

Letter from washington city. né or the new sorthwest.]
Washington, December 11, 1880. Both Ho fide and informality which characwith the quietude and informality which charac-
terized the opening hours of the last session. The receiving and reading of the President's message is usually the main duty of the day, and yet in this instance the ground-work was laid for a Winter's debate by the introduction of the electoral
count measure before the country knew what Mr. Hayes had to say upon the political matters of the Government. Now the House is busy wrest-
ling with that exceedingly indefinite and vexatious problem involved in the counting of the electoral vote, and no one knows whether any other-question will be considered untilithe "windmill' exhausts itself. Mr. Garfield is elected-all admit that-but the manner of declaring the fact is the weighty conundrum before the average Congressman, and every other political interest of the country will have to suffer pending the solution. The Senate is pegging away quietly at sundry pateh, when its "wind-mill" is not aroused into patch, when its "wind-mill" is not aroused into Voorhees is vigorously pushing his bill for the erection of a National Llbrary. He and his Committee have unanimously deeided against further occupancy of the Capitol for library purposes,
either by extension of the building or by the use elther by extension of the building or by the use
of the present rooms, which are wholly inadequate for the daily needs, and will recommend the erection of an ample structure upon some one of the Square, which is one of aur largest parks, Extended debate will be provoked in the Senate by the propositions to restore Fitz-John Porter to the army without pay and to purchaike the papers
of Generals Bragg and Polk relating to the late war. The first measure will be met with the well-known objections against the restoration of a cashiered otficer, while the second is unjust to
those Confederates who have freely given their private papers to the Governmen.
Itself in the "ginerals," the "kurnels," and the "majahs," who crowd the offices of our hotels, apparently on the scent of the plunder promised in parentiy on the scent ow maturing.
The Capitol has been thoroughly rejuvenated in so far as paint, furbishing and the uphoisterer can add thanges of deaks and rooms have been made durIng this recess than usual, yet there is a brightness given to the many spots caused by long Our city has awakened from the sleep in which It indulged during the Congressional receass
Strangers by the hundred have taken their wonted places in our promenades and hotels, business has revived everywhere, and each and every artery of trade throbs with, a quickened energy as it seemed during the months of adjouriment. as it seemed during the months of adjournment.
This Winter here will undoubtedly prove to be the gayest of the decade. Every preparation is being made in all politienl and social circles to render the attractions of the Capital greater and
grainder than in the pait. - Dos PEDRo. Many a trimp. would be thankfal for cold
bat none of them relish the cold shoulder.

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