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TERMS.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Non-citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives.

Our deep and heart-felt gratitude is due to Almighty Power which has bestowed upon us such varied and numerous blessings throughout the past year. The general health of the country has been unusually plentiful, and prosperity smiles throughout the land.

When in the progress of events the inhabitants of any Territory shall have reached the number required to form a State, they will proceed in a regular manner, and in the exercise of the rights of popular sovereignty, to form a Constitution preparatory to admission into the Union.

Our history presents in advance of all other nations, a record of the African slave trade. It was, notwithstanding, deemed expedient by the framers of the Constitution to deprive Congress of the power to prohibit the migration or importation of slaves.

It will be seen that this restriction on the power of Congress was confined to such States as should exist on or before the 31st day of January, 1808, prohibiting the importation of African slaves into the United States.

On the 15th December, 1858, John E. Ward, a distinguished Christian and statesman, was appointed as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to China.

On the arrival of Mr. Ward at Peking he requested an audience of the Emperor to present his letter of credence.

It is but simple justice to the Chinese authorities to observe, that, throughout the whole transaction, they appear to have acted in good faith and in a friendly spirit towards the United States.

States, its efficient exercise would have been impossible. In that event any one State could have effectually continued the trade, not only for itself, but for all the other slave States.

These acts of Congress, it is believed, have, with very rare and insignificant exceptions, accomplished their purpose.

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