

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 affixing 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 Lancetman Intelligence 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 junking funds and disapprovals, 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 Chile, 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 disasters. 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 conclusions 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 librating at any time to the sword a bloody and costly conflict. An example has thus been set which, if successful in its final issue, may be followed by other civilized nations and finally be the means of returning to productive industry millions of men who now maintain to settle the disputes of the nations by the bayonet and the broadsword. I transmit herewith a copy of the treaty alluded to, which was concluded since the adjournment of Congress with her Britannic Majesty, and a copy of protocols of the conference of the commissioners by whom it was negotiated. This treaty provides a method for adjusting the questions pending between the two nations and various questions are to be adjusted by arbitration.

I recommend Congress at an early day to make the necessary provision for the treaty-making power for the reconstruction committee on the part 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 to the joint request of the two powers, to name an arbitrator for the two powers. 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 a commission of eminent and learned jurists 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 matters of a public character, 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 commission 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 navigation 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 law during next summer.

The resumption of diplomatic relations between Germany and Germany has enabled me to give details of 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 consul 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 other powers, as well as with the South American republics. I have given assurances that the friendly feelings of that 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 the Church to the Kingdom of Italy, and the removal of the capital of that kingdom to Rome, 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.

Secretary of the allied South American republics, which has resulted in an armistice, with the understanding that a permanent peace shall be concluded. The intimate friendly relations which have so long existed between the United States and Russia continue undisturbed. The visit of the third son of the Emperor is proof that there is no desire on the part of his government to diminish the cordiality of these relations. The hospitable cordiality which has been given to the grand duke is proof that on our part we share the wishes of that government. The incessant course of the Russian minister at Washington rendered it necessary to ask his recall, and decline to longer receive that functionary as a diplomatic representative. It was impossible with self-respect, or with a just regard to the dignity of the country, to permit Mr. Catazay to continue to hold intercourse with this government official, and his personal abuse of our government, and the manner in which he had treated the ministers of the United States and other powers. In accordance with my wishes this government has been relieved of further intercourse with Mr. Catazay, and the management of the Imperial legation has passed into the hands of a Japanese entirely unobjectionable.

With Japan we continue to maintain intimate relations. The cabinet of Mr. Mikado announced the close of the last session of Congress, selected citizens of the United States to serve in offices of importance in several departments of the government. I have reason to think that the selection is due to an appreciation of the disinterestedness of the policy which the United States has pursued toward Japan. It is our desire to continue this disinterestedness and just policy with China and Japan. The correspondence transmitted herewith shows that there is no disposition on the part of this government to swerve from its established course. Prompted by a desire to put an end to the barbarous treatment of our shipwrecked sailors on the Korean coast, I instructed my minister at Peking to endeavor to conclude a convention with Korea for securing the safety and humane treatment of such mariners. Admiral Rogers was instructed to accept of a claim with sufficient force to protect him in case of need. A small surveying party sent out, on reaching the coast, was treacherously attacked at a disadvantage; ample opportunity was given for explanation and apology for the insult; neither came; and force then landed after an arduous march over a rugged and difficult country. The forts from which the attacks were committed were reduced by our batteries, and the fortifications were destroyed. The honor of the flag, the expedition returned, finding it impossible under the circumstances to conclude the desired convention. I respectfully refer to the correspondence relating thereto herewith submitted, and leave the subject for such action as Congress may see fit to take. The republic of Mexico has not yet repudiated the very objectionable claims established by the "Free Zone" on the frontiers of the United States. It is hoped that this may be done, and also that more stringent measures may be taken by that republic for restraining lawless persons on its frontiers. I hope that Mexico by its own action will soon relieve this government of the difficulties experienced from these causes. Our relations with the various republics of Central and South America continue, with one exception, to be friendly. It is to be regretted that no action has been taken by Congress regarding the overdue installment under the award of the Venezuelan claims of 1865. The present justification for the absence of effort to meet their solemn treaty obligations. The ratification of an extradition treaty with Nicaragua has been exchanged. It is a subject for congratulation that the great empire of the East has taken the timely step toward the abolition of slavery. Our relations with that empire, always cordial, will naturally be made more so by this act. It is not too much to hope that the government of Brazil may hereafter find it for its interest as well as intrinsically right, to advance toward entire emancipation more rapidly than the present act contemplates.

The true prosperity and greatness of a nation is to be found in the elevation and extension of its laboring population. It is to be regretted that the reform in this direction, which were voluntarily promised by the statesmen of Spain, have not been carried out in its West Indies colonies. The laws and regulations for the apparent abolition of slavery in Cuba and Porto Rico leaves most of the laborers in bondage, with no hope of release until their lives become a burden to their employers.

I desire to direct your attention to the fact that the citizens of the United States or persons claiming to be citizens of the United States, are large holders in foreign lands of this species of property forbidden by the fundamental law of their alleged country. I recommend to Congress to provide by stringent legislation a suitable remedy against the holding, owning, or dealing in slaves, or being interested in slave property, or in the purchase, sale, or mortgage by citizens of the United States. It is to be regretted that the disturbed condition of the island of Cuba continues to be a source of annoyance and anxiety. The existence of a protracted struggle in such close proximity to our own territory, without apparent prospect of an early termination, cannot be other than an object of concern to a people, who, while abstaining from interference in the affairs of other powers, naturally desire to see every country in the undisturbed enjoyment of peace, liberty, and the blessings of free institutions. Our naval commanders in Cuban waters have been instructed, in case it should become necessary, to spare no effort to protect the lives and property of bona fide American citizens and to maintain the dignity of the flag. It is hoped that all pending questions with Spain growing out of the affairs in Cuba, may be adjusted in the spirit of peace and conciliation which has hitherto guided the two powers in their treatment of such questions, to give importance, and to add to the efficiency of our diplomatic relations with Japan and China, and to further aid in retaining the good opinion of those people and secure to them their share of the commerce destined to flow between those nations and the balance of the commercial world. I earnestly recommend that an appropriation be made to support at least four American youths in each of those countries, to serve as a part of the official family of our ministers there. Our representatives would not even then be placed upon an equality with the representatives of Great Britain and of other great powers. As our situated our representatives in Japan and China have to depend for interpreters and translators upon natives of those countries who know our language imperfectly, or procure for the occasion the services of employes in foreign business houses or the interpreters to other foreign ministers. I would also recommend liberal measures for the purpose of posting the American lines of steamers now plying between San Francisco and Japan and China, and the Australian line, almost our only remaining lines of ocean steamers, and of increasing their services.

The national debt has been reduced to the extent of \$80,007,122.80 during the year, and by the negotiation of national bonds at a lower rate of interest, the amount has been reduced to \$80,000,000 less than the sum to be raised for the interest account is nearly \$17,000,000 less than on the last of March, 1869. It was highly desirable that this rapid diminution should take 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 manumissions. 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 recommend to be placed on the free list. 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 being citizens of different nations. 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' salaries, shares in salaries, which, at principal ports of entry, particularly, raise the compensation of these officials to a large sum. It is recommended that the salaries of these officers be reduced to a moderate amount at times, work periodically; 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 fluctuations 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 true principle of a gold standard. It is to be regretted that the national finances. 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 estimated at \$11,000,000, the estimates for the ensuing year, and for continuing sea coast and other improvements conducted under the supervision of the war department, I refer you to the accompanying report of the secretary of war. I recommend that the number of officers in each grade in the staff corps, fixed, and that the number of privates in the staff corps be reduced to the number so fixed, and that the vacancy be filled by promotion from the grade below. I also recommend that when the place of chief of a corps becomes vacant, the office 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. The navy is to be increased by the purchase of a new iron-clad frigate, and by continuing sea coast and other improvements conducted under the supervision of the war department. I refer you to the accompanying report of the secretary of the navy. I recommend that the number of officers in each grade in the staff corps, fixed, and that the number of privates in the staff corps be reduced to the number so fixed, and that the vacancy be filled by promotion from the grade below. I also recommend that when the place of chief of a corps becomes vacant, the office 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. The navy is to be increased by the purchase of a new iron-clad frigate, and by continuing sea coast and other improvements conducted under the supervision of the war department. I refer you to the accompanying report of the secretary of the navy.

Utah is 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 by which the views of the different sects and their different opinions, 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 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 according to the views of the majority. I do not 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 excluded from such an amnesty. The condition of the south is not such as all patriotic citizens can desire. It will be a happy condition of the country when a liberal administration 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 protection 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.

U. S. GRANT.

We are told that there is a perfect living Christy now residing in Burke county, three miles east of Morgantown. His name is Henry Mull, and he is twenty years of age, and only two feet and a half high, and weighs nineteen pounds. His parents are poor and respectable people, and they have had frequent offers from exhibition hunters to take this prodigy around, but they sternly refuse. This young man can climb a tree like a squirrel and is just beginning to learn his letters.—Raleigh Carolinian.

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 the outrages. 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 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 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 by the constitution and the laws. 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