

master General to the veriest subordinate belonging to the establishment—comprising, as we are further assured in the report, from which we have just quoted, “some 20,000 agents and officers scattered over the vast extent of the United States’ territory;” it is difficult to overrate the influence that its joint or concurrent action must always possess, in creating public opinion in the country, and in giving it a direction and impetus, whilst its services are generally conceded with the earnestness and devotion that a consciousness of its utter dependence must inspire, and a knowledge, that the tenure of office of 19-20ths belonging to this department, rests upon the political party to which it is allied continuing in the ascendant,—and with the perfect understanding, of being turned adrift, unprovided for upon the world, whenever that public opinion, operating as the means, may supersede it in the administration and government of the country. It is necessary, we admit, that a control throughout all branches of the public service should exist somewhere, especially over a department, on the proper organization of which, and the due and efficient performance of its duties, so large a portion of the public comfort—the exigencies of commerce, and trade of every kind depends; and that we conceive would be far better promoted by removing its subordinates from the vortex of politics—of political wrangling and interference, and confining them to the more becoming and legitimate occupation of their official calling.