



THE AMERICAN JOURNAL SUNBURY SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1846

H. B. MANNES, Editor and Proprietor. EDITOR'S TABLE.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES... BOTH HOUSES OF THE THIRTY-SIXTH CONGRESS, DECEMBER 3, 1846.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives—Sixty years have elapsed since the establishment of this Government...

While enjoying the benefits of amicable intercourse with foreign nations, we have not been insensible to the distractions and wars which have prevailed in other quarters of the world.

Our relations with Great Britain are of the most friendly character. In consequence of the recent alienation of the British navigation acts, British vessels, from British and other foreign ports, will, under our existing laws...

A slight interruption of diplomatic intercourse, which occurred between this Government and France, I am happy to say, has been terminated, and our Minister there has been received.

Shortly after I entered upon the discharge of the Executive duties, I was apprised that a war steamer, belonging to the German Empire, was being fitted out in the harbor of New York...

Having approved the opinion, on taking the oath of office, that, in disputes between conflicting foreign governments, it is our interest, not less than our duty, to remain strictly neutral...

While this expedition was in progress, I was informed that a foreigner, who claimed our protection, had been clandestinely and as was supposed, forcibly, carried off in a vessel from New Orleans to the island of Cuba...

Cuba, I immediately caused such steps to be taken as I thought necessary, in case the information had required should require...

During the late conflict between Austria and Hungary, there seemed to be a prospect that the latter might become an independent nation. However, I think that prospect at the time appeared, I have been gratified by the cordial and friendly relations of the American people...

Our claims upon Portugal have been, during the last year, actively pursued with renewed vigor, and it has been my object to employ every effort of honorable diplomacy to procure their adjustment.

With Russia, Austria, Prussia, Sweden, Denmark, Belgium, the Netherlands, and the Italian States, we still maintain our accustomed amicable relations.

During the recent revolutions in the Papal States, our Charge d'Affaires at Rome was unable to present his letter of credence, which, indeed, he was directed by my predecessor to withhold until he should receive further orders.

The Commissioner on the part of the United States for marking the boundary between the two republics, though delayed in reaching San Diego by unforeseen obstacles, arrived at that place within a short period after the time required by the treaty...

The expediency has been made in regard to the inefficiency of the means provided by the government of New Granada for transporting the United States mail across the Isthmus of Panama...

The sanguinary civil war with which the Republic of Venezuela has for some time been ravaged, has been brought to a close.

ries border upon that ocean. It is probably that the intercourse between those countries and our own should be more cordial...

I recommend the observance of the same course in all our American States. It is a principle of our policy that the great American power, which, as their natural ally and friend, will always be disposed, first, to look for mediation and assistance, in the event of any collision between them and any European nation...

Additional information, of the same character, has recently been transmitted to the Department of State. It has not been ascertained whether the vessel is owned by an American citizen, who, in a foreign country, purchases a vessel built in the United States...

Having ascertained that there is no prospect of the reunion of the five States of Central America, which formerly composed the republic of that name, we have separately negotiated with each of the States...

A contract having been concluded with the State of Nicaragua, by a company composed of American citizens, for the purpose of constructing a ship canal through the territory of that State...

The treaty which provides for the payment of the canal on the part of the United States, is also, in its principle, in accordance with the policy of our Government...

The routes across the Isthmus, at Tehuantepec and Panama, are also worthy of our serious consideration. We have already engaged the attention of my predecessor...

The Mexican Government did not accede to the proposition, and the construction of a passage through the Gulf and the Pacific ocean, is presumed that the world would not be so disposed to yield her aid in the manner proposed...

We have reason to hope that the proposed canal across the Isthmus of Panama will be successfully constructed, under the protection of the late treaty with New Granada, ratified and exchanged by my predecessor...

extension of the treaty. It is our duty to encourage the authorities of those islands in their efforts to improve the moral and political condition of the inhabitants...

It is our duty to encourage the authorities of those islands in their efforts to improve the moral and political condition of the inhabitants, and we should unhesitatingly allow them to adopt the same course with regard to their own territories...

The receipts into the treasury for the fiscal year, ending on the thirtieth of June last, were, in cash, \$48,830,977 50, and in Treasury notes, \$10,853,000, making an aggregate of \$59,683,977 50...

I recommend a revision of the existing tariff, and its adjustment on a basis which may augment the revenue. I do not doubt that the right of duty of Congress to encourage domestic industry, which is the great source of the power and wealth of our country...

No direct aid has been given by the Government to the improvement of agriculture, and the agricultural population is, by each of our States, neglected and unprotected.

The people of New Mexico will also, it is believed, at no very distant period, present themselves for admission into the Union. Preparatory to the admission of California and New Mexico, the people of each will have established for themselves a republican form of government...

A collector has been appointed at San Francisco, under the act of Congress, extending the revenue laws over California; and measures have been taken to organize the revenue service in that Territory...

It will, I think, be expedient to confirm the collections thus made, and direct the avails (after such allowances as Congress may think it proper to withhold) to be expended within the Territory, or to be paid into the Treasury, for the purpose of making appropriations for the improvement of its rivers and harbors...

A party, engaged on the coast survey, was despatched to Oregon in January last. According to the latest advices, they had not left California; and directions have been given to them, as soon as they shall have fixed their route, to proceed without delay to make reconnaissance of the most important points on the coast of California, and especially to examine and determine on sites for light-houses...

for the light-houses on that coast the speedy erection of which is urgently demanded by our rapidly increasing commerce.

I have transferred the Indian Agents from Upper Missouri and Council Bluffs to Santa Fe and Salt Lake; and have closed the offices of the Indian Agents in the valleys of the Gila, the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers. Still further legal provisions will be necessary for the effective and successful extension of our system of Indian intercourse over the new Territories.

I recommend the establishment of a branch office in California, in my opinion, of the great importance of the mineral lands, as well as to the Government in the disposition of the mineral lands.

Opinion, as elicited and expressed by two learned and respectable contributors, lately assembled at St. Louis and Memphis, points to a railroad as that which, if practicable, will best meet the wishes and wants of the country.

Therefore, to avoid failure and disappointment, to enable Congress to judge whether in the condition of the country through which the proposed route passes, any such route would be found so, whether it should be undertaken as a national improvement or left to individual enterprise; and in the latter alternative what aid, if any, ought to be extended to it by the Government...

The Secretary of War on this subject has, in his report, expressed his strong belief, it is believed, in the propriety of the plan proposed for retiring disabled officers, and providing an asylum for such of the rank and file as from age, wounds, and other infirmities occasional by the war, have become unfit to perform their respective duties.

The accompanying report of the Secretary of the Navy presents a full and satisfactory account of the condition and operations of the naval service during the past year.

By an act of Congress passed August 14, 1846, provision was made for extending postage and mail accommodations to California. The act, in its adaptation, was designed to execute the law; but the limited provision of the act, in the adaptation of our postage system to the situation of that country, and the measure of compensation for service allowed by laws, compared with the prices of labor and rents in California, render their execution a great degree, ineffectual.

By an act of Congress passed August 14, 1846, provision was made for extending postage and mail accommodations to California. The act, in its adaptation, was designed to execute the law; but the limited provision of the act, in the adaptation of our postage system to the situation of that country, and the measure of compensation for service allowed by laws, compared with the prices of labor and rents in California, render their execution a great degree, ineffectual.

considered by Congress properly belonging to the mail service, and the reduction of postage, whether a further reduction of postage should now be made, more particularly on the letter correspondence.

Should Congress prefer to abolish the franking privilege entirely, it seems probable that no demand on the Treasury would result from the abolition of postage. The effect of any further limitation should not be made until the result of the reduction is first tested, is submitted to your decision.

For a particular statement of the condition of the Post Office Department, and other matters connected with that branch of the public service, I refer you to the report of the Postmaster-General.

By an act of Congress, passed on the 3d of March 1846, a Board was constituted to make a census of the population of the United States, to be taken on the seventh day of August, 1850.

The duties enjoined upon the Census Board, established having been performed, it now rests with Congress to enact a law for carrying into effect the provision of the Constitution which requires an actual enumeration of the people of the United States within the enclosed territory.

Among the duties assigned by the Constitution to the General Government is one of local and limited application, but not, on that account, the less obligatory: I allude to the trust committed to Congress, as the exclusive legislative and sole guardian of the interests of the United States.

By holding the Representative responsible only to his constituents, we have secured all other influences, and exempting him from the control of the Executive, we have secured the independence of the Representatives of the States and people is guaranteed by the Constitution; and they owe no responsibility to any human power but their constituents.

By holding the Representative responsible only to his constituents, we have secured all other influences, and exempting him from the control of the Executive, we have secured the independence of the Representatives of the States and people is guaranteed by the Constitution; and they owe no responsibility to any human power but their constituents.

The accompanying report of the Secretary of the Navy presents a full and satisfactory account of the condition and operations of the naval service during the past year. Our citizens are entitled to the legitimate protection of commerce, and have enjoyed its benefits. Wherever our national vessels have gone, they have been received with respect, our officers have been treated with kindness and courtesy, and they have, on all occasions, pursued a course of strict neutrality, in accordance with the policy of our Government.

By an act of Congress passed August 14, 1846, provision was made for extending postage and mail accommodations to California. The act, in its adaptation, was designed to execute the law; but the limited provision of the act, in the adaptation of our postage system to the situation of that country, and the measure of compensation for service allowed by laws, compared with the prices of labor and rents in California, render their execution a great degree, ineffectual.

Those of our readers who would like to subscribe for this elegant monthly periodical, can now do so at a very small cost. The Lady's Book is published at \$3 per annum, but as an inducement, which are enabled to hold out by means of an arrangement with the publishers, we will furnish the Lady's Book and the Sunbury American, one year for \$9.50 cash in advance, to those who may wish to subscribe.

The Death of the Rev. John Wesley. This large and magnificent Mezzotint Engraving is offered as a Premium to any person remitting \$3 in advance, for one year subscription to Godey's Lady's Book, the leading magazine of America.

V. B. PALMER'S BUSINESS MAN'S ALMANAC. We have received a few copies of this Almanac for the purpose of supplying our friends with a little work containing a vast amount of matter at a little expense. It contains a large amount of facts and statistical information, and is extremely useful for daily reference, and would form, in ordinary use, a book of several hundred pages.— Price 12 1/2 cts. per copy.

THE AMERICAN LAW JOURNAL.—The December number of this Journal, among a mass of useful and instructive matter, contains an elaborate and able vindication of the Supreme Court in the case of Hays vs. Hedges, in reply to the strictures of a correspondent. The Journal is published by HARRIS & Co. LAWYERS, and T. B. PETERSON, Philadelphia.

THE CARDINAL'S DAUGHTER is the title of an interesting novel by McKENZIE DANIEL, published by Long & Brother, New York. We have not read it, but find it favorably noticed by the London Press.

DEFENSE OF ROBEY.—It will be seen by an advertisement in our columns that our young friend Charles S. Robey has returned from the West, with a large assortment of Buffalo robes, which are offered for sale at the store of John W. Friling. Now is the time for old folks and young gallants, to supply themselves with this useful and agreeable accompaniment to good sleighing.

ORGANIZATION OF CONGRESS.—On Saturday last the House was organized by the election of Howell Cobb, of Georgia, the democratic nominee, Speaker, by a plurality vote. On the sixteenth ballot the vote stood for Cobb 102; Winthrop 100; Winnet 9; Scattering 10.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.—Our readers will find in our columns this week the long delayed message of Gen. Taylor. It has one trait characteristic of its author, and one that has no little merit in the eyes of editors and printers—its brevity. The message occupies only about one third the space usually occupied by the messages of our late Presidents. In its tone the message is conciliatory, and its recommendations will meet with general approval.

The views of Gen. Taylor on the tariff are decided, plain and unequivocal, and will meet with the approbation of a large majority of all reflecting and intelligent minds—democrats as well as Whigs, in this section of Pennsylvania. He is in favor of specific duties so adjusted as to ensure stability, and says in regard to the tariff: "I recommend a revision of the existing tariff and its adjustment on a basis which may augment the revenue. I do not doubt the right of duty of Congress, to encourage domestic industry, which is the great source of national as well as individual wealth and prosperity. I look to the wisdom and patriotism of Congress for the adoption of a system, which may place home labor at least on a sure and permanent footing, and by due encouragement of manufactures, give a new and increased stimulus to agriculture, and promote the development of our vast resources and the extension of our commerce."