



"WHERE LIBERTY DWELLS, THERE IS MY COUNTRY."

OL. I.

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#### ENDING OF CONGRESS.

Lapse of six weeks will  
bring together the FIFTEENTH  
CONGRESS, whose first session  
commences, according to the con-  
stitution, on the first Monday in  
September.

After a recess of such unusual  
length as that which is drawing  
to a close, many subjects may be  
expected to have accumulated for  
the deliberation of congress,  
and the meeting will be looked to  
with interest proportioned to  
the time which has intervened  
since its last adjournment. That  
interest will not be diminished,  
but, by the consideration  
of the new administration of the  
government, and that, most of the  
subjects never having been in  
discussion before, little is known  
of them, except generally that a  
large proportion of them profess  
Republican principles.

Anticipating what business  
will be brought before congress,  
and the small gratification to feel  
that there is little, if any,  
of the character likely to revive the  
acrimony of party feel-  
ing, or to produce any other col-  
or than that of a rivalry of  
the honor of our country,  
for the promotion of its es-  
sential interests.

There are certain subjects which  
may be expected, of course to be  
brought forward at the ensuing  
session, with a better chance than  
of coming to a conclusion  
before. Among these, we may  
mention the necessary re-organ-  
ization of the national militia, the

re-modification of the military  
academy, the provisions for mi-  
litary invalids, &c. There is one  
subject of paramount importance,  
on which a decision had nearly ta-  
ken place at the last session of  
congress, which will probably be  
revived—we might say certainly,  
if so much indifference towards it  
had not been shewn by the whole  
people of the United States, who  
are so deeply interested in it. We  
need scarcely say that we refer to  
the all-important subject of inter-  
nal improvement. If the con-  
stitutional scruples which pro-  
duced the rejection, by the illus-  
trious Madison, of the act of the  
last congress, prevail in the mind  
of his successor, there yet remains  
the alternative, suggested by him,  
of an amendment of the constitu-  
tion in that particular; and in  
that shape, it not in the other,  
the question will certainly present  
itself to congress.

There is a question which, more  
than any other, promises to revive  
party feeling, which will certainly  
come before congress, in one form  
or other, during the session. It  
is the claim of Massachusetts,  
Connecticut, and one or two oth-  
er states, for payment for their  
militia, called into service inde-  
pendently of the authority of the  
general government, and refused  
to be placed at its disposal. One  
of the agents appointed by  
the state of Massachusetts to con-  
fer with the general government  
on the subject, during the last  
winter, is a member of the pre-  
sent congress; and his character  
for perseverance forbids the idea  
of his permitting a subject to  
sleep, on which he has already  
employed much of his time and  
talents.

The proposition will doubtless  
be renewed, to reduce, if not to  
abolish, the existing internal tax-  
es. The fate of such a proposi-  
tion, unless recommended by the  
financial department of the gov-  
ernment, is very doubtful. One  
of the taxes, the stamp duty, we  
should ourselves be willing to see  
repealed, because it is said to be  
more vexatious, in proportion to  
its product, than any other. What-  
ever may be the fate of the  
internal taxes, we are pretty cer-  
tain that the accompanying mo-  
tion of the last session, for reduc-  
ing the army, will receive a decid-  
ed negative, nothing having oc-  
curred to secure it a more favor-  
able reception than it then met  
with.

The question of the highest im-  
portance which will be agitated  
during the session, will be the po-  
licy of the U. S. to pursue in re-  
lation to the South American pro-  
vinces. If the subject does not

enter into the president's message,  
we are warranted from our infor-  
mation, in saying, it will be bro't  
forward by some member of the  
house of representatives. If we  
are not mistaken, there is at least  
one conspicuous member of that  
body that considers himself pledg-  
ed to move it.

Of this question there are two  
distinct branches: first, the ex-  
pediency of employing the arms  
of the U. States in support of the  
embryo independent governments  
of Southern America, emerging  
to existence and struggling for  
life; and secondly, the expedi-  
ency of recognizing the indepen-  
dence of such of the provinces as  
have most clearly shewn their  
claim to it by the establishment  
of independent governments.

Of the first branch it is per-  
haps needless to say any thing—  
not because there are none who  
favor that course, for there are  
many—but because we are con-  
vinced there will be a decided  
majority of congress, as there  
is of the people, opposed to em-  
barking the nation in any war  
not unavoidable—much less in a  
war of alliance in behalf of a for-  
eign power, in a cause not involv-  
ing the rights or honor of this  
nation.

The second head is that under  
which, we presume, the question  
will come before congress. The  
right can be no more disputed  
than the policy of recognizing  
the independence of any or of all  
of the South American provinces,  
when the fact of their having de-  
clared independence by the gen-  
eral voice of the people, and in a  
manner authorised by the laws of  
nations, is satisfactorily ascertained.  
We do not view this policy, as some  
do, as enforced by any particular  
obligation to these provinces of  
the most successful of which one  
has invited an European prince  
to rule over them, and another  
has offered to our commercial ri-  
val a monopoly of its trade for  
twenty years, as an equivalent for  
her recognition of its indepen-  
dence. Had such a proposition  
as the latter been made to the  
United States, and rejected, there  
would have been some founda-  
tion for the reproaches cast upon  
this government for not having at  
once admitted the ministers the  
provinces have deputed to repre-  
sent them in this country. It is  
not, therefore, any obligations to  
the colonies which require the  
U. States to recognize the govern-  
ments of Buenos Ayres, Chili,  
Caraccas, &c.—but it is our duty  
to ourselves, our respect for the  
principles of freedom, and the  
right of self government on which  
our own institutions are based,

that demand of us to be among  
the first to recognize the indepen-  
dence of such provinces as have  
established governments favorable  
to civil liberty and promising to  
be permanent. To those who  
are struggling for this object, the  
people of the United States ar-  
dently wish success; but it is on-  
ly when they have shewn their  
capacity to accomplish it, that  
the government can interfere.  
When that happens, the consid-  
eration of foreign jealousy or even  
hostility, will not deter the U.  
States from doing what is right;  
nor is any argument necessary to  
shew that it ought not.

The question then resolves itself  
into a question of fact, of which  
men entertaining the same views  
may, according to their informa-  
tion and impressions, form differ-  
ent opinions, as they do. Such  
will probably be the case with  
congress, as we are not likely to  
have any official information on  
the subject at their next session,  
and it is certain entire credit is  
not due to the conflicting state-  
ments we daily receive from the  
mouth of rumor, nor even to the  
confused accounts of the parties  
themselves.

How congress may decide, we  
shall not predict; but we should  
not be surprised if they should  
refer the question back to the ex-  
ecutive, being the treaty making  
branch of our government, with  
whom, of course, rests the power  
to receive or reject ministers from  
foreign nations (if congress do  
not interfere) and to whom all the  
sources of information are acces-  
sible. Meanwhile, our ports are  
open to the flags of those provin-  
ces, as the government has long  
ago officially declared, and each  
province having an established  
flag, is so far recognized as an in-  
dependent government. The min-  
isters or deputies from those pro-  
vinces remain not recognized, it  
is true, but in the same situation  
as the present minister of Spain  
himself was, before his sovereign  
was firmly seated on the throne  
recovered for him by the Spanish  
people.

Whatever may be the decision  
of congress—and it may be very  
different from our anticipation—  
we have no doubt much of their  
time will be employed on a ques-  
tion affording so fine a theme for  
the display of their talents yet to  
be developed among the new  
members, as well as of those for  
which the older statesmen are al-  
ready distinguished.

Upon the whole we look for-  
ward to the session with the most  
pleasing anticipations; which we  
hope will not be at all disappoint-  
ed by a revival of the tedious