

26th of May authorized a loan of five millions of dollars at 4 per cent. to meet the same. By this arrangement an annual saving will accrue to the public of \$75,000.

Under the act of the 12th of May last, a loan of \$3,000,000 was authorized in order to meet the awards under the Florida treaty, which was negotiated at the Bank of the United States at 4 1/2 per cent. the limit by the act. By this provision, the claims of our citizens, who had sustained so great a loss by spoliation, and from whom indemnity had been so long withheld, were promptly paid. For these advances the public will sale of the lands of Florida. Of the great advantages resulting from the acquisition of the territory in other respects, too high an estimate cannot be formed.

It is estimated that the receipts to the Treasury, during the year 1835, will be sufficient to meet the disbursements of the year, including the sum of ten millions of dollars, which is annually appropriated by the act constituting the Sinking Fund, to the payment of the principal and interest of the public debt.

The whole amount of the public debt, on the first day of January next, may be estimated at \$86,000, inclusive of \$2,500,000 of the loan authorized by the act of 26th May last. In this estimate is included a stock of \$7,000,000, issued for the purchase of that amount of the capital stock of the Bank of the United States, and which, as the stock of the Bank still held by the government, will at least be fully equal to its reimbursement, ought not to be considered as constituting a part of the public debt. Estimating, then, the whole amount of the public debt at \$79,000,000, and comparing the annual receipts and expenditures of the government, a well founded hope may be entertained, that should no unexpected event occur, the whole of the public debt may be discharged in the course of ten years, and the government be left at liberty afterwards to apply such portion of the revenue as may not be necessary for current expenses, to such other objects as may be most conducive to the public security and welfare. That the sums applicable to these objects will be very considerable, may be fairly concluded, when it is recollected, that a large amount of the public revenue has been applied, since the late war, to the construction of the public buildings in this city, to the erection of fortifications along the coast, and of arsenals in different parts of the Union; to the augmentation of the Navy; to the extinguishment of the Indian title to large tracts of fertile territory; to the acquisition of Florida; to pensions to Revolu-

tion. Of the progress which has been made in the construction of Fortifications for the permanent defence of our maritime frontier, according to the plan decided on, and to the extent of the existing appropriations, the report of the Secretary of War, which is herewith communicated, will give a detailed account. Their final completion cannot fail to give great additional security to that frontier, and to diminish proportionably the expense of defending it in the event of war.

The provisions in the several acts of Congress of the last session, for the improvement of the navigation of the Mississippi and the Ohio, of the Harbour of Presque on Lake Erie, and the repair of the Plymouth Beach, are in a course of regular execution; and there is reason to believe that the appropriation in each instance will be adequate to the object. To carry these improvements fully into effect, the superintendence of them has been assigned to officers of the Corps of Engineers.

Under the act of the 30th April last, authorizing the President to cause a survey to be made with the necessary plan, and estimates of such roads and canals, as he might deem of national importance, in a commercial or military point of view, consisting of two distinguished officers of the Corps of Engineer and a distinguished Civil Engineer, with assistants, who have been actively employed in carrying into effect the objects of the act. They have carefully examined between the Potomac and the Ohio rivers; between the Alleghany and the Susquehanna; and the routes between the Delaware and the Chesapeake, and Buzzard's bay; and between Boston harbour and Narraganset bay. Such portion of the Corps of Topographical Engineers as could be spared from the survey of the coast, has been employed in surveying the very important route between the Potomac and the Ohio. Considerable progress has been made in it, but the survey cannot be completed until the next season. It is gratifying to add, from the view already taken, that there is good cause to believe that this great national object may be fully accomplished.

It is contemplated to commence early in the next season the execution of the other branch of the act, that which relates to roads; and with the survey of a route from this city, through the southern states, to New-Orleans, the importance of which cannot be too highly estimated. All the officers of both the Corps of Engineers, who could be spared from other services, have been employed in exploring and surveying the routes for canals, and a plan for both objects for the great purpose specified, will require a thorough knowledge of every part of our Union, and of the relation of each part to the others, and of all to the seat of the General Government. For such a digest, it will be necessary that the information be full, minute, and precise. With a view to these important objects, I submit to the consideration of Congress, the propriety of enlarging both the Corps of Engineers, the Military and Topographical. It need scarcely be remarked, that the more extensively these Corps are engaged in the improvement of their country, in the execution of the powers of Congress, and in aid of the states, in such improvements as lie beyond that limit, when such aid is desired, the happier the effect will be, in many views, of which the subject is susceptible. By profiting of their science, the works will always be well executed; and by giving to the officers such employment, our union will derive all the advantage, in peace as well as war, from their talents and services, which they can afford. In this mode, also, the Military will be incorporated with the Civil, and unfounded and injurious distinctions and prejudices of every kind be done away. To the Corps themselves, this service cannot fail to be equally useful—since, by the knowledge they would thus acquire, they would be eminently better qualified, in the event of war, for the great purpose for which they were instituted.

Our relations with the Indian tribes, within our limits, have not been materially changed during the year. The hostile disposition evinced by certain tribes, on the Missouri, during the last year, still continues, and has extended, in some degree, to those on the upper Mississippi, and the upper Lakes. Several parties of our citizens have been plundered and murdered, by those tribes. In order to establish relations of friendship with them, Congress at the last session made an appropriation for treaties with them, and for the employment of a suitable military escort to accompany and attend the Commissioners at the places appointed for the negotiations. This object has not been effected. The season was too far advanced when the appropriation was made, and the distance too great to permit; but measures have been taken, and all the preparations will be completed, to accomplish it at an early period in the next season.

Believing that the hostility of the tribes, particularly on the upper Mississippi and the lakes, is, in no small degree, owing to the wars which are carried on between

the tribes residing in that quarter, measures have been taken to bring about a general peace among them, which, if successful, will not only tend to the security of our citizens, but be of great advantage to the Indians themselves. With the exception of the tribes referred to, our relations with all the others are on the most friendly footing; and it affords me great satisfaction to add, that they are making steady advances in civilization, and the improvement of their condition. Many of the tribes have already made great progress in the arts of civilized life. The desirable result has been brought about by the humane and persevering policy of the government, and particularly by means of the appropriation for the civilization of the Indians. There have been established, under the provisions of this act, thirty-two schools, containing five hundred and sixteen scholars, who are well instructed in several branches of literature, and likewise in agriculture and the ordinary arts of life.

Under the appropriation to authorize treaties with the Creek and Quapaw Indians, Commissioners are now pending, but the result is not yet known. For more full information, respecting the principle which has been adopted for carrying into effect the act of Congress authorizing surveys, with plans and estimates for canals and roads, and on every other branch of duty incident to the Department of War, I refer you to the report of the Secretary.

The squadron in the Mediterranean has been maintained in the extent which was proposed in the report of the Secretary of the Navy of the last year, and has afforded to our commerce the necessary protection in that sea. Apprehending, however, that unfriendly relations which have existed between Algiers and some of the powers of Europe, might be extended to us, it has been thought expedient to augment the force there; and, in consequence, the "North Carolina," a ship of the line, has been prepared, and will sail in a few days to join it.

The force employed in the gulph of Mexico, and in the neighbouring Seas, for the suppression of piracy, has likewise been preserved essentially in the state in which it was during the last year. A persevering effort has been made for the accomplishment of that object, and much protection has thereby been afforded to our commerce, but still the practice is far from being suppressed. From every view which has been taken of the subject, it is thought that it will be necessary rather to augment than to diminish our force in that quarter. There is reason to believe that the pirates now complaining of, are committed by bands of robbers who inhabit the land, and who, by preserving good intelligence with the Towns, and seizing favourable opportunities, rush forth and fall on unprotected merchant vessels, of which they make an easy prey. The pillage thus taken, they carry to their lurking places and dispose of afterwards at prices tending to seduce the neighbouring population. This combination is understood to be of great extent, and is the more to be deprecated because the crime of piracy is often attended with the murder of the crews, these robbers knowing, if any survived, their lurking places would be exposed, and they be caught and punished. That this atrocious practice should be carried to such extent, is cause of equal surprise and regret. It is presumed that it must be attributed to the relaxed and feeble state of the local governments, since it is not doubted, from the high character of the Governor of Cuba, who is well known and much respected here, that if he had the power, he would promptly suppress it. Whether those robbers should be pursued on the land, the local authorities be made responsible for these atrocities, or any other measure be resorted to suppress them, is submitted to the consideration of Congress.

In execution of the laws for the suppression of the Slave Trade, a vessel has been occasionally sent from the squadron to the coast of Africa, with orders to return thence by the usual track of the slave ships, and to seize any of our vessels which might be engaged in that trade. None have been found, and it is believed, that none are thus employed. It is well known, however, that the trade still exists under other flags.

The health of our squadron, while at Thompson's Island has been much better during the present than it was the last season. Some improvements have been made, and others are contemplated there, which, it is believed, will have a very salutary effect.

On the Pacific our commerce has much increased; and on that coast, as on that sea, the United States have many important interests, which require attention and protection. It is thought that all the considerations which suggested the expediency of placing a squadron on that sea, operate with augmented force, for maintaining it there, at least to an equal extent.

For detailed information respecting the state of our maritime force on each sea, the improvement necessary to be made, either in the organization of the Naval Establishment generally, or of the laws for its better government, I refer you to

the Report of the Secretary of the Navy which is herewith communicated. The revenue of the Post-Office Department has received a considerable augmentation in the present year. The current receipts will exceed the expenditures, although the transportation of the mail within the year has been much increased. A Report of the Postmaster General, which is transmitted, will furnish, in detail, the necessary information respecting the administration and present state of this Department.

In conformity with the resolution of Congress, of the last session, an invitation was given to General Taylor, to visit the United States, with an assurance that he should be accompanied by a portion of his staff, and that he should receive and convey him across the Atlantic, whenever it might be convenient for him to sail. He declined the offer of the public ship, from motives of delicacy, but assured me that he had long intended, and would certainly visit the Union in the course of the present year. In August last he arrived at New-York, where he was received with the warmth of affection and gratitude to which his very important and disinterested services and sacrifices in our revolutionary struggle, so eminently entitled him. A corresponding sentiment has since been manifested in his favour throughout every portion of our Union, and affectionate invitations have been given him to extend his visits to them. To these he has yielded all the accommodation in his power. At every designated point of rendezvous, the whole population of the neighboring country has been assembled to greet him; among whom it has excited in a peculiar manner the sensibility of all, to behold the surviving remnant of our revolutionary contest, civil and military, who had shared with him in the toils and dangers of the war, many of them in a decrepid state. A more interesting spectacle, it is believed, was never witnessed, because none could be founded on purer principles—none proceed from higher or more disinterested motives. That the feelings of those who had fought and bled with him, in a common cause, should have been much excited, was natural. There are, however, circumstances attending these interviews, which pervaded the whole community, and touched the breasts of every age, even the youngest among us. There was not an individual present, who had not some relative who had partaken in those scenes, nor an infant who had not heard the relation of them. But the circumstances which was most sensibly felt, and which his presence brought forcibly to the recollection of all, was the great cause in which we were engaged, and the blessing which we have derived from our success in it. The struggle was for independence and liberty, public and personal, and in this we succeeded. The meeting with one who had borne so great a part in that great struggle, and from such lofty and disinterested motives, could not fail to affect, profoundly, every individual, and of every age. It is natural we should all take as deep an interest in his future welfare, as we do. His high claims on our Union are felt, and the sentiment universal, that they should be met in a generous spirit. Under these impressions, I invite your attention to the subject, with a view that, regarding his very important services, losses, and sacrifices, a provision may be made and tendered to him, which shall correspond with the sentiments, and be worthy the character, of the American people.

In turning our attention to the condition of the civilized world, in which the United States have always taken a deep interest, it is gratifying to see how large a portion of it is blessed with peace. The only wars which now exist within that limit, are those between Turkey and Greece, in Europe; and between Spain and the new Governments, our neighbors, in this hemisphere. In both these wars the cause of independence, of liberty and humanity, continues to prevail. The success of Greece, when the relative population of the contending parties is considered, commands our admiration and applause, and that it has had a similar effect with the neighboring Powers, is obvious. The feeling of the whole civilized world is excited, in a high degree, in their favor. May we not hope that these sentiments, winning on the hearts of their respective Governments, may lead to a more decisive result? that they may produce an accord among them, to replace Greece on the ground which she formerly held, and to which her heroic exertions, at this day, so eminently entitle her?

With respect to the contest, to which our neighbors are a party, it is evident that Spain, as a power, is scarcely felt in it. These new states had completely achieved their independence, before it was acknowledged by the United States, and they have since maintained it, with little foreign pressure. The disturbances which have appeared in certain portions of that vast territory, have proceeded from internal causes, which had their origin in their former governments, and have not yet been thoroughly removed. It is manifest that these causes are daily losing their effect, and that these new states are settling down under governments elective and representative in eve-

ry branch, similar to our own. In this course we ardently wish them to persevere, under a firm conviction that it will promote their happiness. In this their career, however, we have not interfered, believing that every people have a right to institute for themselves the government which, in their judgment, may suit them best. Our example is before them, of the good effect of which, being our neighbors, they are competent judges, and to their judgment we leave it, in the expectation that other powers will pursue the same policy. The deep interest which we take in their independence, and their enjoyment of all the rights incident thereto, especially in the very important one of instituting their own governments, has been declared, and is known to the world. Separated, as we are from Europe by the great Atlantic ocean, we can have no concerns in the wars of the European Governments, nor in the causes which produce them. The balance of power between them, into which ever scale it may turn in its various vibrations, cannot affect us. It is the interest of the United States to preserve the most friendly relations with every power, and on conditions fair, equal, and applicable to all. But, in regard to our neighbors, our situation is different. It is impossible for the European Governments to interfere in their concerns, especially in those alluded to, which are vital, without affecting us; indeed, the motive which might induce such interference in the present state of the war between the parties, if a war it may be called, would appear to be equally applicable to us. It is gratifying to know that some of the powers with whom we enjoy a very friendly intercourse, and to whom these views have been communicated, have appeared to acquiesce in them.

The augmentation of our population, with the expansion of our Union, and increased number of States, have produced effects in certain branches of our system, which merit the attention of Congress. Some of our arrangements, and particularly the Judiciary Establishments, were made with a view to the original thirteen states only. Since then the United States have required a vast extent of territory; eleven new states have been admitted into the Union, and territories have been laid off for three others, which will, likewise, be admitted at no distant day. An organization of the Supreme Court, which assigns to the Judges any portion of the duties which belong to the inferior, requiring their passage over so vast a space, under any distribution of the states that may now be made, if not impracticable in the execution, must render it impossible for them to discharge the duties of either branch with advantage to the Union. The duties of the Supreme Court would be of great importance, if its decisions were confined to the ordinary limits of other tribunals; but when it is considered that this court decides, and in the last resort, on all the great questions which arise under our Constitution, involving those between the United States, individually, between the states and the United States, and between the latter and foreign powers, too high an estimate of their importance cannot be formed. The great interests of the nation seem to require that the Judges of the Supreme Court should be exempted from every other duty, than that which is incident to that high trust. The organization of the inferior courts would, of course, be adapted to circumstances. It is presumed that such an one might be formed, as would secure an able and faithful discharge of their duties, and without any material augmentation of expense.

The condition of the Aborigines within our limits, and especially those who are within the limits of any of the States, merits likewise particular attention. Experience has shown, that unless the tribes be civilized, they can never be incorporated into our system, in any form whatever. If as likewise shown, that in the regular augmentation of our population, with the extension of our settlements, their situation will become deplorable, if their extinction is not menaced. Some well-digested plan, which will rescue them from such calamities, is due to their rights, to the rights of humanity, and to the honor of the nation. Their civilization is indispensable to their safety, and this can be accomplished only by degrees. The process must commence with the infant state, through whom some effect may be wrought on the parental. Difficulties of the most serious character present themselves to the attainment of this very desirable result, on the territory on which they now reside. To remove them from it by force, even with a view to their own security and happiness, would be revolting to humanity, and utterly unjustifiable. Between the limits of our present States and Territories, and the Rocky Mountains and Mexico, there is a vast territory to which they might be invited, with inducements which might be successful. It is thought, if that territory should be divided into districts, by previous agreement with the tribes now residing there, and civil governments established in each, with schools for every branch of instruction in literature and the arts of civilized

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