

THE NATIONAL EXPENDITURE FOR 1850.

Editorial Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 4, 1849.

There has just been laid on the desks of the Members of Congress the ANNUAL ESTIMATES OF APPROPRIATIONS required for the service of the Federal Government for the fiscal year 1850—that is to say, for arrears not provided for in the service of the present year ending with June next, and for the year thence ensuing, which I trust will attract, as they certainly should, the attention of the country. Briefly, the Secretary reports:

Deficiencies in the Appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30 next \$6,236,310
Appropriations required for next fiscal year 44,997,093

Total Appropriations required up to June 30, 1851 \$51,233,403
Deduct balances of former Appropriations unexpended 502,170

Actual requirements up to July 1, 1851 \$50,731,233

Of the Arrearages for 1849-50, there are required \$3,700, 878 to pay Mexican Indemnity, Treasury Notes, Interest on Public Debt, &c. \$255,000 for Pensions, and \$583, 580 for additional expenses of Civil List, Foreign Intercourse, &c. Of the Expenditures of 1850-51, no less than \$1,126,000 are the estimated cost of taking the Census of 1850, including \$211,000 for Printing and \$20,000 for Binding. The Philadelphia Mint calls for \$24,000 additional, as the cost of coining the California Gold pouring in upon it. The Coast Survey wants \$216,000, and \$56,000 more in case it is not carried on in part by the force of the Navy. For Light-Houses, Beacons, Buoys, &c. \$195,471 are required. Quarter-Master Gen. Jelap gives notice that he will want a largely increased appropriation for Clothing, Fuel, Forage, Transportation, Horses, &c. &c. on account of the dispersion of our forces through Western Texas, New Mexico, California, &c. An increase of force is hinted at—at all events, the Army must be kept fully up to the present authorized standard. Fortifications want \$754,800 next year. River and Harbor Improvements require \$1,110,500, even though no new works be authorized. The Ordnance department calls for \$902,146, including office expenses. The Navy (the chief ulcer of the Nation) walks in for the modest sum of \$8,765,856.

But, waiving further specifications, the following is Secretary Meredith's summary of the probable outgoes of the next fiscal year, viz:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Nov. 16, 1849.

SIR: Agreeably to the Joint Resolution of Congress of the 7th January, 1846, I have the honor to transmit, for the information of the House of Representatives, printed esti-

mates of the appropriations proposed to be made for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1851, amounting to \$33,697,152 15
Viz: Civil list, foreign intercourse, and miscellaneous, including payment to be made to Mexico under the 12th article of the treaty, expenses of collecting the revenue from customs and lands, Census of 1850, public buildings, and expenses of Courts \$12,812,480 29

Army proper, &c. 5,866,137 00
Military Academy 199,298 47
Fortifications, ordnance, &c. 1,647,446 00
Internal improvements, surveys and light-houses 1,164,080 00

Indian Department 998,739 17
Pensions 1,433,893 00
Naval establishment 9,575,078 22

To these estimates are added statements showing—

1. The appropriations for the fiscal year, ending the 30th June, 1851, made by former acts of Congress of a permanent character, amounting to 5,643,410 24

Viz: Civil list, foreign intercourse and miscellaneous 724,569 14

Arming and equipping the militia 200,000 00
Civilization of Indians 10,000 00

Pensions 473,000 00
Interest of public debt 3,742,951 13

Purchase of stock of the loan of 1847 492,898 97

2. The existing appropriations which will be required to be expended in the fiscal year ending the 30th June, 1851, amounting to 5,656,530 34

Viz: Civil list, foreign intercourse, and miscellaneous 472,519 21

Army proper, &c. 2,220,747 97
Fortifications, ordnance, &c. 168,000 00

Internal improvements, surveys &c. 83,123 38
Indian Department 903,971 36

Pensions 20,117 00
Naval Establishment 1,778,051 42

\$44,997,092 73

3. There is also added to the estimates a statement of the several appropriations, which will be carried to the surplus fund, amounting to \$502,170 02

Accompanying the estimates are sundry papers furnished by the Treasury, War, Navy and Interior Departments, containing references to acts of Congress, &c. on which the estimates are founded.

I am, very respectfully, your ob't. servant,
W. M. MEREDITH,

Secretary of the Treasury.

Hon. Speaker of the H. of Representatives.

The Commissioner of Customs reports that the entire cost of collecting the Customs in the year ending with June last was \$2,200 000. This has not hitherto appeared as a part of the National Expenditures, but was deducted at the several Custom-Houses BEFORE carrying the collections to the credit of the Treasury. It is henceforth, very properly, to go into the Treasury and be regularly appropriated therefrom, making an apparent, but no real, increase of the Annual Receipts and Expenditures. In making the change, Congress ordered a reduction of the cost of such collection, to \$1,100,000—rather a wholesale way of making retrenchment—but the Secretary reports that he will want \$100

000 additional for new Districts in California, and \$25,000 ditto, for Texas and Oregon, and \$50,000 for increase of business in the older portions of the Union. Here, however, is a very decided saving anyhow, providing the expense can hereafter be kept down to \$1,325,000 as estimated by the Secretary for the current year.

The following is the Secretary of the Interior's estimate of Expenditures for the next fiscal year, including arrearages for the present year, viz:

For Department of the Interior \$72,347 68
For the Land Service 679,034 21
For Indian Affairs 1,018,439 17
For Pensions, &c. 1,479,256 79
For taking Census of 1850 1,116,000 00
For expenses of U. S. Courts 557,537 00
For Public Buildings, &c. in Washington 456,975 00
For Pauper Lunatics 9,928 00
From Patent Fund 6,500 00
For Penitentiary of the District of Columbia 7,355 00

Total \$5,403,372 84

Enough for the present. I await with anxiety the appearance of the President's Message and regular Treasury Report to see if any recommendations are made therein, looking to a Radical Reform in the Expenditures of the Government. Something of this there must be, if we are ever to have a dollar fairly applicable to the construction of such Public Works as the interests of the Nation imperatively demand, or even avoid the yawning gulf of Public Bankruptcy. That the acquisition of Texas, New Mexico, California, &c. has imposed a heavy and permanent increase of Expenditure on the country is manifest, but so much the greater is the necessity for retrenchment and economy in every quarter. Let Congress begin the work in earnest, and begin it now! H.G.

Fifty-one millions of money is so very trifling, when compared with some other governmental affairs, that we lose sight of it before [We see it.]

John Van Buren was riding in the carriage with his dad, after dinner, in the neighborhood of Lindenwald, during which young hopeful kept puffing away at his Havana. At length the indulgence of the Democratic Chesterfield being overwhelmed by the clouds of smoke, exclaimed—

"John, your cigar is really very offensive inside here."

"Is it?" said the dutiful son. "Then why the d——I don't you get out, and ride with the driver?"

[Noah's Times.]