

# 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.

NEW SERIES.

EBENSBURG, PA. WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10, 1862.

VOL. 10--NO. 1.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Message of the President to the Senate and House of Representatives.

At the last annual assembling another year has passed, and while it has not pleased the people with a return of peace, it has given us, in its own way, and in its own time, a new and wise way, all will yet be made manifest.

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against the sending of such colonies to their respective territories. Under these circumstances, I have declined to move any such colony to any state, without first obtaining the consent of its government, with an agreement on its part to receive and protect such emigrants in all the rights of freemen; and I have at the same time, offered to the several states situated within the tropics, or having colonies there, to negotiate with them subject to the advice and consent of the Senate, to favor the voluntary emigration of persons of color to their respective territories, upon conditions which shall be equal, just and humane. Liberia and Hayti are, as yet, the only countries to which colonies of African descent from here, could go with certainty of being received and adopted as citizens; and I regret to say such persons, contemplating colonization, do not seem so willing to migrate to these countries, as to some others, nor so willing as I think their interests demand. I believe, however, opinion among them, in this respect, is improving; and that, ere long, there will be an augmented, and considerable migration to both these countries, from the United States.

The new commercial treaty between the United States and the Sultan of Turkey has been carried into execution.

A commercial and consular treaty has been concluded with the Sultan of Turkey, and with Liberia, and a similar negotiation is now pending with the republic of Hayti. A considerable improvement of the national commerce is expected to result from these measures.

Our relations with Great Britain, France, Spain, Portugal, Russia, Prussia, Denmark, Sweden, Austria, the Netherlands, Italy, Rome, and the other European States, remain undisturbed. Very favorable relations also continue to be maintained with Turkey, Mexico, China, and Japan.

During the last year there has not only been no change of our previous relations with the independent States of our own continent, but more friendly sentiments than have heretofore existed, are believed to be entertained by these neighbors, whose safety and progress are so intimately connected with our own. This statement especially applies to Mexico, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Honduras, Peru and Chili.

The commission under the convention with the republic of New Grenada closed its session, without having audited and passed upon all the claims which were submitted to it. A proposition is pending to retrieve the convention, that it may be able to do more complete justice. The joint commission between the United States and the republic of Costa Rica has completed its labors and submitted its report.

I have favored the project for connecting the United States with Europe by an Atlantic telegraph, and a similar project to extend the telegraph by San Francisco, to connect by a Pacific telegraph with the line which is being extended across the Russian empire.

The Territories of the United States, with important exceptions, have remained undisturbed by civil war, and they are exhibiting such evidence of prosperity as justifies an expectation that some of them will soon be in a condition to be organized as States, and be Constitutionally admitted into the Federal Union.

The immense mineral resources of some of these Territories ought to be developed as rapidly as possible. Every step in that direction would have a tendency to improve the revenue of the government, and diminish the burdens of the people. It is worthy of your serious consideration whether some extraordinary measure to promote that end cannot be adopted. The means which suggest itself as most likely to be effective, is a scientific exploration of the mineral regions in those Territories, with a view to the publication of its results at home and in foreign countries—results which cannot fail to be auspicious.

The condition of the finances will claim your most diligent consideration. The vast expenditures incident to the military and naval operations required for the suppression of the rebellion, have hitherto been met with a promptitude, and certainty, unusual in similar circumstances; and the public credit has been fully maintained. The continuance of the war, however, and the increased disbursements made necessary by the augmented forces now in the field, demand your best reflections as to the best modes of providing the necessary revenue, without injury to business, and with the least possible burdens upon labor.

The suspension of specie payments by the banks, soon after the commencement of your last session, made large issues of United States notes unavoidable. In no other way could the payment of the troops and the satisfaction of other demands, be so economically, or so well provided for. The judicious legislation of Congress, securing the acceptability of these notes for loans and internal duties, and making them a legal tender for other debts, has made them universal currency; and has satisfied, partially, at least, and for the time, the long felt want of a uniform circulating medium, saving thereby to the people, immense sums in discount and exchange.

A return to specie payments, however, at the earliest period compatible with due regard to all interests concerned, should ever be kept in view. Fluctuations in the value of currency are always injurious, and to reduce these fluctuations to the lowest possible point will always be a leading purpose in wise legislation. Convertibility, prompt and certain convertibility into coin, is generally acknowledged to be the best

and surest safeguard against them; and it is extremely doubtful whether a circulation of United States notes, payable in coin, and sufficiently large for the wants of the people, can be permanently, usefully and safely maintained.

Is there, then, any other mode in which the necessary provision for the public wants can be made, and the great advantages of a uniform currency secured?

I know of none which promises so certain results, and is at the same time, so unobjectionable, as the organization of banking associations, under a general act of Congress, well guarded in its provisions. To such associations the government might furnish circulating notes, on the security of United States bonds deposited in the treasury. These notes, prepared under the supervision of proper officers, being uniform in appearance and security, and convertible always into coin, would at once protect labor against the evils of a vicious currency, and facilitate commerce by cheap and safe exchanges.

A moderate reservation from the interest on the bonds would compensate the United States for the preparation and distribution of the notes, and a general supervision of the system, and would lighten the burden of that part of the public debt employed as securities. The public credit, moreover, would be greatly improved, and the negotiation of new loans, greatly facilitated by the steady market demand for government bonds which the adoption of the proposed system would create.

It is an additional recommendation of the measure, of considerable weight in my judgment, that it would reconcile, as far as possible, all existing interests, by the opportunity offered to existing institutions to reorganize under the act, substituting only the secured uniform national circulation, for the local and various circulation, secured and unsecured, now issued by them.

The receipts into the Treasury from all sources, including loans, and balance from the preceding year, for the fiscal year ending on the 30th of June, 1862, were \$87,858,247 66 of which \$19,056,398 62 were derived from customs; \$1,795,331 73 from the direct tax; from public lands, \$152,203 71; from miscellaneous sources, \$301,787 64; from loans in all forms \$529,692, 360 50. The remainder, \$2,257,065 80, was the balance from last year.

The disbursements during the same period were for congressional, executive and judicial purposes, \$5,939,999 29; for foreign intercourse, \$1,359,710 35; for miscellaneous expenses, including the militia, loan, post office deficiencies, collection of revenues, and other like charges, \$14,129,771 50; for expenses under the Interior Department, \$3,106,985 52; under the War Department, \$94,368,407 38; under the Navy Department, \$42,674,569 69; for the interest on the public debt, \$13,190,324 45; and for payment of public debt, including reimbursement of public loans and redemptions, \$96,096,922 09; making an aggregate of \$570,841,700 25, and leaving a balance in the treasury on the first day of July, 1862, of \$13,643,506 81.

It should be observed that the sum of \$56,056,922 09, expended for reimbursements and redemption of public debt, being included also in the loans made, may be properly deducted, both from receipts and disbursements, leaving the actual receipts for the year \$487,788,324 97, and the expenditures \$174,741,778 16.

Other information on the subject of finances will be found in the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, to those statements and views I invite your most candid and considerate attention.

The reports of the Secretary of War, and of the Navy, are herewith transmitted. These reports, though lengthy, are scarcely more than brief abstracts of the very numerous and extensive transactions and operations conducted through those departments. Nor could I give a summary of them here, upon any principle, which would admit of its being much shorter than the reports themselves. I therefore content myself with laying the reports before you, and asking your attention to them.

It gives me pleasure to report a decided improvement in the financial condition of the Post Office Department, as compared with several preceding years. The receipts for the fiscal year 1861 amounted to \$8,349,296 49, which embraced the revenue from all the States of the Union for three quarters of that year. Notwithstanding the cessation of revenue from the last fiscal year, the States during the correspondence of the loyal States has been sufficient to produce a revenue during the same year of \$8,299,820 99, being only \$50,000 less than was derived from all the States of the Union during the previous year. The expenditures show a still more favorable result. The amount expended in 1861 was \$13,606,759 11. For the last year it amount has been reduced to \$11,125,364 13, showing a decrease of about \$2,481,000 in the expenditures as compared with the fiscal year 1860. The deficiency in the Department for the previous year was \$4,551,966 98. For the last fiscal year it was reduced to \$2, 112,814 57.

These favorable results are in part owing to the cessation of mail service to the insurrectionary States, and in part to careful review of all expenditures in that department in the interest of economy. The efficiency in the postal service, it is believed, has also been much improved. The Postmaster General has also opened a correspondence, through the Department of State, with foreign governments, proposing a conven-

tion of postal representatives for the purpose of simplifying the rates of foreign postage, and to expedite the foreign mails. This proposition, equally important to our interests as citizens, and to the commercial interests of this country, has been favorably entertained, and agreed to, by all the governments from whom replies have been received.

I ask the attention of Congress to the suggestions of the Postmaster General in his report respecting the further legislation required, in his opinion, for the benefit of the postal service.

The Secretary of the Interior reports as follows in regard to the public lands: "The public lands have ceased to be a source of revenue. From the 1st of July, 1861, to the 30th of September, 1862, the entire cash receipts from the sale of lands were \$246, 476 20—a sum much less than the expenses of our land system during the same period. The homestead law, which will take effect on the first of January next, offers such inducements to settlers that sales for cash cannot be expected to an extent sufficient to meet the expenses of the General Land Office, and the cost of surveying and bringing the land into market."

The discrepancy between the sum here stated as arising from the sales of the public lands, and the sum derived from the same source as reported from the Treasury Department arises, as I understand, from the fact that the periods of time, though apparently, were not really coincident at the beginning point—the Treasury report including a considerable sum now, which had previously been reported from the Interior—sufficiently large to greatly overreach the sum derived from the three months now reported upon by the Interior, and not by the Treasury.

The Indian tribes upon our frontiers have, during the past year, manifested a spirit of insubordination, and, at several points, have engaged in open hostilities against the white settlements in their vicinity. The tribes occupying the Indian country south of Kansas, renounced their allegiance to the United States, and entered into treaties with the insurgents. Those who remained loyal to the United States were driven from the country. The Chief of the Cheyennes has visited this city for the purpose of restoring the former relations of the tribe with the United States. He alleges that they were constrained, by superior force, to enter into treaties with the insurgents, and that the United States neglected to furnish the protection which their treaty stipulations required.

In the month of August last the Sioux Indians, in Minnesota, attacked the settlements in their vicinity with extreme ferocity, killing indiscriminately men, women and children—This attack was wholly unexpected, and therefore no means of defence had been provided. It is estimated that not less than eight hundred persons were killed by the Indians, and a large amount of property was destroyed. How this outbreak was in need is not definitely known, and suspicions, which may be unjust, need not to be stated. Information was received by the Indian Bureau, from different sources, about the time hostilities were commenced, that a simultaneous attack was to be made upon the white settlements by all the tribes between the Mississippi river and the Rocky mountains. The State of Minnesota has suffered great injury from this Indian war. A large portion of her territory has been depopulated, and a severe loss has been sustained by the destruction of property.

The people of that State manifest much anxiety for the removal of the tribes beyond the limits of the State as a guarantee against future hostilities. The Commissioner of Indian Affairs will furnish full details. I submit to you your special consideration, whether our Indian system shall not be remodelled. Many wise and good men have impressed me with the belief that this can be profitably done.

I submit a statement of the proceedings of commissioners, which shows the progress that has been made in the enterprise of constructing the Pacific railroad. And this suggests the earliest completion of this road, and also the favorable action of Congress upon the projects now pending before them for enlarging the capacities of the great canal in New York and Illinois, as being of vital and rapidly increasing importance to the whole nation, and especially to the vast interior region hereinafter to be opened at some greater length. I propose having prepared and laid before you at an early day some interesting and valuable statistical information upon this subject. The military and commercial importance of enlarging the Illinois and Michigan canal, and improving the Illinois river, is presented in the report of Colonel Webster to the Secretary of War, and now transmitted to Congress. I respectfully ask attention to it.

To carry out the provisions of the act of Congress of the 15th of May last, I have caused the Department of Agriculture of the United States to be organized.

The Commissioner informs me that within the period of a few months this department has established an extensive system of correspondence and exchanges, both at home and abroad, which promises to effect highly beneficial results in the development of our correct knowledge of recent improvements in agriculture, in the introduction of new products, and in the collection of the agricultural statistics of the several States.

Also that it will soon be prepared to distribute largely seeds, cereals, plants and cuttings, and has already established, and liberally diffused, much valuable information in anticipation of a more elaborate re-

port, which will in due time be furnished, embracing some valuable tests in chemical science now in progress in the laboratory.

The creation of this department was for the more immediate benefit of a large class of our most valuable citizens; and I trust that the liberal basis upon which it has been organized will not only meet your approbation, but that it will realize, at no distant day, all the fondest anticipations of its most sanguine friends, and become the fruitful source of advantage to all our people.

On the twenty-second day of September last a proclamation was issued by the Executive, a copy of which is herewith submitted.

In accordance with the purpose expressed in the second paragraph of that paper, I now respectfully recall your attention to what may be called "compensated emancipation."

A nation may be said to consist of its territory, its people, and its laws. The territory is the only part which is of a certain durability. "One generation passeth away and another generation cometh, but the earth abideth forever." It is of the first importance to duly consider, and estimate, this ever enduring part. That portion of the earth's surface which is owned and inhabited by the people of the United States, is well adapted to be the home of one national family and it is not well adapted for two, or more. Its vast extent, and its variety of climate and productions, are of advantage, in this age, for one people, whatever they might have been in former ages. Steam, telegraphs, and intelligence, have brought these, to be an advantageous combination for one united people.

In the inaugural address I briefly pointed out the total inequality of distance, as a remedy for the differences of the people of the two sections. I did so in language which I cannot improve, and which therefore I let to repeat:

"On a section of our country, believes slavery is right, and ought to be extended, while the other believes it to be wrong, and ought not to be extended. This is the only substantial dispute. The fugitive slave clause of the Constitution, and the law for the suppression of the foreign slave trade, are each as well enforced, perhaps, as any law can ever be in a community where the moral sense of the people imperfectly supports the law itself. The great body of the people abide by the dry legal obligation in both cases, and a few break over in each. This, I think, cannot be perfectly cured; and it would be worse in both cases, after the separation of the sections, than before. The foreign slave trade, now imperfectly suppressed, would be ultimately revived without restriction in one section; while fugitive slaves, now only partially surrendered, would not be surrendered at all by the other."

Physically speaking, we cannot separate from each other, nor build an impassable wall between them. A husband and wife may be divorced, and go out of the presence and beyond the reach of each other; but the different parts of the country cannot do this. They cannot but remain face to face; an intercourse, either amicable or hostile, must continue between them. It is possible, then, to make that intercourse more advantageous, or more satisfactory, after separation than before? Can aliens make treaties, easier than friends can make laws? Can treaties be more faithfully enforced between aliens, than laws can among friends? Suppose you go to war, you cannot fight always, and when you cease fighting, you cannot expect to remain enemies. The fact of separation, if it comes, gives up, on the part of the seceding section, the fugitive slave clause, along with all other constitutional obligations upon the section seceded from, while I should expect no treaty stipulation would ever be made to take its place.

But there is another difficulty. The great interior region, bounded east by the Adirondics, north by the British dominions, west by the Rocky Mountains and south by the line along which the culture of corn and cotton meets, and which includes part of Virginia, part of Tennessee, all of Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, and part of Colorado, already have about ten millions of people, and will have fifty millions within fifty years, if not prevented by any political folly or mistake. It contains more than one third of the country owned by the United States—certainly more than one million of square miles. One-half as populous as Massachusetts already is, it would have more than seventy-five millions of people. A glance at the map shows that territorially speaking, it is the great body of the republic. The other parts are but marginal borders to it, the magnificent region sloping west from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific, being the deepest, as also the richest, in undeveloped resources.

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grains, grasses, and all which proceed from them, this great interior region is naturally one of the most important in the world. Ascertaining from the statistics the small proportion of the nation which has, as yet, been brought into cultivation, and also the large and rapidly increasing amount of its products, and we shall be overwhelmed with magnitude of the present present. And yet this region has no seaward, nor ocean anywhere. As part of our nation, its people now find, and may forever find their way to Europe by New York, to South America and Africa by New Orleans, and to Asia by San Francisco. But separate out common country into two nations, as designed by the present rebellion, and every man of this great interior region is thereby cut off from some one or more of these outlets, not, perhaps, by a physical barrier, but by embarrassing and onerous trade regulations.

And this is true, wherever a dividing, or boundary line, may be fixed. Place it between the new free and slave country, or place it south of Kentucky, or north of Ohio, and still the truth remains, that some south of it, can trade to any port or place north of it, and some north of it, can trade to any port or place south of it, except upon terms dictated by a government foreign to them. These outlets, east, west and south, are indispensable to the well being of the people inhabiting, and to inhabit, all this vast interior region. If any of these outlets may be the best, in any proper question—All are better than, all are, and all, of right, belong to the people, and to their successors forever. True to themselves, they will not ask where a line of separation shall be, but will seek rather, that there shall be no such line. Nor the marginal regions less interested in these communications, and through them, to the great outside world. They too, and each of them must have access to this Egypt of the West, without paying tolls at the crossing of any national boundary.

Our national life springs not from our permanent part, but from the land we inhabit, not from our national homestead. There is no possible severing of this, but would multiply, and not mitigate, evil among us. In all its adaptations and adjustment, it demands union, and abhors separation. In fact, it would, ere long, for a reunion, however much of blood and treasure the separation might have cost.

Our strife pertains to ourselves—to the passing generation of men; and it can, without convulsions, be healed forever with the passing of one generation.

In this view, I recommend the adoption of the following resolution and an article amendatory to the Constitution of the United States:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, (two thirds of both houses concurring), that the following articles be proposed to the legislatures (or conventions) of the several States as amendments to the Constitution of the United States, all or any of which articles when ratified by three-fourths of the said legislatures (or conventions) to be valid as part or parts of the said Constitution, viz:

ARTICLE.—Every State, wherein slavery now exists, which shall abolish the same therein, at any time, or times, before the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand and nine hundred, shall receive compensation from the United States as follows, to wit:

The President of the United States shall deliver to every State, bonds of the United States, bearing interest at the rate of— per cent, per annum, to an amount equal to the aggregate sum of— for each slave shown to have been therein, by the eighth census of the United States, said bonds to be delivered to such State by instalments, or in one parcel, at the completion of the abolition, according as the same shall have been gradual, or at one time, within such State; and interest shall begin to run upon any such bond only from the proper time of its delivery as aforesaid. Any State having received bonds as aforesaid, and afterwards retroceding or tolerating slavery therein, shall refund to the United States the bonds so received, or the value thereof, and all interest paid thereon.

ARTICLE.—All slaves who shall have enjoyed actual freedom by the chance of the war at any time before the end of the rebellion, shall be forever free, but all owners of such, who shall not have been disloyal, shall be compensated for them, at the same rates as is provided for States adopting abolition of slavery, but in such way, that no slave shall be twice accounted for.

ARTICLE.—Congress may appropriate money, and otherwise provide, for colonizing free colored persons, with their own consent, at any place or places, without the United States.

I beg indulgence to discuss these proposed articles at some length. Without slavery, the rebellion could never have existed; without slavery it could not continue.

Among the friends of the Union there is great diversity of sentiment, and of policy in regard to slavery, and the African race among us. Some would perpetuate slavery, some would abolish it suddenly, and without compensation; some would abolish it gradually, and with compensation; some would remove the freed people from us, and some would retain them with us; and there are yet other minor diversities. Because of these diversities, we waste much strength in struggles among ourselves. By mutual concession we should harmonize, and act together. This would be compromise; but it would be compromise among the friends

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