

Supplement

SUPPLEMENT

The President's Message.

Belong-Others of the Senate and House of Representatives. Our hearts gratefully...

We are at peace with all other nations. Our public credit has greatly improved, and is perhaps, now stronger than ever before.

The enjoyment of health by our people generally has, however, been interrupted during the past season by the prevalence of a fatal pestilence—the yellow fever—in some portions of the Southern States...

It is to be observed that the principal appropriation made for the department of justice at the last session was the following: "And for defraying the expenses which may be incurred in the enforcement of the act approved February twenty-eighth, sixteen hundred and seventy-one, entitled 'An act to amend an act approved May thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy, entitled 'An act to enforce the rights of citizens of the United States to vote in the several States of the Union, and for other purposes,' or any acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto.'"

I respectfully urge upon your attention that the congressional elections in every district, in a very important sense, are justly a matter of political interest and concern throughout the whole country. Each State, every political party, is entitled to the same power which is conferred by the legal and constitutional suffrage.

The material progress and welfare of the States depend on the protection afforded to their citizens. There can be no peace without such protection, no prosperity without peace, and the whole country is deeply interested in the growth and prosperity of all its parts.

While the country has not yet reached complete unity of feeling and reciprocal confidence between the communities so lately and so seriously estranged, I feel an absolute assurance that the people are in that direction, and with increasing force. The power of public opinion will override all political prejudices, and all sectional and party interests, in demanding that all over wide territory the name and character of citizen of the United States shall mean the same thing and carry with it the same unchallenged security and respect.

Our relations with other countries continue peaceful. Our neutrality in contests between foreign powers has been maintained and respected. The universal exposition held at Paris during the past summer has been attended by large numbers of our citizens. The brief period allowed for the preparation and arrangement of the contributions of our citizens to this great exposition was well employed in energetic and judicious efforts to overcome this disadvantage. These efforts, led and directed by the Commissioner general, were remarkably successful, and the exhibition of the products of American industry was creditable and gratifying in scope and character.

that it is necessary to maintain in the world the monetary functions of silver as well as of gold, leaving the selection of the use of one or the other of these two metals, or of both, to be made by each State.

Congress having appropriated at its last session the sum of \$1,000,000 to pay the award of the joint commission at Halifax, if, after correspondence with the British government, on the subject of the continuity of the award to the requirements of the treaty and to the terms of the question thereby submitted to the commission, the President shall deem it his duty to make the payment, communications upon these points were addressed to the British government through the legation of the United States at London, failing to obtain the concurrence of the British government in the views of this government respecting the award, I have deemed it my duty to tender the sum named, my last message, and to have been accompanied by a notice of the grounds of the payment, and a protest against any other consideration of the same.

OTHER FOREIGN TOPICS. The Spanish government has officially announced the termination of the incursion in Cuba and the restoration of peace throughout that island. Conflicting reports are expressed of a revival of trade and prosperity, which it is earnestly hoped may prove well-founded.

The treaty made with Italy regarding reciprocal consular privileges, has been duly ratified and proclaimed. No questions of grave importance have arisen with any other of the European powers. The Japanese government has been desirous of a revision of such parts of its treaties with foreign powers as relate to commerce, and it is understood, has addressed to each of the treaty powers a request to open negotiations with that view.

After an interval of several years the Chinese government has again sent envoys to the United States. The negotiations have been opened and still continues between the two governments upon the various questions which at one time formed the subject of the treaty. While no formal agreement has been reached as to the troubles on the border, much has been done to repress and prevent further hostilities.

Since the resumption of diplomatic relations with Mexico, correspondence has been opened and still continues between the two governments upon the various questions which at one time formed the subject of the treaty. While no formal agreement has been reached as to the troubles on the border, much has been done to repress and prevent further hostilities.

With Brazil and the republics of Central and South America some steps have been taken toward the development of closer commercial intercourse. Diplomatic relations have been resumed with Colombia and with Bolivia. A boundary question between the Argentine Republic and Paraguay has been submitted by those governments for arbitration to the President of the United States, and I have, after careful examination, given a decision upon it.

operations of that department of the government, and of the condition of the public finances.

The ordinary revenues from all sources for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1878, were \$257,769,879.70; the ordinary expenditures for the same period were \$236,864,326.80—leaving a surplus revenue for the year of \$20,905,552.90.

The receipts for the present fiscal year ending June 30, 1878, actual and estimated, are as follows: Actual receipts for the first quarter commencing July 1, 1878, \$78,569,743.48; estimated receipts for the remaining three quarters of the year, \$191,110,256.87; total receipts for the current fiscal year, actual and estimated, \$269,680,000.35.

The progress made during the last year in retarding the public debt, as shown by the statement of the department, is a gratifying fact. The amount of four per centum bonds sold during the present year prior to November 29, 1878, is \$100,270,900, and six per centum bonds, known as the "forty-twenty," to a equal amount, have been, or will be, redeemed as called for.

Let the healing influence of time, the inherent resources of our people, and the boundless energies of our country, have a fair opportunity, and relief from present difficulties will surely follow.

The report of the secretary of war shows that the army has been well and economically supplied, and that our small force has been actively employed and has faithfully performed all the service required of it. The morale of the army has improved, and the number of desertions has materially decreased during the year.

The report of the secretary of the treasury furnishes a detailed statement of the operations of that department of the government, and of the condition of the public finances.

of soldier-teachers employed in post-schools, and liberal appropriations for the erection of buildings for schools and libraries at the different posts.

The repeal or amendment of the act of June 15, 1878, forbidding the "use of the arms, powder, cartridges, or otherwise for the purpose of executing the laws, except in such cases and under such circumstances as may be expressly authorized by the constitution or by act of Congress."

The passage of a joint resolution of Congress relating to the issue of rations, feed, and clothing, which were made for the relief of sufferers from yellow fever.

The report of the secretary of the navy shows that the navy has improved during the last year. The amount of \$24,000,000 on seventy-five vessels, ten of which have been thoroughly repaired and made ready for sea.

The report of the postmaster-general embraces a detailed statement of the operations of the postoffice department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1878, were \$34,165,048.91. The receipts, including business and office, amount to \$27,716,915.95.

In providing for the postal service the following questions are presented: Should the department be permitted to receive sums of money for its expenses largely in excess of its revenue, or should such rates of postage be established as will make the department self-sustaining?

The business of the supreme court, and of the courts in many of the circuits, has increased to such an extent during the past year that additional legislation is imperative to relieve and prevent the delay of justice, and possible oppression of the people.

present rate of salaries—not more than \$50,000 a year.

The annual reports of the secretary of the interior and of the commissioners of Indian affairs present an elaborate account of the present condition of the Indian tribes, and of that branch of the public service which ministers to their interests.

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The question whether a change in the control of the Indian service should be made, was, at the last session of Congress, referred to a committee for inquiry and report.

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