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[illegible] Morning, Dec. 9, 1850.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Our readers our coadjutors, we cannot allow [illegible] to [illegible] pass unnoticed, and patriotic document [illegible] to our readers without a few [illegible] remarks. We think Mr. FILLMORE'S Message one of the very ablest that has ever [illegible] before us, in substance, form and [illegible] alike unexceptionable. It is written [illegible] purity and vigor, and with [illegible] clearness. It embraces the [illegible] of many momentous subjects [illegible] with [illegible] moderate limits, and yet [illegible] of incompleteness. The [illegible] of the Message is as remarkable [illegible] for its [illegible] and logical force. The [illegible] on the Territories, in [illegible] is [illegible] duty not to interfere in the government or internal policy of other nations; and although we may sympathize with the unfortunate or oppressed in every clime, in their struggles for freedom, our principles forbid us from taking [illegible] part in such foreign contests. We make no wars to promote or to prevent successions to [illegible]; to maintain any theory of a balance of power; or to support the actual government which any country chooses to establish for itself. We propagate no revolutions, nor suffer [illegible] military expeditions to be fitted out in the United States to invade the territory or [illegible] of a friendly nation. The great law of nations we ought to have a national, as well as a personal and individual application. We should act towards other nations as we wish them to act towards us; and justice and conscience should form the rule of conduct between governments, instead of mere power, self-interest, or the lust of aggrandizement. To maintain a strict neutrality in foreign wars, to cultivate friendly relations, to reciprocate every noble and generous act, and to perform punctually and scrupulously every treaty obligation—these are the duties which we owe to other States, and by the performance of which we best secure the blessings of peace. Our institutions themselves invite us to abstain from [illegible] of that or any case, to respect, we believe, our own rights with justice and a clear conscience.

In our domestic policy, the constitution will be my guide, and in questions of doubt, I shall look for its interpretation to the judicial decisions of that tribunal, which was established to expound it, and to the usage of the Government, sanctioned by the acquiescence of the country. I regard all its provisions as equally binding in all parts of it. The will of the people, expressed in the most solemn form, and the most [illegible] authentic, are but agents to carry that will into effect. Every power which it has conferred on the Government, and every limitation of power, or recognition of the rights of the States or of individuals, which it contains, are as binding upon my conscience as if they were written in every article and section of the instrument. I will support no measure which I believe to be unconstitutional, however high the temptation for its adoption may be. I will not attempt to shelter myself under the authority of others, if I should violate my own convictions of duty, to the extent of the power vested in me. I shall not, at times, and in all places, take care that the laws be faithfully executed. In the discharge of this duty, solemnly imposed upon me by the Constitution, and by my oath of office, I shall shrink from no responsibility, and shall endeavor to meet events as they may arise, with firmness, as well as with prudence and discretion.

The appointing power is one of the most delicate with which the Executive is invested. I regard it as a sacred trust, to be exercised with the sole view of advancing the prosperity and happiness of the people. It shall be my effort to elevate the standard of official responsibility, by selecting for places of importance individuals fitted for the posts to which they are assigned, by their known integrity, talents, and virtues. In so extensive a country, with so great a population, and where few persons appointed to office can be known to the appointing power [illegible] will sometimes unavoidably happen, and [illegible] appointments be made, notwithstanding the greatest care. In such cases the power of removal may be properly exercised; and neglect of duty or malfeasance in office will be no more tolerated in individuals appointed by myself than in those appointed by others.

I am happy in being able to say that no unfavorable change in our foreign relations has taken place since the message at the opening of the last session of Congress. We are at peace with all nations, and we enjoy in an eminent degree the blessings of that peace, in a prosperous and growing commerce, and in all the forms of amicable international intercourse. The unexampled growth of the country, the present amount of its population, and its ample means of self-protection, assure for it the respect of all nations, while it should consider that character for justice, and a regard to the rights of other States, will cause that respect to be readily and cheerfully paid.

A convention was negotiated between the United States and Great Britain in April last, for facilitating and protecting the construction of a ship canal between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, and for other purposes. The instructions [illegible] were [illegible] commercial [illegible] demand that [illegible] assurances be given that any [illegible] sentiment have been received from other Governments, it is hoped that some plan may soon be matured to effect its object in a manner satisfactory to [illegible] general satisfaction. The relations of the United States will not fail, by the exercise of all proper friendly offices, to do all in its power to put an end to the destructive war which has raged between the different parts of the island, and to secure to them both the benefits of peace and commerce.

I refer you to the report of the Secretary of the Treasury for a detailed statement of the finances.

The total receipts in the Treasury, for the year ending 30th of June last, were forty-seven millions four hundred and twenty-one thousand seven hundred and forty-eight dollars and ninety cents, ($47,421,748 90.)

The total expenditures during the same period were forty-three million two thousand one hundred and seventy-eight dollars and ninety cents, ($43,002,176 90.)

The public debt has been reduced, since the last annual report from the Treasury Department, four hundred and sixty-five thousand two hundred and sixty-eight dollars and seventy-nine cents, ($465,268 79.)

By the 19th section of the act of 28th January, 1847, the proceeds of the sales of the public lands were pledged for the interest and principal of the public debt. The great amount of those lands subsequently granted by Congress for military bounties, will, it is believed, very nearly supply the public demand for several years to come, and but little reliance can, therefore, be placed on that hitherto fruitful source of revenue.

Aside from the permanent annual expenditures, which are necessarily largely increased, a portion of the public debt, amounting to eight millions seventy-five thousand nine hundred and eighty-six dollars and fifty-nine cents ($8,075,986 59) remains to be provided for within the next two fiscal years. It is most desirable that these accruing demands should be met without resorting to new loans.

All experience has demonstrated the wisdom and policy of raising a large portion of revenue, for the support of Government from duties on goods imported. The power to lay these duties is unquestionable, and its chief object, of course, is to replenish the Treasury. But, it, in doing this, an incidental advantage may be gained by encouraging the industry of our own citizens, it is our duty to avail ourselves of that advantage.

A duty laid upon an article which cannot be produced in this country—such as tea or coffee—adds to the cost of the article, and is chiefly or wholly paid by the consumer. But a duty laid upon an article which may be produced here, stimulates the skill and industry of our own country to produce the same article, which is brought into the market in competition with the foreign article, and the importer is thus compelled to reduce his price to the home standard. Every article can be sold, thereby throwing a part of the duty upon the producer of the foreign article. The continuance of this process creates the skill, and invites the capital, which finally enable us to produce the article much cheaper than it could have been produced from abroad, thereby benefiting both the producer and the consumer at home. The consequence of this is, that the artisan, and the agriculturist, are brought together, each affords a ready market for the produce of the other, the whole country becomes prosperous, and the ability to produce every necessary of life renders us independent in war as well as in peace.

A high tariff can never be permanent. It will cause dissatisfaction and will be changed. It precludes competition, and thereby invites the investment of capital in manufactures to such excess, that when changed it brings distress, bankruptcy and ruin upon all who have been misled by its faithless protection. What the manufacturer wants, is uniformity and permanency, that he may feel a confidence that he is not to be ruined by sudden changes. But to make a tariff uniform and permanent, it is not only necessary that the law should not be altered, but that the duty should not fluctuate. To effect this, all duties should be specific, wherever the nature of the article in such as to admit of it. Advalorem duties fluctuate with the price, and offer strong temptations to fraud and perjury. Specific duties, on the contrary, are equal and uniform in all ports, and at all times, and offer a strong inducement to the importer to bring the best article, as he pays no more duty upon that than upon one of inferior quality. I therefore strongly recommend a modification of the present tariff, which has prostrated some of our most important and necessary manufactures, and that specific duties be imposed sufficient to raise the requisite revenue, making such discrimination in favor of the industrial pursuits of our own country as to encourage home production, without excluding foreign competition. It is also important that an unfortunate provision in the present tariff which imposes a much higher duty upon the raw material that enters into our manufactures than upon the manufactured articles, should be remedied.

The papers accompanying the report of the Secretary of the Treasury will disclose frauds attempted upon the revenue, in variety and amount so great, as to justify the conclusion that it is impossible, under any system of advalorem duties levied upon the foreign cost or value of the article, to secure an honest observance and an effectual administration of the laws. The fraudulent devices to evade the law, which have been detected by the vigilance of the appraisers, leave no room to doubt that similar impositions not discovered to a large amount, have been successfully practiced since the enactment of the law now in force. This state of things has already had a prejudicial influence upon those engaged in foreign commerce. It has a tendency to drive the honest trader from the business of importing, and to throw that important branch of employment into the hands of unscrupulous and dishonest men, who are alike regardless of law and the obligations of an oath. To these means the plain intentions of Congress, as expressed in the law, are daily defeated. Every motive of policy and duty, therefore, impel me to ask the earnest attention of Congress to this subject. If Congress should deem it unwise to attempt any important changes in the system of levying duties at this session, it will become indispensable to the protection of the revenue that such remedies, as in the judgment of Congress may mitigate the evils complained of, should be at once applied.

As before stated, specific duties would, in my opinion, afford the most perfect remedy for this evil; but, if you should not concur in this view, then, as a partial remedy, I beg leave respectfully to recommend that, instead of taking the invoice of the articles abroad as a means of determining its value here, the correctness of which invoice it is in many cases impossible to verify, the law be so changed as to require a home valuation or appraisal to be regulated in such manner as to give, as far as practicable, uniformity in the several ports.

There being no mint in California, I am informed that the laborers in the mines are compelled to dispose of their gold dust at a large discount. This appears to be a heavy and unjust tax upon the labors of those employed in extracting this precious metal; and I doubt not you will be disposed, at the earliest period possible, to relieve them from it by the establishment of a mint. In the meantime, as an assayer's office is established there, I would respectfully submit for your consideration the propriety of authorizing gold bullion, which has been assayed and stamped, to be received in payment of Government dues. I cannot conceive that the treasury would suffer any loss by such a provision, which would at once raise bullion to its par value, and thereby save the miner the large sums now paid in brokerage to convert it into available funds. This discount upon their hard earnings is a heavy tax, and every effort should be made by the Government to relieve them from so great a burden.

More than three-fourths of our population are engaged in the various occupations of the soil. The commercial, manufacturing, and navigating interests are all, to a great extent, dependent on the agricultural. It is, therefore, the most important interest of the nation, and has a just claim to the fostering care and protection of the Government, so far as they can be extended consistently with the provisions of the Constitution. As this cannot be done by the ordinary modes of legislation, I respectfully recommend the establishment of an Agricultural Bureau, to be charged with the duty of giving to the leading branch of American industry the encouragement which it so well deserves. In views of the immense mineral resources of our country, provision should also be made for the employment of a competent mineralogist and chemist, who should be required, under the direction of the head of the bureau, to collect experiments of the various minerals of our country, and to ascertain, by careful analysis, their respective elements and properties, and their adaptation to useful purposes. He should also be required to examine and report upon the qualities of different soils, and the manner best calculated to improve their productiveness. By including the results of such experiments, with such other experiments as may be within the reach and distribution of rare seeds and plants, with instructions as to the best system of cultivation, much may be done to promote this great national interest.

In compliance with the act of Congress, passed on the 23d of May, 1850, providing among other things, for taking the seventh census, a superintendent was appointed, and all other measures adopted, which were deemed necessary to ensure the prompt and faithful performance of that duty. The appropriation already made will, it is believed, be sufficient to defray the cost of the work, but further legislation may be necessary in regard to the compensation of some of the marshals of the Territories. It will also be proper to make provision for taking the census the present year. A portion of such abstracts of the returns as the public interests may require

The unprecedented growth of our Territories, both in wealth and population, and the consequent increase of their social and commercial relations with the States, would seem to render it the duty of the Government to adapt its organization more nearly to the new and extended circumstances around it. The ordinance of 1787, providing for the appointment of a governor, secretary, and three judges, was designed for the administration of the affairs of a few agricultural people, in a limited territory, remote from the seat of Government, and living in the simplest manner. Now, large communities are found in the Territories, numbering many thousands of inhabitants, and requiring for the preservation of peace and the administration of justice, a more perfect and complete organization. Many of the duties required of the Executive and Judicial officers are local in their character, and can be more properly performed by officers residing within the Territories, than by officers residing abroad. Hence, the distance of the seat of government from the Territories operates as a serious inconvenience to the people, and hence arises the necessity of a more perfect organization of the Territorial governments, and a more direct participation by the people in the administration of their affairs. The executive, legislative, and judicial powers of the Territorial governments are vested in governors, secretaries, judges, and legislative assemblies, appointed by the President and Senate of the United States. The governors are commanders-in-chief of the militia, and have the veto power upon the acts of the legislative assemblies. The secretaries record and preserve the acts of the legislative assemblies, and transmit a copy of their laws every month to the President of the United States. The governors and judges constitute the executive council. The governors and secretaries, or any two of the governors, judges, and secretaries, have authority to locate the seats of justice, and to provide for the erection of the public buildings. The governors are required to transmit to the President of the United States, annually, a report of the proceedings of the executive council, and all the laws passed by the legislative assemblies. The governors and judges, or a majority of them, have authority to make and establish all such laws and regulations as they may deem necessary, not inconsistent with the organic act, or the Constitution and laws of the United States, which are locally applicable. And they are required to report to Congress all such laws and regulations, for its action thereon. The governors are also charged with the execution of the laws relative to the militia, Indian affairs, and the public property of the United States, and are commanders-in-chief of the militia, and superintendents of Indian affairs. The governors and secretaries are appointed for four years, unless sooner removed by the President. The governors receive a salary of $1,500 a year, and the secretaries a salary of $1,200 a year. The judges receive a salary of $1,800 a year, and are appointed for four years, unless sooner removed by the President. The governors, secretaries, and judges, are required to reside in the Territories for which they are appointed. The legislative assemblies consist of a council and house of representatives. The council is composed of nine members, five of whom constitute a quorum. They are appointed for four years, unless sooner removed by the President. The house of representatives consists of twenty-six members, a majority of whom constitute a quorum. They are elected for two years. The number may be increased to thirty-nine, at the discretion of the legislative assembly. The elections are held on the first Monday in October, unless otherwise provided by the legislative assembly. Every free white male inhabitant above the age of twenty-one years, who is a citizen of the United States, or has declared his intention to become such, and has resided in the Territory six months next preceding the election, is a qualified elector. The legislative assembly have power to prescribe the qualifications of electors and of the elected, beyond the above mentioned. The sessions of the legislative assembly are annual, commencing on the first Monday in December, unless otherwise provided by law. The governors receive no compensation for their services, except their salaries as governors. The legislative assemblies are limited to a session of forty days, unless by consent of two-thirds of both houses. They receive a compensation of three dollars per day during the session, and three dollars for every twenty miles' travel in going to and returning from the seat of government. The members of the executive council receive a compensation of three dollars per day during the session of the legislative assembly, and three dollars for every twenty miles' travel in going to and returning from the seat of government. The secretaries receive a salary of $1,200 a year. The governors are ex officio superintendents of Indian affairs, and receive no additional compensation for their services. The governors are also ex officio commissioners of the public buildings, and receive no additional compensation for their services. The governors are also ex officio boards of health, and receive no additional compensation for their services. The governors are also ex officio boards of health, and receive no additional compensation for their services. The governors are also ex officio boards of health