

seated, and the Chancellor having given, in his Majesty's name, permission to the deputies to seat themselves—a profound silence reigned—when his Majesty pronounced the following discourse:—

SPEECH OF LOUIS XVIII.

The following Speech of the King of France at the opening of his Parliament is translated from the *Bordeaux Gazette* of the 17th of October.

GENTLEMEN—When last year, I assembled the two houses for the first time, I felicitated myself upon having by an honorable treaty restored peace to France: she began to taste the fruits of it; all the sources of public prosperity were re-opened a criminal enterprise, seconded by the most inconceivable defection, came to stop its course. The evils which that ephemeral usurpation have caused to our country, afflict me deeply. I ought, however to declare in this place that if it had been possible for them to have effected me only I should bless Providence for them.

The tokens of love that my people gave me, even in the most critical moments, alleviated my individual sufferings; but those of my subjects, of my children, oppress my heart; and in order to put an end to that state of things, more grievous than war itself, I have deemed it my duty to conclude with the powers, who, after having overthrown the usurper, at present occupy a great part of our territory, a convention which settles our present and future relations with them. It shall be communicated to you without reserve, so soon as it shall have received its last form. You will know, the great pain that I must have felt; but the very safety of my kingdom rendered that great determination necessary; and when I took that determination, I felt the duties that it imposed on me.

I have ordered that this year a considerable portion of my revenue be taken from the treasury of my civil list, and paid into that of the state. My family on being informed of my resolutions, offered me a proportionate donation. I ordered similar retrenchments from the salaries and emoluments of all my servants, without exception; I shall always be ready to unite in the sacrifices which imperious circumstances imposed on my people. The account of the expenses will be delivered to you, and you will know the importance of the economy, that I have directed in the department of my ministers and in all parts of the Administration. Happy will it be if those measures can be adequate to the burthens of the state! In every event I rely upon the devotion of the nation, and the zeal of the two chambers.

But gentlemen, other cares more pleasing, and not less important, assemble you to-day. It to give more weight to your deliberations; it is to receive from them more light myself, that I have created new peers, and that the number of the deputies of the departments have been augmented. I hope to have succeeded in my choice, and in the zeal of the deputies in these difficult times, is also a proof that they are animated by a sincere affection for my person and ardent love for the country.

“It is then, with a pleasing joy and awful confidence, that I see you assembled around me.—Certain that you will never lose sight of the fundamental basis of the happiness of the state: a free and loyal union of the houses with the king, and respect for the constitutional charter; this charter (which I have studied with care before I gave it, to which reflection attacks me every day, still more, which I have sworn to maintain, and to which you all, beginning with my family, are about swearing obedience) is doubtless, like all other human institutions, susceptible of improvements. But none of us ought to forget, that near to the advantage meliorating it, lies the danger of innovation. Many other important objects offer themselves to our labors; to make religion flourish again, to purify the morals, to found liberty upon respect to the laws, to render them more and more analogous to these great views, to give stability to credit, to re-compose the army, to heal the wounds which have but to much rent the bosom of our country, finally to assure interior tranquility, and thus make France respected abroad; these are the points to which all our efforts ought to be directed. I do not flatter myself, that so many benefits can be the work of one session, but at the end of the present legislature, we can perceive that we have approached them, we ought to be satisfied with ourselves. I will spare no pains to arrive at this end; and I count, gentlemen, upon your most active co-operation.”

Monsieur the chancellor, being apprised by a sign from the grand master of the ceremonies, received his Majesty's orders, and indicated to the princes of the blood, that it was then the time for taking the oath.

His Majesty having concluded the above discourse, intimated through the Chancellor, to the Princes of the royal family and to the Princes of the blood, that the present was the time to take the oath of allegiance to the King and of obedience to the constitutional Charter and Laws of the Kingdom. The oath was then successively taken by

Monsieur, the dukes d'Angouleme, de Berry, and de Orleans, and the Prince de Conde.

President's Message.

WASHINGTON CITY, Dec. 5.

This day at 12 o'clock, the PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES transmitted to both Houses of Congress, the following Message, by Mr. TODD, his Secretary:

Fellow Citizens of the Senate, and of the House of Representatives: I have the satisfaction, on our present meeting, of being able to communicate to you the successful termination of the war which had been commenced against the United States by the Regency of Algiers. The squadron in advance, on that service, under commodore Decatur, lost not a moment after its arrival in the Mediterranean, in seeking the naval force of the enemy, then cruising in that sea, and succeeded in capturing two of his ships, one of them, the principal ship, commanded by the Algerine Admiral. The high character of the American commander was brilliantly sustained on the occasion, which brought his own ship into close action with that of his adversary, as was the accustomed gallantry of all the officers and men actually engaged. Having prepared the way by this demonstration of American skill and prowess, he hastened to the port of Algiers, where peace was promptly yielded to his victorious force. In the terms stipulated, the rights and honor of the United States were particularly consulted, by a perpetual relinquishment, on the part of the Dey, of all pretensions to tribute from them. The impressions which have thus been made, strengthened as they will have been, by subsequent transactions with the regencies of Tunis and Tripoli, by the appearance of the larger force which followed under commodore Bainbridge the chief in command of the expedition, and by the judicious precautionary arrangements left by him in that quarter, afford a reasonable prospect of future security for the valuable portion of our commerce which passes with in reach of the Barbary cruisers.

It is another source of satisfaction that the treaty of peace with Great Britain has been succeeded by a convention on the subject of commerce, concluded by the plenipotentiaries of the two countries. In this result a disposition is manifested on the part of that nation, corresponding with the disposition of the United States, which, it may be hoped, will be improved into liberal arrangements on other subjects, on which the parties have mutual interests, or which might endanger their future harmony. Congress will decide on the expediency of promoting such a sequel, by giving effect to the measure of confining the American navigation to American seamen; a measure which, at the same time that it might have the further advantage of increasing the independence of our navigation, and the resources for our maritime defence.

In conformity with the articles of the treaty of Ghent, relating to the Indians, as well as with a view to the tranquility of our western and north-western frontiers, measures were taken to establish an immediate peace with the several tribes who had been engaged in hostilities against the U. States. Such of them as were invited to Detroit acceded readily to the renewal of the former treaties of friendship. Of the other tribes who were invited to a station on the Mississippi, the greater number have also accepted the peace offered to them. The residue, consisting of the more distant tribes or parts of tribes, remain to be brought over by further explanations, or by such other means as may be adapted to the disposition they may finally disclose.

The Indian tribes within, and bordering on our southern frontier, whom a cruel war on their part had compelled us to chastise into peace, have latterly shown a restlessness, which has called for preparatory measures for repressing it, and for protecting the commissioners engaged in carrying the terms of the peace into execution.

The execution of the Act for fixing the military peace establishment, has been attended with difficulties which even now can only be overcome by legislative aid. The selection of officers; the payment and discharge of the troops enlisted for the war; the payment of the retained troops, and their re-union from detached and distant stations; the collection and security of the public property, in the quarter-master, commissary, and ordnance departments; and the constant medical assistance required in hospitals and garrisons, rendered a complete execution of the act impracticable on the first of May, the period more immediately contemplated. As soon, however, as circumstances would permit, and as far as it has been practicable, consistently with the public interests, the reduction of the army has been accomplished; but the appropriations for its pay, and for other branches of the military service, having proved inadequate, the earliest attention to that subject will be necessary; and the expediency of continuing upon the peace establishment, the staff officers who have hith-

erto been provisionally retained, is also recommended to the consideration of Congress.

In the performance of the executive duty upon this occasion, there has not been wanting a just sensibility to the merits of the American army, during the late war: but the obvious policy and design in fixing an efficient military peace establishment, did not afford an opportunity to distinguish the aged and infirm, on account of their past services; nor the wounded and disabled, on account of their present sufferings. The extent of the reduction indeed unavoidably involved the exclusion of many meritorious officers of every rank, from the service of their country; and so equal, as well as so numerous, were the claims to attention, that a decision by the standard of comparative merit, could seldom be attained. Judged, however, in candor, by a general standard of positive merit the Army Register will, it is believed, do honor to the establishment; while the case of those officers, whose names are not included in it, devolves, with the strongest interest, upon the legislative authority, for such provision as shall be deemed the best calculated to give support and solace to the veteran and invalid; to display the beneficence, as well as the justice of the government; and to inspire a marshal zeal for the public service, upon every future emergency.

Although the embarrassments arising from the want of a uniform national currency have not been diminished, since the adjournment of congress, great satisfaction has been derived, in contemplating the revival of the public credit, and the efficiency of the public resources. The receipts into the Treasury, from the various branches of revenue, during the nine months ending on the 30th of September last, have been estimated at twelve millions and a half of dollars; the issues of Treasury Notes of every denomination, during the same period, amounted to the sum of fourteen millions of dollars; and there was also obtained upon loan, during the same period, a sum of nine millions of dollars of which the sum of six millions of dollars was subscribed in cash, and the sum of three millions of dollars in Treasury Notes. With these means, added to the sum of one million and a half of dollars, being the balance of money in the Treasury on the 1st of January, there has been paid, between the first of January and the 1st of October, on account of the appropriations of the preceding and of the present year, (exclusively of the amount of the Treasury Notes subscribed to the loan, and the amount redeemed in the payment of duties and taxes) the aggregate sum of thirty-three millions and a half of dollars, leaving a balance then in the Treasury estimated at the sum of three millions of dollars. Independent, however, of the arrearages due for military services and supplies, it is presumed, that a further sum of five millions of dollars, including the interest on the public debt payable on the 1st of January next, will be demanded at the Treasury to complete the expenditures of the present year, and for which the existing ways and means will sufficiently provide.

The national debt, as it was ascertained on the 1st of October last, amounted in the whole to the sum of one hundred and twenty millions of dollars, consisting of the unredeemed balance of the debt contracted before the late war, (thirty nine millions of dollars) the amount of the funded debt contracted in consequence of the war, (sixty-four millions of dollars) and the amount of the unfunded and floating debt (including the various issues of Treasury Notes) seventeen millions of dollars, which is in a gradual course of payment. There will, probably, be some addition to the public debt, upon the liquidation of various claims, which are depending; and a conciliatory disposition on the part of Congress may lead honorably and advantageously to an equitable arrangement of the militia expenses, incurred by the several states, without the previous sanction or authority of the government of the United States: But, when it is considered that the new, as well as the old, portion of the debt has been contracted in the assertion of the national rights and independence; and when it is recollectcd, that the public expenditures, not being exclusively bestowed upon subjects of a transient nature, will long be visible in the number and equipments of the American navy, in the military works for the defence of our harbors and our frontiers, and in the supplies of our arsenals and magazines; the amount will bear a gratifying comparison with the objects which have been attained, as well as with the resources of the country.

The arrangement of the finances, with a view to the receipts and expenditures of a permanent peace establishment, will necessarily enter into the deliberations of Congress during the present session. It is true that the improved condition of the public revenue will not only afford the means of maintaining the faith of the government inviolate, and of prosecuting, successfully, the measures of the most liberal policy; but will, also, justify an immediate alleviation of the burthens imposed by the necessities of the war. It is, however, essential to every mod-

ification of the finances, that the benefits of a uniform currency should be restored to the community. The absence of the precious metals will, it is believed, be a temporary evil; but, until they can be again rendered the general medium of exchange, it devolves on the wisdom of Congress, to provide a substitute, which shall equally engage the confidence, and accommodate the wants, of the citizens throughout the union. If the operation of the state banks cannot produce this result, the probable operation of a National Bank will merit consideration; and if neither of these expedients be deemed effectual, it may become necessary to ascertain the terms upon which the notes of the government, (no longer required as an instrument of credit) shall be issued, upon motives of general policy, as a common medium of circulation.

Notwithstanding the security for future repose, which the United States ought to find in their love of peace, and their constant respect for the rights of other nations, the character of the times particularly inculcates the lesson, that, whether to prevent or repel danger, we ought not to be unprepared for it. This consideration will sufficiently recommend to Congress a liberal provision for the immediate extension, and gradual completion, of the works of defence, both fixed and floating, on our maritime frontier; and an adequate provision for guarding our inland frontier, against dangers to which certain portions of it may continue to be exposed.

As an improvement on our military establishment, it will deserve the consideration of Congress, whether a corps of invalids might not be so organized and employed, as at once to aid in the support of meritorious individuals, excluded by age or infirmities, from the existing establishment, and to preserve to the police, the benefit of their stationary services, and of their exemplary discipline. I recommend also, an enlargement of the military academy, already established, and the establishment of others in other sections of the union. And I cannot press too much on the attention of Congress, such a classification and organization of the militia, as will most effectually render it the safe-guard of a free state. If experience has shewn in the late splendid achievements of militia, the value of this resource for the public defence, it has shewn also, the importance of that skill in the use of arms, and that familiarity with the essential rules of discipline, which cannot be expected from the regulations now in force. With this subject is intimately connected the necessity of accommodating the laws, in every respect, to the great object of enabling the political authority of the union, to employ, promptly and effectually, the physical power of the union, in the cases designated by the constitution.

The signal services which have been rendered by our navy, and the capacities it has developed for successful co-operation in the national defence, will give to that portion of the public force, its full value in the eyes of Congress, at an epoch which calls for the constant vigilance of all governments.—To preserve the ships now in sound state; to complete those already contemplated; to provide amply the imperishable materials for prompt augmentation, and to improve the existing arrangements into more advantageous establishments, for the construction, the repairs, & the security of vessels of war, is dictated by the soundest policy.

In adjusting the duties on imports, to the object of revenue, the influence of the tariff on manufactures, will necessarily present itself for consideration. However wise the theory may be, which leaves to the sagacity and interest of individuals the application of their industry and resources, there are in this, as in other cases, exceptions to the general rule. Besides the condition which the theory itself implies, of a reciprocal adoption by other nations, experience teaches that so many circumstances must occur in introducing and maturing manufacturing establishments, especially of the more complicated kinds, that a country may remain long without them, altho' sufficiently advanced, and in some respects even peculiarly fitted for carrying them on with success. Under circumstances giving a powerful impulse to manufacturing industry, it has made among us a progress, and exhibited an efficiency, which justify the belief, that with a protection not more than is due to the enterprising citizens whose interests are now at stake, it will become, at an early day, not only safe against occasional competitions from abroad, but a source of domestic wealth, and even of external commerce. In selecting the branches more especially entitled to the public patronage, a preference is obviously claimed by such as will relieve the United States from a dependence on foreign supplies, ever subject to casual failures, for articles necessary for the public defence, or connected with the primary wants of individuals. It will be an additional recommendation for particular manufactures, where the materials for them are extensively drawn from our agriculture, and consequently impart and ensure to that great fund of national prosperity and independence,

an encouragement which cannot fail to be rewarded.

Among the means of advancing the public interest, the occasion is a proper one for recalling the attention of Congress to the great importance of establishing throughout our country, the roads and canals which can best be executed, under the national authority. No objects within the circle of political economy so richly repay the experience bestowed on them; there is none, the utility of which is more universally acknowledged; none that more honor to the government, who wisely and enlarged patriotism duly appreciates them. Nor is there a country which presents a field, where nature invites more the art of man to complete her own work for his accommodation and benefit. These considerations are strengthened, more so by the political effect of these facilities for inter-communication, in bringing and binding more closely together the various parts of our extended confederacy. Whilst the states individually, with a laudable enterprize and emulation, avail themselves of their advantages, by new roads, by navigable canals, and by improving streams susceptible of navigation, the general government is the more urged to similar undertakings, requiring national jurisdiction, & national means by the prospect of thus systematically completing so inestimable a work. And it is a happy reflection, that a defect of constitutional authority, which may be encountered, can be supplied in a mode which the constitution itself has providently pointed out.

The present is a favorable season for bringing again into view the establishment of a national seminary, learning within the district of Columbia, and with means drawn from the property therein subject to the authority of the general government. Such an institution claims the patronage of Congress, as a monument of their solicitude for the advancement of knowledge, without which the blessings of liberty cannot be fully enjoyed, or long preserved; as a model instructive in the formation of other seminaries; as a nursery of enlightened preceptors, as a central resort of youth and genius from every part of their country, diffusing on their return examples of those national feelings, those liberal sentiments, and those congenial manners which contribute cement to our union, and strength in the great political fabric, of which that is the foundation.

In closing this communication, I ought not to repress a sensibility, which you will unite, to the happy lot of our country, and to the goodness of a superintending Providence to which we are indebted for it. Whilst other portions of mankind are laboring under the distresses of war, or struggling with adversity in other forms, the United States are in the tranquil enjoyment of prosperous and honorable peace.

In revisiting the scenes through which it has been attained, we can rejoice in the proofs given, that our political institutions, founded in human rights, and framed for their preservation, are equal to the severest trials of war, as well as adapted to the ordinary periods of repose. As fruits of this experience, and of the reputation acquired by the American arms, on the land and on the water, the nation finds itself possessed of a growing respect abroad, and of a just confidence in itself, which are among the best pledges for its peaceful career. Under other aspects of our country, the strongest features of its flourishing condition are seen, in a population rapidly increasing, on a territory as productive as it is extensive; in a general industry, and fertile ingenuity, which find their ample rewards; and in an affluent revenue, which admits a reduction of the public burthens, without withdrawing the means of sustaining the public credit, of gradually discharging the public debt, of providing for the necessarily defensive and precautionary establishments, and of patronizing, in every authorized mode, undertakings conducive to the aggregate wealth and individual comfort of our citizens.

It remains for the guardians of the public welfare, to persevere in that justice and good will towards other nations, which invite a return of these sentiments towards the United States; to cherish institutions which guarantee their safety, and their liberties, civil and religious; and to combine with a liberal system of foreign commerce, an improvement of the natural advantages, and a protection and extension of the independent resources of our highly favored and happy country.

In all measures having such objects, my faithful co-operation will be afforded.

JAMES MADISON.

Washington, Dec. 5, 1815.

NATCHES, Nov. 15.

The fine new steam-boat *Ætna* passed this place upwards, a few days ago, only three days from Orleans, (about 300 miles) on her passage to Louisville, laded with FOREIGN MERCHANDIZE. This is the first vessel of this particular description that has passed this place upward. The facility with which she overpowers the current of this great river, is auspicious to the western country.