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THURSDAY MORNING.

DECEMBER 10, 1857.

THE CLOSING OF CONGRESS.

The commencement of the 35th Congress, on Monday last, was not marked by any excitement. The Democrats having a clear majority were enabled to elect their officers according to caucus arrangement without difficulty. In the Senate, in the absence of the Vice President, Mr. FRIZZELL of Alabama was elected President pro tempore, and the new members were sworn in. The Senate held an Executive Session, and considered the admission of W. D. Bowles of Pennsylvania as Superintendent of the Naval Academy, in place of A. G. BEAMAN.

The following of Representatives, the same as in the previous session, were elected: Hon. James L. Orr of South Carolina, Speaker; Hon. James A. Allen of Illinois, Clerk; A. J. Gossenroth of Pennsylvania, Sergeant-at-Arms; Robert B. Hockney of Virginia, Doorkeeper; and the Committee of Ways and Means.

The election of Printer to the House was deferred.

Although the Kansas question is still in a tangled condition, it is scarcely to be supposed that the Democracy will be long divided. It is true their popular sovereignty doctrine is not likely to be honestly carried out on this subject—but what of that? Mr. Calhoun's idea of the "cohesive power of the public plunder" will again be illustrated.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

This document was presented to both Houses of Congress on Tuesday last, and is a document of considerable length, but it is difficult to say that it is a calm and comprehensive exposition of the affairs of the nation. There are points in it which might justify criticism as maintaining some of the bold early dogmas, but altogether it is a creditable State paper.

The President begins with the financial affairs of the nation, treats on the causes of the sudden revision in money matters, which had taken place, and suggests economy both in public and private transactions.

He describes much of the evil to excessive paper expansions, and leads the Subtreasury as a matter of course.

In view of the probability that the revenue for the present year will be deficient, the President gives notice that all new works not already commenced will be suspended.

He thinks it will be necessary to issue a limited amount of Treasury notes to meet the deficiency.

Our foreign affairs are represented as in a good condition and our intercourse with other nations altogether amicable. He speaks somewhat at large upon Central American affairs, and thinks that the Clayton-Bulwer treaty should be abrogated.

He thinks the Mormon rebellion should be promptly suppressed, and therefore recommends the addition of four regiments should be made to the regular army.

The slaves of Kansas are discussed at some length, and the President seems to come to the conclusion that in submitting the slavery issue the spirit of the act will be fully complied with.

The establishment of a territorial government over Arizona, incorporating with it portions of New Mexico. The proposed Territory is believed to be rich in mineral and agricultural resources, especially in silver and copper. It is stated to be the nearest and best route to the Pacific, and the mails California are now carried through it.

The President thinks Congress will probably add a Railroad to the Pacific, and that it is indispensable to the proper defense of our possessions in that quarter.

The expenditures of the last year were \$70,622,724, nearly six millions of which were applied to the redemption of the public debt. The present debt of the nation is over \$200,000,000.

The President conveys in his recommendation of the Secretary of War for raising four additional regiments of the Army, and with the Secretary of the Navy in favor of the construction of ten small war steamers for use in the shallow rivers of the Atlantic and Pacific. The whole cost of the construction of these steamers would not exceed \$2,000,000.

The President thinks the public lands should not be squandered, but used principally as homes for a hardy and independent race of honest and industrious citizens, who desire to subdue and cultivate the soil. He future grants to Railroads he suggests that no actual settlers on the reserved areas.

He has been led to believe that the whole number of Indians is about 325,000.

In referring to an overflowing treasury as leading to habits of profligacy, the President thinks from evil we may curse good, we are now compelled (says) to pause in our course, and to examine our expenditures with the utmost vigilance, and in performing this duty he pledges his cooperation.

He concludes by recommending to the favorable consideration of Congress the interests of the people of the District of Columbia.

Notwithstanding the specious manner in which the President treats the Kansas question, the opinion prevails that the excitement produced by a partial submission of the new Constitution to the people will not be so easily settled.

COSMOPOLITAN ART ASSOCIATION.

We have already called attention to the advertisement of this Association, which will be found in our columns, but we would again give our readers to it, as the time to come is at hand.

We have received from the hand of H. H. Harlan, Esq., the enterprising and efficient Agent, our Certificate of Membership, which we accept.

UNITED STATES ARMY.

We publish the following from the "Lynchburg Virginian," by request of several friends. As many of our patrons, as well as many more of our readers, are interested on the subject, we comply without hesitation. The Armory of Harper's Ferry has been a source of dissension for many years. Under no system since the days of Col. Stubblefield, have the operatives been more prosperous than under the so-called "military rule"—and if half the efforts had been put forth to keep up the usual appropriations for the manufacture of arms as in fighting against a system, which, in the words of an employee, "not only made the drabard most barren man, and the idler industries," a system which made him the more useful to those who were favored with his services.

We trust should there be a change in the administration of affairs in the Army, which will be hereafter a good cause of removal or suspension of the above named individuals. If the people are to be freemen, in God's name let them be free to act as freemen. Between the discussion among the Democrats themselves, we leave them to settle it the best they can, reserving the right of a "Free State" to do what it pleases.

The strong feeling excited in this community by the discussion of affairs in the Army, will be a new redoubt for the removal of W. was a man remarkable for his physical strength of mind, and enjoyed during his long life a degree of confidence in his military service second to none.

Dr. S. N. Hamilton died at his residence in Gumpson, in Loudon County, on the 20th ult. He was a promising young physician, and died lamented by a wide circle of friends.

John Marlow, son of Geo. Marlow, Esq., was thrown from his buggy, near the Potowmack bridge in Loudon Co., a few days ago, and was considerably bruised and injured, but not fatally.

Mr. Madsen, an old gentleman residing in the Blue Ridge, near Braxaville, in Loudon County, had his hand and arm torn off to the elbow, by a threshing machine, last week.

Mr. H. T. Bryan, merchant tailor, who kept a small store near Waterford, had his shop burned on Saturday night. A quantity of clothing and novelties were destroyed. His property was insured in the Ordnance Department, had charge of the manufacturer of military arms, at the Armories of Springfield and Harper's Ferry. Great abuse of power, and lavish expenditures of money were alleged to these officers, whilst these patriotic Congressmen—the one a phraseman, the other—a great joker—was raised because officers detailed to the Ordnance Department, had charge of the manufacturer of military arms, at the Armories of Springfield and Harper's Ferry. Great abuse of power, and lavish expenditures of money were alleged to these officers, whilst these patriotic Congressmen—the one a phraseman, the other—a great joker—was raised because officers detailed to the Ordnance Department, had charge of the manufacturer of military arms, at the Armories of Springfield and Harper's Ferry. 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