THE SATURDAY READER, JANUARY 31, 1878.

THE CONFERENCE.

The American people, from the frequent and earnest expression of their will in the recent elections, concede no longer the right of the Contraction of our public debt to slips. They know it to be a fact that the public debt is in excess of our actual revenue, and that, in consequence of this, the financial interest of the country is seriously impeded, and is growing every year more and more. They have, therefore, a right to demand that the government shall in some way or other, either by means of a tax, or by a loan, or by a reduction of the public debt, or by some other means, shall be put in such a position as to be able to discharge its obligations.

NATIONAL DEBT.

The National debt of the United States is now estimated at $2,000,000,000, and the annual interest on it amounts to $100,000,000. It is the duty of the government to pay this interest, and to discharge the principal of the debt, as soon as it can be done without injuring the national finances.

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