# PRESBYTERIAN BANNER.---SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1860.

ted States. There is every reason to believe that | they have returned to their native land entirely satisfied with their visit, and inspired by the most friendly feelings for our country. Let us ardently hope, in the language of the treaty it self, that "there shall henceforward be perpetual peace and friendship between the United States of America and his Majesty the Tycoon of Japan and his successors."

## BRAZIL.

With the wise, conservative, and liberal Gov-ernment of the Empire of Brazil, our relations atinue to be of the most amicable character NEW GRANADA.

The exchange of the ratifications of the con vention with the Republic of New Granada, signed at Washington on the 10th of September, 1857, has been long delayed from accidental causes, for which neither party is consurable. These ratifications were duly exchanged in this city on the 5th of November last. Thus has a controversy been amicably terminated which had become so serious at the period of my inaugura-tion, as to require me, on the 17th of April, 1857, to direct our Minister to demand his passports

and return to the United States. and return to the United States. Under this convention the Government of New Granada has specially acknowledged itself to be responsible to our citizens "for damages which were caused by the riot at Panama on the 15th of April, 1856." These claims, together with other claims of our citizens which had been long urged in vain, are referred for adjustment to board of commissioners. I submit a copy of the convention to Congress, and recommend the legislation necessary to carry it into effect.

## COSTI RICA AND NICARAGUA.

Persevering efforts have been made for the ad-justment of the claims of American citizens against the Government of Costa Rice, and I am happy to inform you that these have finally pre vailed. A convention was signed at the city o San Jose, on the 2d of July last, between the Minister resident of the United States in Costa Rica and the Plenipotentiaries of that Republic referring these claims to a board of commission ers, and providing for the payment of their awards. This convention will be submitted im mediately to the Senate for their constitutiona action.

The claims of our citizens upon the Republi of Nicaragua have not yet been provided for by treaty, although diligent efforts for this purpose have been made by our Minister resident to that Republic. These are still continued, with a fair prospect of success.

#### MEXICO.

Our relations with Mexico remain in a most unsatisfactory condition. In my last two annual messages I discussed extensively the subject of these relations, and do not now propose to repea at length the facts and arguments then pre-sented. They proved conclusively that our citi-zens residing in Mexico and our merchants trading thereto, had suffered a series of wrongs and outrages such as we have never patiently borne from any other nation. For these our suc cessive Ministers, invoking the faith of treaties, had, in the name of their country, persistently demanded redress and indemnification, but with-out the slightest effect. Indeed, so confidently had the Mexican authorities become of our patient endurance, that they universally believed they might commit these outrages upon American citizens with absolute impunity. Thus wrote our Minister in 1856, and expressed the opinion that "nothing but a manifestation of the power of the Government, and of its purpose to punish these wrongs, will avail."

Afterwards, in 1857, came the adoption of a new constitution for Mexico, the election of a President and Congress under its provisions, and the inauguration of the President. Within one short month, however, this President was expelled from the capital by a rebellion in the army, and the supreme power of the republic was as-signed to General Zuloaga. This usurper was in turn soon compelled to retire and give place to General Miramon.

Under the constitution which had thus bee adopted, Senor Juarez, as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, became the lawful President of the republic; and it was for the maintenance of the Constitution and his authority derived from it that the civil war commenced, and still coninues to be prosecuted.

the hostile parties to vote at the election of dele- | a law in pursuance of the provisions of the Con- | almost total failure of their crops, whilst the gates to frame a State constitution, and after-wards at the election to decide whether Kansas the 4th of March, in each year of an odd num-have been abundant. The prospect before them should be a slave or a free State. The insurgent ber, for the election of representatives through- for the approaching Winter is well calculated to party refused to vote at either, lest this might be out all the States. A similar power has already enlist the sympathies of every heart. The des-considered a recognition on their part of the ter-been exercised, with general approbation, in the titution appears to be so general that it cannot party refused to vote at either, lest this might be out all the States. A similar power has already considered a recognition on their part of the ter-ritorial government established by Congress. A better spirit, however, seemed soon after to pre-vail, and the two parties met face to face at the third election, held on the first Monday of Jan-uary, 1858, for members of the Legislature and State officers under the Lecompton Constitution.

State officers under the Lecompton Constitution. The result was the triumph of the anti-slavery party at the polls. This decision of the ballot box proved clearly that this party were in the majority, and removed the danger of civil war. From that time we have heard little or nothing of the Torogka grayarnmart, and all socious dan however, I ascertained that fifteen out of thirty-three States composing the Confederacy, were of the Topeka government; and all serious danger of revolutionary troubles in Kansas was then

thus recognized at this State election by the votes a call. These fifteen States will be in the same of both political parties in Kansas, was transondition on the 4th of March, next. Ten o of both political parties in Kansas, was trans-mitted to me with the request that I should pre-sent it to Congress. This I could not have re-fused to do without violating my clearest and strongest convictions of duty. The constitution, and all the proceedings which preceded and fol-lowed its formation, were fair and regular on their face. I then believed, and experience has proved, that the interests of the people of Kan-sas would have been best consulted by its admistending from the beginning of August next until the months of October and November.

as would have been best consulted by its admisfull Congress to meet the emergency. THE TARIFF.

sion as a State into the Union, especially as the majority, within a brief period, could have amended the constitution according to their will It is now quite evident that the financial neces ties of the Government will require a modific: and pleasure. If fraud existed in all or any of tion of the Tariff during your present session these proceedings, it was not for the President, for the purpose of increasing the revenue. In this aspect, I desire to reiterate the recommenda-tion contained in my last two Annual Messages, but for Congress, to investigate and determine the question of fraud, and what ought to be its consequences. If at the two first elections, the in favor of imposing specific instead of ad valo-rem duties on all imported articles to which majority refused to vote, it cannot be pretended that this refusal to exercise the elective franchise these can be properly applied. From long ob-servation and experience, I am convinced that could invalidate an election fairly held under lawful authority, even if they had not subsc-quently voted at the third election. It is true that the whole constitution had not been subpecific duties are necessary, both to protect the mitted to the people, as I always desired; but the precedents are numerous of the admission of States into the Union without such submission. It would not comport with my present purpose to review the proceedings of Congress upon the Lecompton Constitution. It is sufficient to observe that their final action has removed the last vestige of serious revolutionary troubles. The desperate band recently assembled, under a notorious outlaw, in the Southern portion of the Territory, to resist the execution of the laws and to plunder peaceful citizens, will, I doubt not, be speedily subdued and brought to justice. Had I treated the Lecompton Constitution as a duty on the difference between their real and fic nullity and refused to transmit it to Congress, it titions value, and to this extent we are defraud is not difficult to imagine, whilst recalling the position of the country at that moment, what The temptation which ad valorem duties pr

would have been the disastrous consequences, both in and out of the Territory, from such a dereliction of duty on the part of the Executive. UTAH.

Pence has also been restored within the Ter-ritory of Utah, which, at the commencement of my administration, was in a state of open rebellion. This was the more dangerous, as the peo-ple, animated by a fanatical spirit and entrenched within their distant mountain fastnesses, might have made a long and formidable resistance. Cost what it might, it was necessary to bring them into subjection to the Constitution and the laws. Sound policy, therefore, as well as hu-manity, required that this object should, if pos-sible, be accomplished without the effusion of blood. This could only be effected by sending abroad, are consigned for sale to commissio a military force into the Territory sufficiently strong to convince the people that resistance would be hopeless, and at the same time to offer them a pardon for past offences on condition of immediate submission to the Government. This very lowest rate necessary to escape detection. In this manner the dishonest importer and the foreign manufacturer enjoy a decided advantage policy was pursued with eminent success; and the only cause for regret is the heavy expenditure required to march a large detachment of the army to that remote region and to furnish it sub-sistance. Utah is now comparatively peaceful and quiet, and the military force has been withdrawn, except that portion of it necessary to keep the Indians in check, and to pro-ular and conscientious merchants, whose charactect the emigrant trains on their way to our

Pacific possessions. FINANCES.

In my first annual message I promised to em- specific duties, so far as this may be practicable.

ountry.

The remedy for these evils is to be found in

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

I cordially recommend to your favorable r and, the interests of the people of this district. They are eminently entitled to your considera-tion, especially since, unlike the people of the States, they can appeal to no Government excep that of the Union. JAMES BUCHANAN. WASHINGTON CITY, 3d December, 1860.

# LATE PUBLICATIONS, &C.

THE PERFECT GIFT BOOK. CHARLES SCRIBNER,

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specific duties are necessary, both to protect the revenue and to secure to our manufarturing in-terests that amount af incidental encouragement which unavoidably results from a revenue tariff. As an abstract proposition, it may be admitted that ad valorem duties would, in theory, be the most just and equal. But if the experience of this and of all other commercial nations has de-monstrated that such duties cannot be assessed and collected without great frauds upon the rev-enue, then it is the part of wisdom to resort to specific duties. Indeed, from the very nature of an *ad valorem* duty, this must be the result. T

specific duties. Indeed, from the very nature of an *ad valorem* duty, this must be the result. Under it the inevitable consequence is, that for eign goods will be entered at less than their for-value. The Treasury will, therefore, lose the the life is that for the life is and for-the life is the inevitable consequence is an additional state is and for-value. The Treasury will, therefore, lose the the life is and for-MCLENAN. From the Atlantic Monthly.

It is beyond question the handsomest and most tasteful volume ever produced in America. We can speak from our own knowledge of the length of labor and the loving care that have been devoted to it; and the result is; a gift book, unique in its way, and suited to all seasons and tastes. sent to a dishonest importer, are irresistible. His object is to pass his goods through the Cus-

From the New York Observer. ry to save them from confiscation. In this he too often succeeds, in spite of the vigilance of the revenue officers. Hence the resort to false invoices, one for the purchaser and another for the Custom House, and to other expedients to defraud the Government. The honest invoices

efraud the Government. The honest importer From the New-York Tribute. "A perfect gallery of characteristic, graphic gems, being each executed con amore, in illustration of as many choice poems, besides fac similar, of the autograph originals. o some of the most famous fugitive verses in the English lan guage. Every piece is a jewel, and the whole is intended to exemplify the highest uses of poetry in its mission 'to stir to soothe, to elevate,' by bringing into one focus the scattered rays of 'light divine,' in which, the spirit of song has investor the nearest and dearest relations of daily life. The printing of this work has never been equaled." produces his invoice to the Collector, stating the actual price at which he purchased the articles abroad. Not so with the dishonest importer and the agent of the foreign manufacturer. And here it may be observed that a very large pro-portion of the manufactures imported from merchants who are mere agents employed by the

From the New-York Evangelist. manufacturers. In such cases no actual sale has "This is a king among the Gift Books; when truth is mar-ried to beauty, purity of thought to grace of expression, ten-dernoss of feeling to softly flowing numbers, the ear and the soul are alike charmed with the exquisite melody—such is the general character of the Folk-songs of which this royal volbeen made to fix their value. The foreign manuacturer, if he be dishonest, prepares, an invoice of the goods, not at their actual value, but at the me is composed."

From the New-York Independent.

foreign manufacturer enjoy a decided advantage over the honest merchant. They are thus en-abled to undersell the fair trader, and drive him from the market. In fact, the operation of this system has already driven from the pursuits of honorable commerce, many of that class of reg-ular and conscientious merchants, whose character, throughout the world, is the pride of our

Copies sent by mail or express, freight paid, on receipt on price; and for sale by all Booksellers. THE SYNOD'S

THE AMALGAMATION OF MERCHANTS' HOTEL, **BUSINESS NOTICES.** LANGUAGES. 46 North Fourth Street. PHILADELPHIA. There is a growing tendency in this age to appropriate t most expressive words of other languages, and after a wh to incorporate them into our own; thus the word Cephal which is from the Greek, signifying "for the head," is no becoming popularized in connexion with Mr. Spalding great Headache remedy, but it will soon be used in a mo general way, and the word Cephalic will become as comm as Electrotype and many others whose distinction as foreig words has been worn away by common usage until they see "nativo and to the manor born." ST. NICHOLAS HOTEL, BROADWAY, C. M'KIBBEN & SON, Proprietors. NEW-YORK. H. SAMSON. FURNISHING UNDERTAKER, When completed, six years ago, the ST. NICHOLAS was iniversally pronounced the most magnificent, convenient, and thoroughly organized establishment of the kind on this jontinent. 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Six HUNDERD PERSONS can be confortably seated at the tables of its three public diging rooms, and nothing that modern art has devised for the convenience and social gratifi-cation of the travelling public has been omitted in its plan, or is neglected in its practical details. The early reputation of the house at home and abroad, de-rived from its magnitude, its super's appointments, and its home-like comforts and lazwries, has been enhanced every year by the unwearled exertions of the Proprietors. sep22-3m TREADWELL, WHITCOMB & CO. A. V. SCOTT......W. H. STURGEON......N. U. WALKER SCOTT, STURGEON & CO., IMPORTERS AND JOBBERS IN Foreign and Domestic Fancy Goods and Baskets, And manufacturers of all kinds of Looking Glasses and Children's Coaches. & No. 62 Wood St., corner of Fourth, Pittsburgh, Pa. jun30-1y 'ardly Realized. Hi 'ad 'n 'orrible 'cadache this hafternoon, hand I step It ad 'n 'orrible 'cadache this materioon, nam 'i steppe into the hapothecuries hand says I to the man, " (2nn yo hense me of an 'cadache?" " Does it hache 'ard," says 'c "Hexceedingly," says hi, hand upon that he gave me Cophalic Fill, hand 'pon me'conor it cured me so quick the I 'ardly realized I 'ad 'ad an 'cadache. CARBON OIL, TATON, CREE & MACRUM'S For Brilliancy and Economy, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL Trimming, Millinery, SURPASSES ALL OTHER ILLUMINATING OILS now in market. It will burn in all styles of coal oil lamps, is per-fectly sufe, and free from all offensive odor. Manufactured and for sale by NOTION HOUSE Nos. 17 and 19 Fifth Street, Pittsburgh, Pa. fell-ly DRESS TRIMMINGS, EMBROIDERIES, Straw Goods, Headache is the favorite sign by which nature makes known any deviation whatever from the natural state of the brain, and viewed in this light it may be looked on as a safe-guard intended to give notice of discuss which might other-wise escape attention till too late to be remedied, and its in-dications should never be neglectici. Headaches may be classified under two names, viz. Symtomatic and Idiopathic. Symtomatic Headache is exceedingly common, and is the precursor of a great variety of discuse of the stomach, con-stituting sick headache; of bepatic discuse, among which are Apoplexy, Gout, Rheumatism and all febrile discuses. Inits nervous form it is sympathetic of discuse, constituting bil-ious headache, of vorms, constitution and other discusters of the heart are very frequently attended with Headaches; Anemia and pichtora are also affections which frequently oc-casion headache. Idiopathic Headache is also very common, being usually distinguished by the name of nervous head-ache, sometimes coming on suddenly in a state of apparently sound health and prestrating at once the inential and physical energies, and in other instances it comes on slowly, heraided by depression of spirits or accribity of temper. In most in-stances the pain is in the front of the head, over one or both eves, and sometimes provoking vomiting; under this class may also be named Neuralgia. For the treatment of either class of Headache, the Cepha-lic Pills have been found a sure and safe remedy, relieving the most acute pains in a few minutes, and by its subtle power eradicating diseases of which Headache is the unerring index. 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CREE & MACRUM, No. 17 Fifth Street, Pittsburgh. \*\* WHOLESALE DEPARTMENT, on the Second Floor of Nos. 17 and 19. sep15-3m TEETH. SAVE THEM BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE. GUM PACKING C. SILL No. 246 Penn Street, in the house formerly occupied by Dr. G. H. Keyser, opposite Christ church. He will give all the modern improvements. Toeth inserted at various prices, BRIDGET.—Missus wants you to send her a box of Cephalic Glue, no, a bottle of Prepared Pills—but I'm thinking that's not just it, naither; but perhaps ye'll be afther knowing what it is. Ye see she's nigh dead and gone with the Sick Hendache; and wants some more of that same as relaived her FROM \$15 TO \$62 PER SET. REFERENCES: Rev. W. D. HOWARD, Rev. SAMUEL FINDLEY, A. BRADLEY, A. G. M'CANDLESS, M.D., J. H. HOPRINS, W. H. YANKIEK, Dr. GEORGE H. KEYSER, W. NIMICK, SAMUEL M'KEE. mar24-1) DRUGGIST .--- You must mean Spalding's Cephalic Pills. BRIDGET.-Och ! sure now and you've sed it; here's the nuarther and giv me the Pills, and don't be all day about it mar24-1v WE INVITE THE ATTENTION OF the public to the PHILADELPHIA iissable stitch Housekeeping Dry Goods Store, where may be found a large assortment of all kinds of Dry Goods, required in furnishing a house, thus saving the trouble usually experienced in lunting such articles, in va-rious places. In consequence of our giving our attention to this kind of stock, to the exclusion of dress and fancy goods, we can guarantee our prices and styles to be the most favera-blo in the market. CONSTIPATION OR COSTIVENESS. No one of the "many ills flesh is heir to" is so prevalent, so little understood, and so much neglected, as Costiveness. Often originating in carelessness, or sedentary habits, it is re-garded as a slight disorder, of too little consequence to ex-cito anxiety, while in reality it is the precursor and com-panion of many of the most fatal and dangerous discasse, and unless early eradicated it will bring the sufferer to an untimely grave. Among the lighter evils of which coetive-ness is the usual attendant, are Headache, Colic, Rheuma-tism, Foul Breath, Piles, and others of like nature, while a long train of frightful diseases, such as Malignant Fevers, Abscesses, Dysentery, Diarrhea, Dyspepsia, Apoplexy, Epi-lepiy, Paralysis, Hysteria, Hypochondriasis, Melancholy and Insanity, first indicate their presence in the system by this alarming symptom. Not unfrequently the diseases named originate in Constipation, but take on an independent ex-istence unless the cause is eradicated at an early stage. 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ble in the market. we are able to give perfect satisfaction, being the Oldest Es-tablished Liner Store in the city, and having been for more than twenty years regular importers from some of the best manufacturers in Ircland. We offer, also, a large stock of

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lay it is put in. 3. The money is always paid back in GOLD, whenever it is called for, and without notice.

Throughout the year 1858 the constitutional party grew stronger and stronger. In the previous history of Mexico a successful military revolution at the capital had almost universally been the signal for submission throughout the republic. Not so on the present occasion. A majority of the citizens persistently sustained the Constitutional Government. When this was recogaized in April, 1859, by the Government of the United States, its authority extended over a large majority of the Mexican States and people, in cluding Vera Cruz and all the other important sea ports of the republic. From that period our commerce with Mexico began to revive, and the Constitutional Government has afforded it all the protection in their power.

Meanwhile the Government of Miramon still held sway at the capital and over the surrounding country, and continued its outrages against the few American citizens who still had the cour age to remain within its power. To cap the climax, after the battle of Tacubaya, in April, 1859. Gen. Marquez ordered three citizens of the United States, two, of them physicians, to be seized in the hospital at that place, taken out and shot, without crime and without trial. This was done, notwithstanding our unfortunate countrymen were at the moment engaged in the holy (ause of affording relief to the soldiers of both parties who had been wounded in the battle, with-

out making any distinction between them. The time had arrived, in my opinion, when this Government was bound to exert its power to avenge and redress the wrongs of our citizens, and to afford them protection in Mexico. The interposing obstacle was, that the portion of the country under the sway of Miramon could no be reached without passing over territory under the jurisdiction of the Constitutional Government Under these circumstances, I deemed it my duty to recommend to Congress, in my last annual message, the employment of a sufficient military force to penetrate into the interior, where the Government of Miramon was to be found, with, or, if need be, without the consent of the Juarez Government, though it was not doubted that this consent could be obtained Never have I had a clearer conviction on any subject than of the justice as well as wisdom of such a policy. No other alternative was left, except the entire abandonment of our fellow-citizens who had gone to Mexico, under the faith of treaties, to the systematic injustice, cruelty and oppression of Mir-amon's Government. Besides, it is almost certain that the simple authority to employ this force would of itself have accomplished all our object without striking a single blow. The Constitu-tional Government would then ere this have been actabilized at the city of Movies and would have established at the city of Mexico, and would have peen ready and willing, to the extent of its abil ity, to do us justice. In addition—and I deem this a most importan

consideration-European Governments would have been deprived of all pretext to interfere in the territorial and domestic concerns of Mexico. We should thus have been relieved from the obligation of resisting, even by force, should this become necessary, any attempt by these Govern ments to deprive our neighboring republic of por tions of her territory; a duty from which we could not shrink without abandoning the traditional and established policy of the American people. I am happy to observe, that, firmly re-lying upon the justice and good faith of these overnments, there is no present danger that such a contingency will happen.

Having discovered that my recommendations would not be sustained by Congress, the next alternative was to accomplish in some degree, if possible, the same objects by treaty stipulations with the Constitutional Government. Such trea-ties were accordingly concluded by our late able and excellent Minister to Mexico, and on the 4th of January last were submitted to the Senate for ratification. As these have not yet received the final action of that body, it would be improper for me to present a detailed statement of their provisions. Still I may be permitted to express the opinion in advance that they are calculated to promote the agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial interests of the country, and to secure our just influence with an adjoining republic as to whose fortunes and fate we can never feel indifferent ; whilst at the same time they provide for the payment of a considerable amount to-ward the satisfaction of the claims of our injured fellow-citizens.

# KANSAS.

At the period of my inauguration I was con-fronted in Kansas by a revolutionary govern-ment. existing under what is called the Topeka Constitution. Its avowed object was to subdue the territorial government by force, and to inaugurate what was called the Topeka govern-ment in its stead. To accomplish this object an extensive military organization was formed, and its command entrusted to the most violent revolutionary leaders. Under these circumstances, it become my imperative duty to exert the whole constitutional power of the Executive to prevent the flames of civil war from again raging in Kansas, which, in the excited state of the public mind, both North and South, might have extended

ploy my best exertions, in cooperation with Con-gress, to reduce the expenditures of the Govern-ment within the limits of a wise and judicious cle, and it pays the precise amount of duty pre-tar to the second economy. An overflowing treasury had produced habits of prodigality and extravagance which could only be gradually corrected. The work required both time and patience. I applied my-self dilligently to this task from the beginning, uation in a few cases, render themselves independent. and was aided by the able and energetic efforts Besides, specific duties best conform to the reof the heads of the different Executive Departquisition in the Constitution, that "no preferments. The result of our labors in this good once shall be given by any regulation of com-merce or revenue to the ports of one State over cause did not appear in the sum total of our expenditures for the first two years, mainly in consequence of the extraordinary expenditure ne-cessarily incurred in the Utah expedition, and and complaints have often been made that the the very large amount of the contingent ex-penses of Congress during this period. These greatly exceeded the pay and mileage of the members. For the year ending 30th June, 1858, whilst the pay and mileage amounted to \$1,490, while the pay amo some extent that specific duties are necessarily 214, the contingent expenses rose to \$2,093,-309.79; and for the year ending 30th June, 1859, whilst the pay and mileage amounted to \$859,-yet her whole revenue from imports is at the present moment collected under a system of spe-cific duties. 093.66, the contingent expenses amounted to 093.66, the contingent expenses amounted to \$1,431,565.98. I am happy, however, to be able to inform you that, during the last fiscal year, ending on the 30th June, 1860, the total expenditures of the Government, in all its 

actual expenditure of \$59,848,474.72 for the duties. To this extent the revenue would be insear ending on the 30th June, 1860, including \$1,040,667.71 for the contingent expenses of Congress, there must be deducted from this amount the sum of \$4,296,009.26, with the intercreased, and in the same proportion the specific duty might be diminished. Specific duties would secure to the American manufacturer the incidenial protection to which est upon it of \$150,000, appropriated by the act of 15th February, 1860, "for the purpose of sup-plying the deficiency in the revenues and defray-ing the expenses of the Post-office Department and in a liberal spirit have discriminated in faplying the deficiency in the revenues and defray-ing the expenses of the Post-office Department for the year ending the thirtieth of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine." This sum, therefore, justly chargeable to the year 1859, the importation of similar articles from abroad, must be deducted from the sum of \$59,848,474.72, in order to ascertain the expenditure for the year but what is the same in effect ; by admitting ar ticles free of duty which enter into the compos ending on the 30th June, 1860, which leaves a tion of their fabrics. balance for the expenditures of that year of \$55,-402,465.46. The interest on the public debt, in-cluding Treasury notes, for the same fiscal year, Under the present system it has been often truly remarked that this incidental protection decreases when the manufacturer needs it most ending on the 30th June, 1860, amounted to \$3,-177,314.62, which added to the above sum of \$55,402,465.46, make the aggregate of \$58,579,-against him. The revenues of the country are

780.08. It ought, in justice, to be observed, that sever-al of the estimates from the Departments for the case under a system of specific duties, they sink year ending 30th June, 1860, were reduced by and rise with the sinking and rising prices of ar-Congress below what was and still is deemed ticles in foreign countries. It would not be compatible with the public interest. Allowing a liberal margin of \$2,500,000 for this reduction, effic duties which would afford additional staand for other causes, it may be safely asserted that the sum of \$61,000,000, or, at the most, \$62,000,000, is amply sufficient to administer the the country. This might be accomplished by and without injury or injustice to any interest of the country. This might be accomplished by ascertaining the average value of any given arbovernment and to pay the interest on the public debt, unless contingent events should hereaf-ter render extraordinary expenditures necessary. ticle for a series of years at the place of expor-tation, and by simply converting the rate of *ad valorem* duty upon which it might be deemed ne-This result has been attained in a considerable cessary for revenue purposes, into the form of a specific duty. Such an arrangement could not injure the consumer. If he should pay a great-er amount of duty one year, this would be coundegree by the care exercised by the appropriate departments in entering into public contracts. I have myself never interfered with the award of any such contract except in a single case with the Colonization Society, deeming it advisable to the Colonization Society, deeming it advisable to cast the whole responsibility in each case on the the end the aggregate would be the same. THE TREASURY.

proper head of the Department, with the general instruction that these contracts should always be given to the lowest and best bidder. It has ever been my opinion that public contracts are not a legitimate source of patronage to be conferred upon personal or political favorites; but that in all such cases a public officer is bound to act for the Government as a prudent individual would act for himself.

AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE, &c. It is with great satisfaction I communicate the fact, that, since the date of my last Annual Mes-

sage, not a single slave has been imported into the United States in violation of the laws prohibiting the African slave trade. This statement is founded upon a thorough examination and in-vestigation of the subject. Indeed, the spirit which prevailed some time since among a portion of our fellow-citizens in favor of this trade, seems to have entirely subsided.

I also congratulate you upon the public sentiment which now exists against the orime of set-ting on foot military expeditions within the limits of the United States, to proceed from thence and make war upon the people of unoffending States, with whom we are at peace. In this re-spect a happy change has been offected since the commencement of my Administration. It surely ought to be the prayer of every Christian and pa-triot, that such expeditions may never again re-ceive countenance in our country, or depart from mendable spirit was willing to rely upon the

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