

500,000 dollars annually. There are 25 theological seminaries, in which young gentlemen of the different denominations are trained for their respective ministries, from which between 2 and 300 are annually graduated.

Military Force. Beside an organized militia of about a million, the General Government keeps up a small standing army, distributed in stations along the sea board, and the extensive frontier. The remotest posts are at St. Peters on the Upper Mississippi, at the Council Bluffs on the Missouri, at Kiamesia, or Kimaichie, on Red River, and at Cantonment Jessup not far from the Sabine. The naval force consists of 7 ships of the line, 10 frigates, 15 sloops of war, and 7 armed schooners, and is as powerful and efficient a force, measured by the number of guns, as can be shown by any country. In 1829 the whole tonnage of the United States shipping was 1,741,391. The same year there was freighted from the United States 133,000 tons of foreign shipping. One-fourth of the shipping is owned in Massachusetts; and the next largest amounts in New York. Maryland and Pennsylvania rank next in order, as ship-owning states.

Revenue—Has been chiefly derived hitherto from customs, or duties paid by merchants on goods imported, and from the sales of public lands. It is in common years, not far from \$25,000,000. This amount, in the ordinary and peaceable progress of the government, exceeds the expenditures, and the interest of the national debt, leaving a considerable unappropriated balance in the national treasury. The national debt, in the present course of things, will be extinguished in a few years. It has already become, in anticipation, a question of congressional discussion, in what manner the surplus remainder shall be appropriated, after the national debt shall have been liquidated.

Federal Constitution. This instrument contains the compact of our national confederation. It guarantees religious and political freedom; and is probably the most simple and well digested charter of political liberty, that was ever penned. This instrument is too well known to require us to give any thing more than some of its prominent features. The legislative power is vested in Congress, composed of a Senate and House of Representatives. The judicial power is in the Supreme and Circuit Courts, presided over by judges appointed during good behavior. The executive authority is in the President. Each state furnishes two Senators; and Representatives in number and ratio as follows: they are chosen by the people biennially, each state being entitled to a number proportionate to its population, in a ratio in the states, which do not admit slavery of 1 to every 40,000 souls; and in the states where there are slaves of 1 for every 40,000 of the free population, and one for every

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