...ief period the functions and attributes of the head of the executive. The message of Mr. Pierce to Congress, which we publish elsewhere, though by no means creditable to the rigid impartiality of its framer, is nevertheless subdued in tone, and as far as foreign affairs are concerned, conciliatory both in matter and manner. The President begins rather indecorously, as it would seem to an English reader, by commenting on the election which has just taken place, without awaiting the formal verdict of the electors, and this he does from the standpoint of his own party, without any pretension to the language of the minority as well as of the majority. Indeed, we find in this portion of the Presidential message many of the phrases which were banded out from the "stump" and the platform during the course of the recent contest. The North are denounced as a mere geographical party, and one attempting to prevent the extension of slavery is characterized by the chief magistrate of the republic as a mere pretence, based on the language of the minority as well as of the majority. Indeed, we find in this portion of the President's