

STAR OF THE NORTH.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives: When we compare the condition of the country at the present day with what it was...

The Supreme Court of the United States had previously decided, that all American citizens have an equal right to take into the Territories...

It was not a well-estimated position, and the proceedings of the last session were alone wanting to give it practical effect...

Whilst such has been the beneficial tendency of your legislative proceedings under the present form of government...

The past unfortunate experience of Kansas has enforced the lesson so often already taught...

It was resistance to rightful authority and the persevering attempts to establish a revolutionary government...

The convention, notwithstanding, proceeded to adopt a constitution unexceptionable in its general features...

A wisest and better spirit seemed to prevail before the first Monday of January last, when an election was held...

Under these circumstances, I submitted to Congress the constitution proposed, with all the officers already elected...

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a majority of the voters, and popular sovereignty would thus have been vindicated in a constitutional manner.

With my other convictions of duty, I could have pursued no other course. It is true, that, as an individual, I had expressed an opinion, both before and during the session of the convention...

It would have been in opposition to many precedents in our history, commencing with the very best age of the republic...

My recommendation, however, for the immediate adoption of Kansas, failed to meet the approval of the majority...

But justice to the people of the several States requires that this rule should be established by Congress.

It is not probable, in the present state of the question of admitting Kansas into the Union...

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and rendered applicable to all Territories which may hereafter seek admission into the Union.

When Congress possess the undoubted power of admitting a new State into the Union, however small may be the number of its inhabitants...

It is not probable, in the present state of the question of admitting Kansas into the Union, that a third constitution can be lawfully framed...

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ally obeyed. On the 4th October, 1857, the Mormons captured and burned on Green River, three small boats...

Our little army behaved admirably in their encampment at Fort Bridger, under the leadership of General Johnston...

The Secretary of War employed all his energies to forward them the necessary supplies, and to muster and send such a military force to Utah by the event...

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The wisdom and economy of sending such reinforcements to Utah are established by the facts...

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severe chastisement which had then but recently been inflicted upon the Chinese by our squadron, in the capture and destruction of the Barrier forts...

The event has proved the wisdom of our neutrality. Our minister has executed his instructions with eminent skill and ability.

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With Spain our relations remain in an unsatisfactory condition. In my message of December last, I informed you that our envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Madrid had asked for his recall...

The mission to Spain has been intrusted to a distinguished citizen of Kentucky, who will proceed to Madrid without delay...

Spanish officials, under the direct control of the captain-general of Cuba, have insulted our national flag, and, in repeated instances have from time to time inflicted injuries on the persons and property of our citizens...

Even what has been denominated "the Cuban claims," in which more than a hundred of our citizens are directly interested, are not an exception...

Our position in relation to the independent States south of us on this continent, and especially those within the limits of North America, is of a peculiar character.

Mexico has been in a state of constant revolution, almost ever since it achieved its independence. One military leader after another has usurped the government...

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of a distant foreign power, this trade of vital importance to these States, is exposed to the danger of being destroyed in time of war...

Whilst the possession of the Island would be of a vast importance to the U. States, its value to Spain is, comparatively, unimportant. Such was the relative situation of the parties, when the great Napoleon transferred Louisiana to the United States...

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