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WASHINGTON CITY, DEC. 5.  
The Congress of the U. S. con-  
voked yesterday, and a quorum ap-  
peared in both houses.

Hon. John GALLARD, President  
tempore, took the chair of the  
Senate, and Hon. HENRY CLAY was  
Speaker of the House of Repre-  
sentatives.

Thomas Dougherty, esquire, was  
Clerk of the House of Repre-  
sentatives.

No other business was done in  
either House but that incidental to  
organization.

## MESSAGE.

Washington City, Tuesday,  
December 5th.

This day at 12 o'clock, the Pre-  
sident of the U. S. transmitted to  
both Houses of Congress the fol-  
lowing Message, by Mr. Todd, his  
Secretary.

Citizens of the Senate,  
and of the H. of Representatives,

I have the satisfaction, on our  
present meeting, of being able to  
announce to you the successful  
termination of the war which had  
commenced against the United  
States by the Regency of Algiers.

The squadron in advance, on that  
service under Com. Decatur, lost  
a moment after its arrival in the  
Mediterranean in seeking the  
force of the enemy, then  
sailing in that sea; and succeeded  
in capturing two of his ships, one  
of them the principal ship, com-  
manded by the Algerine admiral.—

The high character of the American  
commander was brilliantly sustain-  
ed on the occasion, which brought  
our own ship into close action with  
that of his adversary; as was the ac-  
counted gallantry of all the officers  
and men actually engaged. Having  
prepared the way by this demon-  
stration of American skill and prow-  
ess hastened to the port of Al-  
ger, where peace was promptly  
concluded on the terms stipulated, the rights and  
honour of the U. S. were particu-  
larly consulted, by a perpetual  
renewal on the part of the De-  
y of all pretensions to tribute from  
them. The impressions which have  
been made, strengthened as they  
will have been, by subsequent  
negotiations with the Regencies of  
Tunis and Tripoli, by the appear-  
ance of the larger force, which fol-  
lowed under Com. Bainbridge, the  
chief in command of the expedition,  
and by the judicious precautionary  
arrangements left by him in that  
quarter, afford a reasonable pros-  
pect of future security, for the val-  
uable portion of our commerce  
which passes within reach of the  
barbary cruisers.

It is another source of satisfac-  
tion that the treaty of peace with  
Great-Britain has been succeeded  
by a convention on the subject of  
commerce, concluded by the plen-  
ipotentiaries of the two countries.—

This result a disposition is mani-  
fested on the part of that nation,  
corresponding with the disposition  
of the U. S. which, it may be hop-  
ed, will be improved into liberal  
arrangements on other subjects, on  
which the parties have mutual inter-  
ests, or which might endanger  
their future harmony. Congress  
will decide on the expediency of  
removing such a sequel, by giving  
effect to the measure of confining  
the American navigation to Ameri-  
can seamen; a measure which, at  
the same time that it might have  
a conciliatory tendency would  
be the further advantage of in-  
creasing the independence of our na-  
vigation, 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 tranquillity of our Western and  
North-Western frontiers, measures  
were taken to establish an immedi-  
ate peace with the several tribes  
who had been engaged in hostilities  
against the U. S. Such of them as  
were invited to Detroit acceded  
readily to a renewal of the  
former treaties of friendship. Of  
the other tribes who were invited to  
station on the Mississippi, the  
greater number have also accepted  
of peace offered to them. The real-

due, consisting of the more distant  
tribes or parts of tribes, remain to  
be brought over by farther explana-  
tions, or by such other means as  
may be adapted to the disposition  
they may finally disclose.

The Indian tribes within and bor-  
dering on our Southern frontier,  
whom a cruel war, on their part,  
had compelled us to chastise into  
peace, have latterly shown a rest-  
lessness which has called for prepa-  
ratory measures for repressing it,  
and for protecting the commis-  
sioners engaged in carrying the terms  
of the peace into execution.

The execution of the act for fix-  
ing the military peace establishment  
has been attended with difficulties,  
which even now can only be over-  
come by legislative aid. The selec-  
tion of officers; the payment and  
discharge of the troops enlisted for  
the war; the payment of the re-  
tained troops, and their re-union  
from detached and distant stations;  
the collection and security of public  
property, in the quarter-master,  
commissary, and ordnance depart-  
ments; and the constant medical  
assistance required in hospitals and  
garrisons, rendered a complete ex-  
ecution 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 mili-  
tary service, having proved inade-  
quate, the earliest attention to that  
subject will be necessary; and the  
expediency of continuing upon the  
peace establishment the staff officers,  
who have hitherto been provisionally  
retained, is also recommended to  
the consideration of congress.

In the performance of the execu-  
tive duty upon this occasion  
there has not been wanting a just  
sensitivity to the merits of the A-  
merican army, during the late  
war; but the obvious policy and  
design in fixing an efficient mili-  
tary peace establishment, did not  
afford an opportunity to distin-  
guish the aged and infirm, on ac-  
count of their past services, nor  
the wounded and disabled, on ac-  
count of their present sufferings.—

The extent of the reduction, in-  
deed, unavoidable involved the ex-  
clusion of many meritorious offi-  
cers of every rank from the ser-  
vice 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 candour, by  
a general standard of positive mer-  
it, the Army Register, will, it is  
believed, do honor to the estab-  
lishment, while the case of those  
officers, whose names are not in-  
cluded in it, devolves, with the  
strongest interest, upon the legis-  
lative authority, for such provi-  
sion, as shall be deemed the best  
calculated to give support and so-  
lace to the veteran and invalid; to  
display the beneficence, as well the  
justice of the government, and to  
inspire a martial zeal for the pub-  
lic service, upon every future emer-  
gency.

Although the embarrassments  
arising from the want of a uni-  
form national currency have not been  
diminished, since the adjournment  
of Congress, great satisfaction has  
been derived in contemplating the  
revival of public credit; and the  
efficiency of the public resour-  
ces.—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 12  
millions and a half of dollars; and  
the issues of Treasury Notes of every  
denomination, during the same pe-  
riod, amounted to the sum of four-  
teen millions of dollars, and there  
was also obtained upon loan, dur-  
ing 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 mil-  
lion and a half of dollars, being

the balance of money in the trea-  
sury on the 1st of January, there  
has been paid, between the 1st of  
January and the 1st of October,  
on account of the appropriations  
of the preceding and of the pre-  
sent year, (exclusively of the a-  
mount of the Treasury Notes sub-  
scribed 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. Inde-  
pendent, however, of the arrearages  
due for military services and sup-  
plies, it is presumed that a further  
sum of 5 millions of dollars, in-  
cluding the interest on the public  
debt, payable on the 1st of Janu-  
ary next, will be demanded at the  
Treasury to complete the expendi-  
tures of the present year, and for  
which the existing ways and  
means will sufficiently provide.

The national debt, as it was as-  
certained 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, con-  
tracted 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) seven-  
teen million of dollars, which is in  
a gradual course of payment. There  
will, probably be some addition to  
the public debt, upon the liquida-  
tion of various claims which are  
depending; and a conciliatory dis-  
position on the part of Congress  
may lead, honourably and advanta-  
geously to an equitable arrange-  
ment of the militia expenses, in-  
curred by the several states, with-  
out the previous sanction or au-  
thority 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 independ-  
ence; and when it is recollected  
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 de-  
fence of our harbors and our fron-  
tiers, and in the supplies of our ar-  
senals and magazines, the amount  
will bear a gratifying comparison  
with the objects which have been  
attained, as well as the resour-  
ces of the country.

The arrangement of the finances,  
with a view to the receipts and ex-  
penditures of a permanent peace es-  
tablishment, 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 with its creditors  
inviolable, and of prosecuting, suc-  
cessfully, the measures of the most  
liberal policy; but, will also, justify  
an immediate alleviation of the bur-  
thens imposed by the necessities of  
the war. It is, however, essential  
to every modification of the finan-  
ces, that the benefits of a uni-  
form national 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 citi-  
zens 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 either  
of these expedients be deemed effec-  
tual, 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 ade-  
quate provision for guarding our in-  
land frontier, against dangers to  
which certain portions of it may  
continue to be exposed.

As an improvement on our mili-  
tary 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 in-  
firmities from the existing estab-  
lishment, and to preserve to the  
public the benefit of their stationary  
services, and of their exemplary  
discipline. I recommend also an  
enlargement of the military acad-  
emy already established, and the  
establishment of others in other  
sections of the union. And I can-  
not 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 shown in the late splendid  
achievements of militia, the value  
of this resource for the public  
defence, it has shown also the im-  
portance of that skill in the use of  
arms, and that familiarity with the  
essential rules of discipline, which  
cannot be expected from the regu-  
lations 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 politi-  
cal authority of the union to employ,  
promptly and effectually, the  
physical force 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 suc-  
cessful 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 a sound  
state; to complete those already  
contemplated; to provide amply the  
materials for prompt augmentations,  
& to improve the existing arrange-  
ments into more advantageous  
establishments, for the construction,  
the repairs, and the security of  
vessels of war, is dictated by the  
soundest policy.

In adjusting the duties on imports,  
to the object of revenue, the influ-  
ence of the tariff on manufactures  
will necessarily present itself for  
consideration. However wise the  
theory may be, which leaves to the  
sagacity and interests 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 na-  
tions, experience teaches that so  
many circumstances must occur in  
introducing and maturing manufac-  
turing establishments, especially of  
the more complicated kinds, that  
a country may remain long without  
them, although sufficiently ad-  
vanced, and in some respects  
even peculiarly fitted for carrying  
them on with success. Under cir-  
cumstances giving a powerful im-  
pulse to manufacturing industry,  
it has made among us progress,  
& exhibited an efficiency which  
justifies 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 competi-  
tions from abroad, but a source  
of domestic wealth, and even  
external commerce. In selecting  
branches more especially entitled  
to the public patronage, a preference  
is obviously claimed by such as  
will relieve the United States from  
dependence on foreign supplies, ever  
subject to casual failures, for arti-  
cles necessary for the public de-  
fence, or connected with the primary  
wants of individuals. It will be  
an additional recommendation of  
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 at-  
tention of Congress to the great  
importance of establishing through-  
out our country the roads and can-  
als which can be best executed,  
under the national authority.—No  
objects within the circle of politi-  
cal economy, so richly pay the  
expense bestowed on them; there  
are none; the utility of which is  
more universally ascertained and  
acknowledged; none that do more  
honor to the government, whose  
wise and enlarged patriotism daily  
appreciates them. Nor is there  
any 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 strength-  
ened, moreover, by the political ef-  
fect of these facilities for intercom-  
munication, in bringing and bind-  
ing more closely together the vari-  
ous parts of our extended confeder-  
acy. Whilst the states, individually,  
with a laudable enterprise and em-  
ulation, avail themselves of their  
local advantages, by new roads, by  
navigable canals, and by improving  
the streams susceptible of naviga-  
tion, the general government is the  
more urged to similar undertakings,  
requiring a national jurisdiction,  
and national means, by the pros-  
pect of thus systematically complet-  
ing so inestimable a work. And it  
is a happy reflection, that any de-  
fect of constitutional authority,  
which may be encountered, can be  
supplied in a mode which the con-  
stitution itself has providently  
pointed out.

The present is a favorable season,  
also, for bringing again into view  
the establishment of a national se-  
minary of learning within the Dis-  
trict of Columbia, and with means  
drawn from the property therein  
subject to the authority of the gen-  
eral government.—Such an institu-  
tion claims the patronage of Con-  
gress, as a monument of their soli-  
citude 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, and 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 con-  
genial manners, which contribute  
to our union and strength to the  
great political fabric, of which that  
is the formation.

In closing this communication, I  
ought not to repress a sensibility,  
in 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 hon-  
orable peace. In reviewing 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 ex-  
perience, and of the reputation ac-  
quired 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 strong-  
est features of its flourishing con-  
dition 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 reduction  
of the public burthens, without  
withdrawing the means of sus-  
taining the public credit, of gradu-  
ally discharging the public debt,  
of providing for the necessary  
defensive and precautionary  
establishments, and of patronizing,  
in every authorized mode, under-  
takings 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 re-  
turn 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 favoured  
and happy country.

In all measures having such ob-  
jects, my faithful co-operation will  
be afforded. JAMES MADISON.  
Washington, Dec. 5, 1815.