

and have otherwise been treated by the authorities in an insulting and arbitrary manner, which requires redress.

A demand for these purposes will be made in a firm but conciliatory spirit. It will be more probably granted by the Executive than by the Legislature. This is accordingly recommended.

THE KANSAS QUESTION.

It is unnecessary to state in detail the alarming condition of the Territory of Kansas at the time of my inauguration. The first Monday of September in hostile array against each other, and any accident might have relighted the flames of civil war.

On the 19th February previous, the territorial legislature had passed a law providing for the election of delegates on the third Monday of September to a convention to be held on the first Monday of January for the purpose of framing a constitution preparatory to admission into the Union.

At the time of the election for delegates, an extensive organization existed in the Territory, whose avowed object was, if elected, to put down the lawful government by force, and to establish a government of their own under the so-called Topeka constitution. The persons attached to this revolutionary organization obtained from taking any part in the election.

The act of the territorial legislature had omitted to provide for submitting to the people the constitution which might be framed by that convention; and in the excited state of public feeling throughout Kansas, an apprehension was entertained that the design existed for forcing upon them a constitution in relation to slavery against their will. In this emergency it became my duty, as it was my unexpressed duty, to call upon the territorial laws to express an opinion on the true construction of the provisions concerning slavery contained in the organic act of Congress of May 1854.

Had Congress intended to legislate slavery into any Territory or State, not to exclude it therefrom, but to leave the people thereof perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way, it would have said so in plain words. Under the Kansas act, as admitted to a State, was to be received into the Union, with or without slavery, as their constitution may prescribe at the time of their admission.

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retrace his steps the Territory of Utah will be in a state of open rebellion. He has committed the acts of hostility, notwithstanding Major Van Vleet, an officer of the army, sent to Utah by the commanding general to purchase provisions for the troops, had given him the strongest assurances of the peaceful intentions of the government, and that the troops would only be employed as a posse comitatus when called on by the civil authority to aid in the execution of the law.

There is reason to believe that Gov. Young has long contemplated this result. He knows that the continuance of his despotic power depends upon the exclusion of all settlers from the Territory except those who will acknowledge his divine mission and implicitly obey on their own souls prostrate institutions at war with the laws both of God and man.

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of July was \$8,895,232 39, leaving a balance unexpended at this time of \$2,165,454 54. The amount of estimated expenditures for the remaining three-quarters of the present fiscal year will, in all probability, be increased from the causes set forth in the report of the Secretary. His suggestion, a temporary deficiency should be given to supply any temporary deficiency by the issue of a limited amount of treasury notes, is approved, and accordingly recommend the passage of such a law.

As stated in the report of the Secretary, the tariff of March 3, 1857, has been in operation for so short a period of time, and under circumstances so unfavorable to a just development of its results as a revenue measure, that I should regard it as inexpedient at least for the present to undertake its revision.

The President recommends an increase in the Army and Navy, viz: the raising of four additional regiments, and the construction of ten war steamers, the whole cost of the vessels to be about \$2,300,000.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior is worthy of great consideration. It treats of the numerous, important, and diversified branches of domestic administration intrusted to him by law. Among these the most prominent are the public lands and our relations with the Indians.

Our system for the disposal of the public lands, originating with the fathers of the republic, has been improved as experience pointed the way, and gradually adapted to the growth and settlement of our western States and Territories. It has worked well in practice. Already thirteen States and seven Territories have been carved out of these lands, and still more than a thousand millions of acres remain unappropriated.

Whist the public lands as a source of revenue are of great importance, their importance is far greater as furnishing a means for a hardy and independent race of honest and industrious citizens, who desire to subdue and cultivate the soil. They ought to be administered mainly with a view of promoting this wise and benevolent policy.

The extension of our limits has brought within our jurisdiction many additional and populous tribes of Indians, a large proportion of which are wild, untractable, and difficult to control. Predatory and warlike in their disposition and habits, it is impossible altogether to restrain them from committing aggressions on each other, as well as on our frontier citizens and those emigrating to our distant States and Territories. Hence expensive military expeditions are frequently necessary to overawe and chastise the more lawless and hostile.

The present system of making them valuable presents to influence them to remain at home, is not only impracticable, but is believed to be the better policy to colonize them in suitable localities, where they can receive the rudiments of education and be gradually induced to adopt habits of industry.

The whole of the Territory of Utah, our territorial limits is believed to be, from the best data in the Interior Department, about 325,000. The tribes of Cheerokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, and Creeks, settled in the territory set apart for their west of Arkansas, are rapidly advancing in education and in all the arts of civilized life.

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both in public and private expenditures. An overflowing treasury has led to habits of prodigality and extravagance in our legislation. It has induced Congress to make large appropriations to objects for which they never intended the amount of revenue required to meet them by increased taxation or by loans. We are now compelled to pause in our career, and to scrutinize our expenditures with the utmost vigilance; and in performing this duty, I pledge my co-operation to the extent of my constitutional competency.

It ought to be observed at the same time, that true public economy does not consist in withholding the means necessary to accomplish important national objects intrusted to us by the constitution, and especially such as may be necessary for the common defence. In the present crisis of the country it is our duty to confine our appropriations to objects of this character, unless in cases where justice to individuals may demand a different course.

In all cases care ought to be taken that the money granted by Congress shall be faithfully and economically applied. The President disclaims the passage of appropriation bills at the heels of the session, and says he will approve no bill which he has not thoroughly examined.

I cannot conclude without commending to your favorable consideration the interests of the people of this district. Without a representative on the floor of Congress, they have for this very reason peculiar claims upon our regard. To this I know, from my long acquaintance with them, they are eminently entitled. JAMES DOUGLASS.

Washington, December 8, 1857.

RAFTSMAN'S JOURNAL.

S. R. BOW, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR. CLEARFIELD, PA., DEC. 10, 1857.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The message of Mr. Buchanan is a long affair, and occupies much of our paper. The President recommends a government loan, squints a little at low wages, is down on State banks, attributes our financial embarrassments to an "extravagant and vicious system of paper currency and bank credits," recommends the passage of a bankrupt law applicable to banking institutions, and the issue of treasury notes, which, in our humble opinion, only a new name under which to issue shin-plasters, and may, perhaps, in some respects be considered a hard currency.

Mr. Douglas, to prevent wrong impressions, asked Mr. Bigler whether he meant to be understood as saying he, in his own house or elsewhere, had expressed himself in favor of the Constitution without being suborned to the people. Mr. Bigler—I made no such allegation. Mr. Douglas—You left it to be inferred. I did not allow it to be inferred that I so declared in my own house. If I did not, acquit me of it.

Mr. Bigler—I repeat I have no recollection of the Senator participating in the discussion. Mr. Douglas—If I had nothing to do with it, I don't know what my house had to do with it. Mr. Bigler—What I said was truth, and that only. What I said is on record.

AVERT TRAGEDY.—We learn of an attempt at murder and suicide, which took place on Tuesday the 1st Dec., at Underdello, Livingston Co., Michigan, the parties being recently residents of this place. It appears that Charles Southwick, formerly employed as a carriage trimmer here, conceived an attachment for a Miss Laura Evans, also a recent resident in this place. The lady did not reciprocate the feeling, and removed not long since, with her father to Michigan. Thither it would seem Southwick followed her with some bad intent. He there renewed to her solicitations, and was rejected. By some means he gained access to her bed-room on the night above stated and with a razor cut her throat. She escaped from the room to that of her father, gave the alarm, and on search being made Southwick was found lying in her room, having attempted to commit suicide by cutting his own throat. At the latest accounts both were alive but lying in a very critical situation. Southwick, it was thought would recover, and was about being removed to the county jail.—Madenville Journal.

MISS EVANS IS A DAUGHTER OF SAMUEL EVANS, who kept the Mansion House in Clearfield Borough in 1856, and is well known here.

REMOVAL OF SEC. STANTON.—On last Wednesday, President Buchanan sent into the U. S. Senate the nomination of Gen. J. W. Denver, as the successor of Mr. Stanton, the present acting Governor of Kansas, who has been removed in consequence of his having called a special session of the Kansas Legislature, which is viewed as a violation of the instructions given him and Gov. Walker. Mr. Denver's nomination has been confirmed by the Senate. This effort to thwart the action of the territorial legislature against the Lecompton constitutional movement, will however, we think, fail, as the Legislature was to have assembled on the 7th inst.

A dispatch to the N. Y. Tribune from Washington, under date of Dec. 11, says:—The breach between Senator Douglas and the South is hourly widening. There is much violent talk against him, even to the extent of threatening to lynch him, or at least to tar and feather him. These menaces are of course idle, and will come to nothing, but they indicate the depth of the blow he has dealt the Slave Power. The same paper says it is "assured that he will triumph in his present policy and bring Old Buck to his marrow-bones. If so, we entreat him not to turn the President out of the party. Let magnanimity be reciprocated."

Late advices from Mexico represent that the position of the Government had improved, the forces of the opposition having been routed, and Comonfort formally installed. Campaigns were still besieged, and the inhabitants were in great want of provisions.