Democrat and Sentinel.

THE BLESSINGS OF GOVERNMENT, LIKE THE DEWS OF HEAVEN, SHOULD BE DISTRIBUTED ALIKE, UPON THE HIGH AND THE LOW, THE RICH AND THE POOR.

EW SERIES. EBENSBURG, PA. WEDNESDAY, DEC. 11, 1861. VOL. 9--NO. 1.

RESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

...e citizens of the Senate and House of ...resentatives.

...he midst of unprecedented political ..., we have cause of great gratitude ... for unusual ... and abund... ...ons. You will not be surprised ... learn that in the peculiar exigencies of the times our intercourse with foreign nations has been attended with profound solicitude, chiefly turning upon our own domestic affairs. A disloyal portion of the American people have during the whole year been engaged in an attempt to divide and destroy the Union. A nation which cultivates factious domestic divisions is exposed to disrespect abroad, and one party, if not both, is sure sooner or latter to invoke foreign intervention. Nations thus tempted to interfere are not always able to resist the counsels of seeming expediency and ungenerous ambition, although measures adopted under such influences seldom fail to be unfortunate and injurious to those adopting them.

The disloyal citizens of the United States, who have offered the ruin of our country in return for the aid and comfort which they have invoked abroad, have received no patronage and encouragement than we expected. If it were just to suppose, the insurgents have seemed to assume, if foreign nations, in this case, discard all moral, social and treaty obligations, acting solely and selfishly for the most part restoration of commerce, including incidentally the acquisition of cotton, these have appear, as yet, to have seen their way the object more directly or clearly through obstruction than the preservation of the use. It we would dare to believe that these nations were actuated by a higher principle than this I am quite sure [illegible] be made to show them they can reach their aim more swiftly and easy by aiding to crush this rebellion than by giving encouragement to it. The principal lever relied on by the insurgents for exciting foreign nations to hostility against us, as already intimated, is the embarrassment of commerce. These nations, however, not improbably, saw from the fact that it was the union which made as well our foreign as our domestic commerce. They can scarcely have failed to perceive that the effort for disunion produces the existing difficulty, and that one strong nation promises more durable peace and more extensive, valuable and reliable commerce than can two or more nations broken into hostile fragments. It is not my purpose to review our discussions with foreign states, whatever might be their wishes or disposition, the integrity of our country and the stability of Government mainly depend, not upon them, but on the loyalty, virtue, patriotism and intelligence of the American people. The correspondence itself with the exceptional reservations is herewith submitted. I venture to hope that it will appear that we have practiced prudence towards foreign powers, averting causes of irritation, and with firmness maintaining our own right and honor. Since, however it is apparent that here as in every other state, foreign dangers necessarily attend domestic difficulties I recommend that adequate and ample measures be adopted for maintaining the public defenses on every side. While under this general recommendation provision for defending our sea coast line already occurs to the mind, I also, in the same connection ask the attention of Congress to our great lakes and rivers.—It is believed that some fortifications and armaments and munitions, with harbor and navigation improvements, all at well selected points upon these, would be of great importance to the national defence and preservation.

I ask the attention to the views of the Secretary of War expressed in his report upon the same general subject. I deem it of importance that the loyal regions of East Tennessee and Western North Carolina should be connected with Kentucky and other faithful parts of the Union by railroad. I therefore recommend, as a military measure, that Congress provide for the construction of such a road as speedily as possible. Kentucky will no doubt co-operate and though her Legislature make the most judicious selection of a line. The Northern terminus must connect with some existing railroad, and whether the route shall be from Lexington to Nicholasville to the Cumberland Gap, or from Lebanon to the Tennessee line in the direction of Knoxville, or on some still different line, can be easily determined. Kentucky and the general government co-operating, the work can be completed in a very short time, and when done it will not only be of a vast present of usefulness, but a most valuable permanent [illegible] to the cause in all the temporary future.

Some treaties, designed chiefly for the interests of commerce, and having no grave political importance, have been negotiated and will be submitted to the Senate for their consideration. Although we have failed to induce some of the commercial Powers to adopt desirable melioration of the rigor of maratime war, we have removed all obstructions from the way of this humane reform, except such as are merely of and accidental occurrence.

I invite your attention to the correspondence between her Britanic Majesty's Minister, accredited to this Government, and the Secretary of State, relative to the detention of the British ship *Perthshire*, in June by last the United States steamer Massachusetts, for a supposed breach of the blockade. As this detention was occasioned by an obvious misapprehension of the facts, and as justice requires that we should commit no belligerent act not founded on strict right, as sanctioned by public law, I recommend that an appropriation be made to satisfy the reasonable demand of the owners of the vessel for her detention.

I repeat the recommendation of my predecessor in his annual message to Congress in December last, in regard to the disposition of the surplus which will probably remain after satisfying the claims of American citizens against China pursuant to the awards of the Commissioners, under the Act of the 3d of March, 1859. If, however, it should not be deemed advisable to carry that recommendation into effect, I would suggest that authority be given for [illegible] the principal over the proceeds of the surplus referred to, in good securities, with a view to satisfaction of such other just claims of our citizens against China as are not unlikely to arise hereafter in the course of our extensive trade with that Empire.

By the Act of the 5th of August last, Congress authorized the President to instruct the commanders of suitable vessels to defend themselves against and to capture pirates. This authority has been exercised in a single instance only. For the more effectual protection of our extensive and valuable commerce, in the Eastern seas especially, it seems to me that it would also be advisable to authorize the commanders of sailing vessels to recapture any prizes which pirates may make of United States vessels and their cargoes, and the Consular Courts now established by law in Eastern countries to adjudicate the cases in event that this should not be objected to by the local authorities.

If any good reason exists why we should persevere longer in withholding our recognition of the independence and sovereignity of of Hayti and Liberia, I am unwilling to discern it—unwilling, however, to inaugurate a novel policy in regard to them without the approbation of Congress.

I submit, for your consideration, the expediency of an appropriation for mantaining a charge de affairs near each of those new States. It does not admit of doubt that important commercial advantages might be secured by favorable treaties with them.

The operations of the Treasury during the period which has elapsed since your adjournment have been conducted with signal success. The patriotism of the people has placed at the disposal of the government the large means demanded by the public exigencies. Much of the National Loan has been taken by citizens of the industrial classes, whose confidence in their country's faith and zeal for their country's deliverance from present peril have induced them to contribute to the support of the government the whole of their limited aquisitions. This fact imposes peculiar obligations to economy in disbursement and energy in action.

The revenue from all sources for the financial year ending on the 30th of June, 1861, was eighty six millions eight hundred and thirty five thousand nine hundred dollars and twenty seven cents, and the expenditures for the same period, including payments on account of the public debt, were eighty four million five hundred and seventy eight thousand eight hundred and thirty four dollars and forty seven cents, leaving a balance in the treasury on the first of July, of two million two hundred and fifty seven thousand and sixty five dollars and eighty cents. For the first quarter of the financial year, ending on the 30th of September, 1861, the receipts from all sources, including the balance of 1st of July, were one hundred and two million five hundred and nine dollars and twenty seven cents, and the expenses ninety eight million two hundred and thirty nine thousand seven hundred and thirty three dollars and nine cents, leaving a balance on the first of October, 1861, of four million two hundred and ninety two thousand seven hundred and seventy six dollars and eighteen cents.

Estimates for the remaining three quarters of the year, and for the financial year 1863, together with his views of ways and means for meeting the demands contemplated by them, will be submitted to Congress by the secretary of the Treasury. It is gratifying to know that the expenditures made necessary by the rebellion are not beyond the resources of the loyal people, and to believe that the same patriotism which has thus far sustained the Government will continue to sustain it till peace and union shall again bless the land.

I respectfully refer to the report of the Secretary of War for information respecting the numerical strength of the army, and for recommendations having in view an increase of its efficiency and the well being of the various branches of the service entrusted to his care.

It is gratifying to know that the patriotism of the people has proved equal to the occasion, and that the number of troops tendered, greatly increase the force which Congress authorized me to call into the field. I refer with pleasure to these portions of his report which make allusion to the credible degree of discipline already attained by our troops, and to the excellent sanitary condition of the entire army. The recommendation of the Secretary for an organization of the militia upon a uniform basis is a subject of vital importance to the future safety of the country and is commended to the serious attention of Congress. The large addition to the regular army, in connection with the defection that has so considerably diminished the number of its officers, gives peculiar importance to his recommendation for increasing the corps of cadets to the greatest capasity of the military academy. By mere omission, I presume, Congress has failed to provide chaplains for hospitals occupied by volunteers. This subject was brought to my notice and I was induced to draw up the form of a letter, one copy of which, properly addressed, has been delivered to each of the persons, and at the dates respectively named, and stated in a schedule containing also the form of the letter marked A, and herewith transmitted.—These gentlemen I understand, entered upon the duties designated at the times respectively stated in the schedule, and have labored faithfully therein ever since, and therefore recommend that they be compensated at the same rates as the chaplains in the army, and further suggest that the general provision be made for chaplains to serve at hospitals as well as with regiments.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy presents in detail the operations of that branch of the service, the activity and energy which have characterised its administration, and the results of measures to increase its efficiency and power. Such have been the additions, by construction and purchase, that it may be almost said a navy has been created and brought into service since our difficulties commenced. Besides blockading our extensive coast, squadrons larger than ever before assembled under our flag have been put afloat, and performed deeds which have increased our naval renown.

I would invite special attention to the recommendation of the Secretary for a more perfect organization of the navy, by introducing additional grades in the service. The present organization is defective, and the suggestions submitted by the department will, it is believed, if adopted, obviate the difficulties alluded to; to promote harmony, and increase the efficiency of the navy.

There are three vacancies on the bench of the Supreme Court, two by the decease of Justices Danies and McLean and one by the resignation of Justice Campbell. I so far forborne making nominations to fill these vacancies, for reasons which I will now state. Two of the outgoing Judges resided within the States now overrun by revolt, so that if successors were appointed in the same localities they could not now serve in their circuits, and many of the most competent men there probably would not take the personal hazard of accepting to serve [illegible] here upon the Supreme Bench. I have been unwilling to throw all the appointments Northward, thus disabling myself from doing justice to the South on return of peace, although I may remark, that to transfer to the Bench [illegible] who has heretofore been in the South, would not, with reference to territory and population, be unjust. During the long and brilliant judicial career of Judge McLean, his circuit grew into an empire, although too large for any one Judge to give the courts therein more than a nominal attendance, arising in population from one million four hundred and seventy thousand and eighteen in 1830 to six millions one hundred and fifty one thousand four hundred and five in 1860. Besides this the country generally has outgrown our present judiciary.

If uniformity was at all intended, the system requires that all States shall be accommodated with Circuit Courts, attended by Supreme Judges; while, in fact, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Florida, Texas, California and Oregon have never had any such Courts. Nor can this be well remedied without a change of the system, because the adding of Judges to the Supreme Court, enough for the accommodation of all parts of the country with Circuit Courts, would create a Court altogether too numerous for a judicial body of any sort—and the evil of it be one which will increase as new States come into the Union. Circuit Courts, too are useful or they are not useful. If useful, no state should be denied them. Let them be provided for all, abolished as to all. Three modifications occur to me, either of which, I think, would be an improvement upon our present system: Let the Supreme Court be of a convenient size, the Supreme Judges to serve in a number of them corresponding to their own number, and independent Circuit Judges be provided for all the rest, or secondly, let the Supreme Judges be relieved from Circuit duties, and Circuit Judges provided for all the Circuits; or, thirdly, dispense with Circuit Courts altogether, leaving the judicial function wholly to the District Courts and an independent Supreme Courts.

I respectfully recommend to the consideration of Congress the present condition of the statute laws, with the hope that Congress will be able to find an easy remedy for many of the inconveniences and evils which constantly embarrass those engagede in the pratical administration of them. Since the organization of the Government Congress has enacted some five thousand acts and joint resolutions, which fill more than six thousand closely printed pages, and are scattered through many volumes. Many of these acts have been drawn in and without sufficient caution, so that their provisions are often obscure in themselves or in conflict with each other, or at least so doubtful as to render it very difficult for even the best informed person to ascertain precisely what the statute law really is. It seems to me very important that the statute laws should be made as plain and intelligable as possible, and to be reduced to as small a compass as may consist with the fullness and precision of the will of the Legislature, and the perspecuity of its language. This, well done, would, I think, greatly facilitate the labor of those whose duty it is to assist in the administration of the laws, and would be a lasting benefit to the people by placing before them in a more accessible and intelligible form the laws which so deeply concern their interest and their duties. I am informed by some whose opinions I respect that all the Acts of Congress now in force, and of a permanent and general nature, might be revised and rewritten so as to be embraced in one volume or at least two volumes of ordinary and convenient size, and respectfully recommend to Congress to consider the subject, and if my suggestion be approved, to devise such plans as to their wisdom shall seem most proper for the attainment of the end proposed. One of the unavoidable consequences of the present insurrection is the entire suppression in many places of all ordinary means of administering civil justice by the officers and in the forms of existing law; this is the case in whole or in part all in all the insurgent States, and as our armies advance upon and take possession of parts of those States, the practical evil becomes more apparent. There are no courts nor officers to whom the citizens of other States may apply for the enforcement of their lawful claims against the citizens of the insurgent States, and there is a vast amount of debt constituting such claims some have estimated it as high as two hundred million dollars due in a large part from insurgents in open rebellion to loyal citizens who are even now making great sacrifice in discharge of their patriotic duty to support the government. Under these circumstances I have been solicited to establish by military power courts to administer summary justice in such cases. I have thus far declined to do it, not because I had any doubt that the end proposed, the collection of the debts, was just and right in itself, but because I have been unwilling to go beyond the pressure of necessity in the unusual excercise of powers; but the the powers of Congress, I suppose, are equal to the anomalus occasion, and therefore I refer the whole matter to Congress, with a hope that a plan may be devised for the administration of justice in all such parts of the insurgent states and territories as may be under the control of this government, whether by a voluntary of allgiance and order, or by the power of our arms. This, however, not to be a permanent institution, but a temporary substitute, and to cease as soon as the ordinary courts can be re-established in peace. It is important that some more convenient means be provided, if possible, for adjustment of claims against the government, especially in view of the increased number by reason of the war. It is as much the duty of the government to render prompt justice against itself in favor of citizens as it is to administer the same between private individuals. The investigation and adjudication of claims in their nature belong to the judicial department; besides it is apparent that the attention of Congress will be more than usually engaged for some time to come with the great National questions. It was intended by the organization of the Court of Claims mainly to remove this branch of business from the halls of Congress, but while the Court has proved to be an effective and valuable means of investigation, it in a great degree fails to effect the object of its creation, for want of power to make its lungements final. Fully aware of the delicacy, not to say the danger of the subject, I commend to your careful consideration, whether this power of making judgments final may not properly be given to the court, reserving the right of appeal on questions of law to the Supreme Court, with such other provisions as experience may have shown to be necessary.

I ask attention to the report of the Postmaster General, the following being a summary statement of the condition of the Department. The revenue from all sources, during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1861, including the annual permanent appropriation of seven hundred thousand dollars for the transportation of free mail matter, was nine million forty nine thousand two hundred and ninety six dollars and forty cents, being about two per cent less than the revenue of 1860. In the same time the expenditures were thirteen million six hundred and six thousand seven hundred and fifty nine dollars and eleven cents, showing a decrease of more than eight per cent, as compared with those of a previous year, and leaving an excess of expenditures over the revenue for the last fiscal year of four million five hundred and fifty seven thousand four hundred and sixty two dollars and seventy one cents. The gross revenue for the year ending June 30th 1863, is estimated at an increase of four per cent, on that of 1861, making six million six hundred and eighty three thousand dollars, to which should be added the earning of the department in carrying free matter, viz: seven hundred thousand dollars, making nine million three hundred and eighty three thousand dollars. The total expenditures for 1863 are estimated at twelve million five hundred and twenty eight thousand dollars, leaving an estimated deficiency of three million one hundred and forty five thousand dollars, to be supplied from the Treasury in addition to the permanent appropriation. The present insurrection shows, I think, that the extension of this District across the the Potomac river at the time of establishing the Capitol here was eminently wise, and consequently the relinquishment of that of that portion of it which lies within the State of Virginia was unwise and dangerous. I submit for your consideration the expediency of reqtiding that part of the District and the restoration of the original boundaries thereof, through negotiations with the State of Virginia.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior, with the accompanying documents, exhibits the condition of the several branches of the public business pertaining to the Department. The depressing influences of the insurrection have been especially felt in the Patent and Land Offices. The cash receipts from the sale of public lands during the past year have exceeded the expences of the land system only about two hundred thousand dollars. The sales have been entirely suspended in the Southern States, while interruptions to the business of the country, and the diversion of large numbers of men from labor to military service have obstructed settlements in the new States and Territories of the Northwest.

The receipts of the Patent Office have declined in nine months, about one hundred thousand dollars, rendering a large reduction of the force employed necessary to make itself sustaining. The demand upon the Pension Office will be largely increased by the insurrection. Numerous applications for pensions, based upon the casualties of the existing war have already been made. There is reason to believe that many who are now upon the pension rolls and in receipt of the bounty of the Government are in the ranks of the insurgent army, or giving them aid and comfort. The Secretary of the Interior has directed a suspension of the payment of the pensions of such persons upon proof of their disloyality. I recommend that Congress authorise that officer to cause the names of such persons to be stricken from the pension rolls. The relations of the Government with the Indian tribes have been generally disturbed by the insurrection, especially in the Southern superintendency and in that of New Mexico. The Indian country South of Kansas is in the possession of insurgents from Texas and Arkansas. Agents of the United States, appointed since the 4th of March for this superintendency, have been unable to reach their posts, while the most of those who were in office before that time have exposed the insurrectionary cause and assume to exercise the power of agents, by virtue of commissions from the insurgents. It has been stated in the public press that a portion of these Indians have been organized as a military force, and are attached to the army of the insurgents. Although the government has no official information upon this subject, letters have been written to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, by several prominent chiefs, giving assurance of their loyality to the United States, and expressing a wish for the presence of Federal troops to protect them. It is believed that upon the repossession of the country by Federal troops, the Indians will cease all hostile demonstrations and resume their former relations to the government.

Agriculture, confessedly the largest interest of the nation, has not a department nor a bureau but a clerkship assigned to it by the government. While it is fortunate that this great interest is so independent in its nature as to not have demanded and extorted more from the government, I respectfully ask Congress to consider whether something more cannot be given voluntarily with general advantage.

Annual reports exhibiting the condition of our Agriculture, commerce and manufactures would present a fund of information of great practical value to the country.—While I make no sugerstion as to details, I venture the opinion that the agricultural and statistical bureau might profitably be organized. The execution of the laws for the suppression of the African slave trade has been confined to the Department of the Interior. It is a subject of gratuation that the efforts which have been made for the suppression of this inhuman traffic have been attended with unusual success. Five vessels being fitted out for the slave trade have been seized and condemned. Two mates of the vessels engaged in the trade, and one person engaged in equipping a vessel as a slaver have been convicted and subjected to the penalty of fine and imprisonment, and one captain taken with a cargo of Africans on board his vessel has been convicted of the highest grade of offence under our laws, the punishment of which is death. The Territories of Colorado, Dakotah and Nevada, created by the last Congress have been organized, and civil administration has been inaugurated therein, under auspices especially gratifying, when it is considered that the leaven of treason was found existing in some of these new countries when the Federal officers arrived there. The abundant natural resources of these territories, with the security and protection afforded by organized government, will doubtless invite to them a large immigration when peace shall restore the business of the country to its accustomed channels.

(CONTINUED ON FOURTH PAGE.)