

Our Washington Letter.

Special to the REPUBLICAN.  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8, '77.  
Everybody appears to find something to commend in the President's first annual message, and something to dissent from. Its merits, as a comprehensive, well-written State document is conceded by all. The followers of Bland and Ewing are mad, and their reserve fund of profanity was never nearer complete exhaustion and total collapse than now, from the almost continuous drafts on it since the President's attitude on the silver and resumption matters became authoritatively known. When the President authorized the denial of the statement imputed to him to the effect that he would veto the bills engineered through the House by those two gentlemen, the conclusion was jumped at that he was really in accord with their purpose and that his influence was assured in their behalf. They had both safely run the gauntlet of the House, the prospect was thought good for their passage by the Senate, and the early adoption of the views embodied in them by the country in its financial policy, was deemed a foregone conclusion. The message came as a thunder-bolt from a cloudless sky. There are signs of an attempt to rally, however. Bland is reported to have said that the adherents of his bill are prepared to force extreme measures, and to have threatened the alternative to the President either to smother his convictions and lead a helping hand or to prepare himself to administer the Government without appropriations.

It is idle to cite intelligent opponents of the "Southern Policy" to the tolerance wrought thereby among Ku Klux Democracy or elsewhere, when not one of the participants in the butchery of the Chisholms has been made to suffer for that shocking barbarity, and when a man, in recognition of his leadership in a crime equally atrocious against political opponents, is forced into a seat in the highest legislative body known to our form of government, by the solid vote of the party representatives, aided by such votes as could be secured from the opposition by alleged corruption or terrorism. Nor will those believing that the continued supremacy of the great political party that fought the war of the Union is still necessary to the perpetuity of free institutions and representative Government, be persuaded into an endorsement of a policy which has reacted so disastrously upon its organization throughout the late insurrectionary States, as to leave it practically dead, with the rifle-club Democracy never more firmly entrenched in the position it vacated. Whatever may be said to the contrary, events in the Senate during the past two weeks must be accepted as indicating the virtual reunion of the Republican party leaders against the further encroachments of exultant, arrogant Democracy under the dictation of the "Solid South."

Polk, the latest successor to the immortal Fitzhugh, appears to have yielded to hallucinations that will prove as fatal to his aspirations as those entertained by the latter gentleman did to his. It is now said that in order to secure his calling and election his promises of official favors were so recklessly given that about forty importunate office-beggars were appointed to positions under him in excess of those provided for by law; and when pay day came around nothing was left to recompense them for their arduous services in keeping forty or more chairs warm in out-of-the-way corners on the House side of the Capitol. They set up an indignant howl of protestation at such treatment. Polk, in his dismay, appealed to his party to vote sufficient money from the public funds to pay each a month's salary, so he could satisfy the demands, discharge and pack them off to the homes they had been induced to leave to serve their country. Such a resolution is said to have been prepared, and an effort will be made to pass it. There is not the slightest warrant in law for this contemplated raid on the Treasury, and it can be regarded as nothing but a flagrant piece of robbery, to require a "Reform" Democrat of obligationally contracted to secure his

own preferment. His fate is probably sealed, whatever course it may be decided to adopt towards his victims of misplaced confidence.

Out of the 1800 bills introduced at the Extra Session, all passed except 1798. That is, at a session rendered necessary by Democratic hate and malice towards the Army and Navy, continued seven weeks, at a cost of many thousands to the taxpayer, just two bills, which should have been passed last winter, were worried through. It is not very easy to see where the economy comes in.

The stamped of the Sioux Indians in process of removal from their reservation to the Missouri, is regarded at the War Department and at the Indian Office as ominous of another Indian war.

The visit of General Ord and other officers from the Rio Grande to give their views of the prospects there, has been followed by orders for reinforcing our Army in that quarter; and the General's views, as he is reported to have expressed them, leads to the conviction that the complications on our Southern border may easily lead to overt acts of war at any moment.

The proceedings of Congress since the opening of the regular session have been devoid of public interest. All are awaiting a renewal of the struggle transferred to this session, and which it is believed is inevitable.

Peterson's Magazine for January is the most superb number ever issued of that popular lady's book. There are two steel engravings, "Cupid in the Rain," and "Borrowed Plumes." Besides these, there is a double-size Paris fashion plate, elegantly colored, a picture in itself; and also two very beautiful colored patterns for working ornamental table cloths in crevel. In all there are about fifty engravings in the number. The stories are all original, and by the best authors. With this number appears, as a supplement, a full-size diagram pattern for a Coat-Bodice for a lady, the last thing in fashion. This alone is worth the price of the number. The price is astonishingly low, viz: two dollars a copy for one year, postage paid. Ten clubs it is lower still, viz: five copies for \$8.00, or seven for \$10.50, with an extra copy for getting up the club, all postage free. Specimens are sent gratis, to get up clubs. Address Chas. J. Peterson, 306 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

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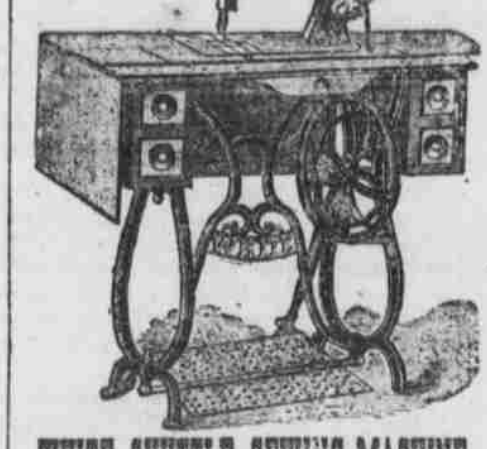
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Table with columns: Station, Northward, and Southward. Lists stations like Pittsburgh, Titusville & Buffalo, and train times.

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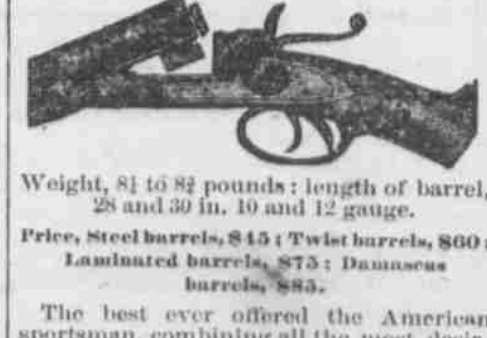


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