended to Germans in France by the diplomatic and consular representatives of the United States in that country. It is just to add that the delicate duty of this protection has been performed by the minister and the consular general of Paris, and the various consuls in France, under the supervision of the latter, with great kindness as well as with promptness and tact. Their course has received the commendation of the German government, and has wounded no susceptibility of the French. The government of the Emperor of Germany continues to manifest a friendly feeling toward the United States and a desire to harmonize with the moderate and just policy which this government maintains in its relations with neighboring powers, as well as with the South American republics. I have given assurances that the friendly feelings by which government are fully shared by the people of the United States.

The ratification of the consular and naturalization convention with the Austro-Hungarian Empire has been exchanged. I have been officially informed of the annexation of the Kingdom of Italy to the Kingdom of Italy, and in conformity with the established policy of the United States I have recognized this change. The ratification of the new treaty of commerce between the United States and Italy has been exchanged. The two powers have agreed on this treaty, that private property shall be respected during a war between the two powers. The United States have spared no opportunity of incorporating this rule into the obligations of nations.

The forty-third Congress at its third session made an appropriation for an organization of a mixed commission for adjusting upon the claims of citizens of the United States against Cuba, growing out of the insurrection of Cuba. That commission has since been organized. I transmit herewith the correspondence relating to the formation and the conclusion which may be reached will be awaited with much interest, coming as it will from the immortal representatives of the masses of the Democracy.

and by the negotiation of national bonds at a lower rate of interest, the amount of interest for the year ending now has been reduced for the interest account is nearly \$1,000,000 less than on the last of March, 1869. It was highly desirable that this rapid diminution should place both to strengthen the credit of the country and to convince its citizens of their entire ability to meet every dollar of liability without bankrupting them. But in view of the accomplishment of these desirable ends, of the rapid development of the resources of the country, its increasing ability to meet large demands, and its amount already paid, it is not desirable that the present resources of the country should continue this rapid payment, and I therefore recommend a modification of both the tariff and internal tax laws, and recommend that all taxes from internal sources be abolished except those collected from spirituous liquors and from tobacco. In re-adjusting the tariff I suggest that a careful estimate be made of the amount of surplus revenue collected under the present laws after providing for the current expenses of the government, the interest account and a sinking fund; that this surplus be reduced in such a manner as to afford the greatest relief to the greatest number. There are many articles not produced at home, but which enter largely into general consumption, through articles which are manufactured at home, such as medicines, compounds, etc., from which very little revenue is derived, but which enter into general use. All such articles I should like to be placed on the free list. I should a further reduction prove advisable, I would then recommend that it be made upon those articles which will best bear it without disturbing home production, and which are not necessities of life. I have not entered into figures, because to do so would be to repeat what will be laid before you in the report of the secretary of the treasury. The present laws for collecting the revenue pay collectors, shares in salaries, which, at principal ports of entry particularly, raise the communications of these officials to a large sum, and are a great burden on the people. It is at times a work pernicious; it holds out an inducement to dishonest men, should such get possession of those offices, to be lax in their scrutiny of goods entered, to enable them finally to make large seizures. Your attention is respectfully invited to this subject. Continued fraud in the value of gold as compared with the national currency has a most damaging effect upon the increase and development of the country in keeping with the progress of the nation. The national finance. If the question can be met as to how to give a fixed value to our currency, that value constantly and uniformly approaching par with specie, a very desirable object will be gained.

For the operation of the army in the past year has been established in its estimate for the ensuing year, and for continuing sea coast and other improvements connected under the supervision of the war department. I refer you to the accompanying report of the secretary of the war. I call your attention to the wages of the act of Congress, approved March 3, 1869, which discontinues promotions in the staff corps of the army until provided for by law. I recommend that the number of officers in each grade in the staff corps be fixed, and that no one be promoted to a grade above that below the number so fixed, but the vacancy may be filled by promotion from the grade below. I also recommend that when the office of chief of a corps becomes vacant, the place may be filled by selection from the corps in which the vacancy exists. The report of the secretary of the navy shows an improvement in the number and efficiency of the naval force during the past year, and I recommend that the navy be increased in number of men or the expenditure authorized by law. During the past year the navy has, in addition to its regular service, supplied the men and officers for the vessels of the coast survey, and has completed the surveys authorized by Congress of the ledges of Darien and Tehantepet, and under like authority has sent out an expedition completely furnished and equipped, to explore the unknown region of the north. The suggestions of the report of the secretary for increasing and improving the material of the navy, and the plan recommended for reducing the personnel of the service to a peace standard by the gradual abolition of certain grades of officers, the reduction of others, and the employment of some in the service of the commercial marine, are well considered, and deserve the thoughtful attention of Congress. I also recommend that motions in the navy, above the rank of captain, be by selection instead of by seniority.

This course will insure of the higher grades greater efficiency and hold out an incentive to young officers to improve themselves in the knowledge of their profession. The present cost of maintaining the navy, as compared with that of the preceding year, is contained in the accompanying report of the secretary of the navy. The enlarged receipts of the post-office department, as shown by the accompanying report of the postmaster general, exhibits gratifying increase in this branch of the public service. It is the index of the growth of education and of the prosperity of the people; two elements highly conducive to the vigor and stability of republics. With a vast territory like ours, much of it sparsely populated, but all requiring the services of the mail, it is not also recommended that a department can be made self-sustaining, but a gradual approach to this end from year to year is confidently relied on. The day is not far distant when the post-office department of the government will prove a much greater blessing to the whole people than it is now. The suggestions of the postmaster general for improvements in the departments presided over by him, are earnestly recommended to your attention. Especially I recommend favorably the consideration of the plan for uniting the telegraph system of the United States with the postal system. It is believed that by such a course the cost of telegraphing could be much reduced, and the service as well if not better rendered. It would secure the further advantage of extending the telegraph through portions of the country where private enterprise will not construct it.

Commerce, trade, above all the comfort to a people widely distributed into a community of interest, are always benefited by rapid intercommunication. Education, the ground work of republican institutions, is encouraged by increasing the facilities to gather, speedily news from all parts of the country, and to desire to reap the benefit of such improvements will stimulate education. I refer you to the report of the postmaster general for full details of the operation of last year and for comparative statements of

results of former years. There has been imposed upon the executive branch of the government the execution of the act of Congress approved April 20, 1871, and commonly known as the Ku Klux law, in a portion of the state of South Carolina. The necessity of the course pursued will be demonstrated by the report of the committee investigating southern outrages. Under the provisions of the above act I issued a proclamation calling the attention of the people of the United States to the same, declaring my reluctance to exercise any of the extraordinary powers thereby conferred upon me, except in case of imperative necessity, but making known my purpose to exercise such powers whenever it should become necessary to do so, for the purpose of securing to all citizens of the United States the peaceful enjoyment of their rights guaranteed to them by the constitution and the laws. After the passage of this law information was received from time to time that combinations of the character referred to in this law existed and were powerful in many parts of the southern states, particularly in certain counties of the state of South Carolina. Careful investigation was made, and it was ascertained that in nine counties of that state such combinations were active and powerful. Under the local authority of the citizens to control other things, the object of depriving the emancipated class of the substantial benefits of preventing freedom, and of the free political action of these citizens who did not sympathize with their views. Among their operations were frequent scourings and occasional assassinations, generally perpetrated at night by disguised persons, and directed against being citizens of different political sentiments from their own or freed persons had shown a disposition to claim equal rights with other citizens.

Thousands of inefficient and well-disposed citizens were the sufferers by this lawless violence. Therefore, on the 12th of October, 1871, a proclamation was issued in terms of the law, calling upon the members of those combinations to disperse within five days, and to deliver to the marshal or military officers of the United States all arms, ammunition, uniforms, disguises, and other means or implements used by them for carrying out their unlawful purposes. This warning not having been heeded, on the 17th of October another proclamation was issued suspending the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus in nine counties in that State. Directors were given that within the counties so designated persons supposed to be creditable in sentiment as to the rights of freed persons were to be arrested by the military forces of the United States and delivered to the marshal to be dealt with according to law. In two of said counties, York and Spartanburg, many arrests have been made. At the last account the number of persons thus arrested was one hundred and sixty-eight. Several hundred, whose criminality was ascertained to be of an inferior character, were released for their own good. These have generally made confession of their guilt. Great caution has been exercised in making these arrests, and notwithstanding the large number, it is believed that no innocent person is now in custody. The prisoners will be held for regular trial in the judicial tribunals of the United States. As soon as it appeared that the authorities of the United States were about to take vigorous measures to enforce the law, many persons were so terrified as to give up their arms, and there is good reason to suppose that all of such persons who have violated the law. A full report of what has been done under this law will be submitted to Congress by the attorney general.

[With a view to economizing space, we summarize the remaining portion of the message as follows.—Ed.] In Utah a remnant of barbarism repugnant to civilization and to decency and the laws still exists. It is not with the religion of the self-styled saints that we deal, but with their practices. They will not be permitted to violate the laws under the cloak of religion. It may be advisable for Congress to consider what, in the execution of the laws against polygamy, is to be the standard to which the religious objections, and an act might legitimize the children born prior to the time fixed in the act. The Indian policy has resulted favorably, and many tribes have been induced to settle upon reservations. The peace policy is recommended because considered Christian, humane and right. The retention of the public lands for actual settlers is again recommended. Educational interests may well be served by the grant of the proceeds of the sale of the lands to the settlers. Attention is made to the reports of the several heads of departments, and an increase of compensation is recommended for many of said officials. As more than six years have elapsed since the close of the war, it may be considered whether it is not now time that the disabilities imposed by the Fourteenth amendment should be removed. When the purity of the ballot is secured majorities are sure to elect officers who will see the advantage or propriety of excluding men from office merely because they were before the rebellion of character and standing sufficient to be elected to positions requiring them to take oaths to support the constitution, and admitting to eligibility those holding precisely the same views, but not less standing in their communities. It may be said the former had violated an oath while the latter do not have it in their power to do so. If they had taken this oath it cannot be doubted they would have broken it as did the former class. If there are any great criminals distinguished for the part they took against the government, they might, in the judgment of Congress, be excluded from such an amnesty. The condition of the south is not such as all patriotic citizens can desire to see. It will be a happy condition of the country when a liberal number of these states will take an interest in public affairs, and tolerate the same freedom of expression and ballot to those entertaining different political convictions. A liberal appropriation to the District of Columbia to aid local improvements is recommended. The erection of public buildings at Chicago more extensive than those destroyed is urged, and the passage of laws for the further promotion of emigrants is suggested. The administration has sought to secure honest officials, and if any dishonest ones have appeared, it is the fault of the system of making appointments. The civil service reform is indorsed as calculated to secure the best men, and the work of the present commissioners is expected to produce good results.

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News of the Week.

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