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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow-citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

In obedience to the command of the Constitution, it has now become my duty to give to the Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommend to you such measures as I judge to be necessary and expedient.

But first, and above all, our thanks are due to Almighty God for the numerous benefits which He has bestowed upon this people; and our united prayers ought to ascend to Him that He would continue to bless our great Republic in time to come as He has blessed it in time past.

Since the adjournment of the last Congress our constituents have enjoyed an unusual degree of health, and our crops have been abundant, and have been fruitfully rewarded the toil of the husbandman.

Our great staples have commanded high prices, and up till within a brief period, our manufacturing, mineral and mechanical occupations have prospered with the greatest prosperity.

We have possessed all the elements of material wealth in rich abundance, and yet, notwithstanding all these advantages, our country, in its monetary interests, is at the present moment in a deplorable condition.

Under these circumstances a loan may be required before the close of your present session; but this, although deeply to be regretted, would prove to be only a slight misfortune when compared with the alternative of a default among the people.

It is our duty to inquire what has produced our unfortunate results, and to endeavor to secure a permanent remedy. In all former vicissitudes, the blame might have fairly attributed to a variety of co-operating causes.

It is this paper system of extravagant expenditures, and the consequent depreciation of the dollar, which has produced our present financial difficulties.

It is in the highest and most responsible duties of Government to insure to the people a sound circulating medium, the amount of which should be adjusted with the wants of internal and foreign exchange.

Unfortunately, under the construction of the Federal Constitution, which has been interpreted to keep in their hands a monopoly of gold and silver to insure the convertibility of their notes into coin at all times, and under all circumstances.

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AMERICAN VOLUNTEER.

BY JOHN B. BRATTON. "OUR COUNTRY—MAY IT ALWAYS BE RIGHT—BUT RIGHT OR WRONG, OUR COUNTRY." AT \$2.00 PER ANNUM. NO. 27. CARLISLE, PA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1857. VOL. 44.

has been the consequence? In a recent report made by the Treasury Department on the condition of the banks throughout the different States, according to returns dated nearest to January, 1857, the aggregate amount of actual specie in their vaults is \$58,349,838.

shall at all times keep on hand at least one dollar of gold and silver for every three dollars of their circulation and deposits; and they will provide by a self-executing enactment, which nothing can arrest, that the moment they suspend they shall go into liquidation.

But this, I say, after long and much reflection: if experience prove it to be impossible to enjoy the facilities which well-regulated banks might afford, without at the same time suffering calamities which the excess of the banks have hitherto inflicted upon the country.

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its original form, we should have been bound to recognize and respect in all future times these stipulations to the prejudice of Honduras.

commerce. The Shah has manifested an entire disposition to cultivate friendly relations with our country, and has expressed a strong wish that we should be represented at Teheran by a minister plenipotentiary; and I recommend that an appropriation be made for this purpose.

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attention of Congress, believing that our duty and our interest, as well as our national character, require that we should adopt such measures as will be effectual in restraining our citizens from committing such offenses.

I regret to inform you that the President of Paraguay has refused to ratify the treaty between the United States and that State as amended by the Senate, the signature of which was mentioned in the message of my predecessor, to Congress, at the opening of his session in December, 1855.

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to continue and to exacerbate the existing agitation during the brief period required to make the Constitution conform to the irresistible will of the majority.

The friends and supporters of the Nebraska and Kansas act, when struggling on a recent occasion to sustain its wise provisions before the grand tribunal of the American people, never differed about its true meaning on this subject.

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