

most eminent statesman at a period when the question was as well if not better understood than it is at present. During Mr. Jefferson's administration, Messrs. Monroe and Pinckney, who had been sent on a special mission to Madrid, charged, among other things, with the adjustment of boundary between the two countries, in a note addressed to the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs, under date of the twenty-eighth of January, 1805, assert that the boundaries of Louisiana, as ceded to the United States by France, "are the river Perdido on the east, and the river Bravo on the West;" and they add, that "the facts and principles which justify this conclusion are satisfactory to our government as to convince it that the United States have not a better right to the island of New Orleans, under the cession referred to, than they have to the whole district of territory which is above described."

SOMERSET HERALD.

SOMERSET, PA.,

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1846.

E. B. PALMER, Esq., of Philadelphia at his *Real Estate and Coal Office*, is our authorized Agent for obtaining Advertisements and Subscriptions for the "HERALD" and is clothed with full power to receipt for any monies paid to him on these objects. His agency includes the following cities, viz.: Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore and Boston.

WHIG STATE CONVENTION.

A State Convention, to be composed of Delegates from the City of Philadelphia & the several counties equal to their representation in the General Assembly of this Commonwealth, will be held at Harrisburg, on TUESDAY, the 9th day of MARCH NEXT, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of selecting candidates for Governor and Canal Commissioner to be supported by the Whigs and the friends of the Protective Policy at the next ensuing election, and to transact such other business as may be deemed important to the success of the Whig cause.

J. P. SANDERSON,
SAMUEL D. KARNES,
JOSEPH KONIGMACHER,
MORTON McMICHAEL,
GEORGE ERETY,
H. JONES BROOKE,
THEO. D. COCHRAN,
JAMES FOX,
JAMES MARTIN,
WILLIAM BUTLER,
J. J. SLOCUM,
JOHN R. EDIE,
EDWARD COWAN,
JOHN B. JOHNSON,
WM. J. HOWARD,
Whig State Committee.

The Message.

We give a part of the President's Message in to-day's paper—the remainder will follow in our next.

We are indebted to Gen. SIMON CAMERON of the United States Senate, and the Hon. ANDREW STEWART of the House of Representatives, for copies of the President's Annual Message.

A Washington correspondent of the Baltimore American says, it is understood that an attack, both by our land and naval forces, is contemplated upon the Castle at Vera Cruz, and that Gen. SCOTT and Commodore STEWART and MORRIS are concerting measures for that purpose.

The Pennsylvania Regiment.

The following are the names of the companies, whose services have been accepted by the Governor:

- Washington Light Infantry—Captain Binder.
- City Guards—Captain Hill.
- Philadelphia Light Guards—Captain Bennett.
- Wyoming Artillerists—Captain Dana.
- Washington Artillery—Captain Nagle.
- Duquesne Grays—Captain Herron.
- Jackson Independent Blues—Captain Hay.
- Monroe Guards—Captain Small.
- Cadwalader Grays—Captain Scott.
- Jefferson Guards—Captain Morehead.

Cumberland Valley Bridge.

This important work, we are happy to state, is so far completed as to admit the passage of carriages, and will be ready for the passage of cars, in a few weeks. We learn that the company has made a considerable reduction in the tolls from the former rates.

The builders of this bridge, Messrs. KREMER and SKINNER, deserve much credit for the spirit and energy in which they pushed the work to completion. Considering the many accidents and annoyances to which they were subjected, they have accomplished the job in a very short time.

SANTA FE.

Information has been received from Santa Fe, confirming the report that thirty U. S. wagons, with 160 mules, guarded by forty men, had been robbed by a party of Indians. They took mules, clothing &c., leaving the wagons, without opposition, as the guard were without ammunition.

Democratic Opinions Upon the Annexation of Texas.

Now that the annexation of Texas and its consequences are so clearly before the country as Democratic measures, and are avowed and defended as such by the Democratic papers in all parts of the country, (says the Boston Daily Advertiser,) it is not a little curious to revert to the opinions expressed by some of those papers before the Baltimore Convention had issued its dictates. A brief series of extracts on this subject has been collected by the Washington Correspondent of the New York Express, which we subjoin. The present tone of the papers quoted is too well known to make any quotations from their recent articles necessary, and the inconsistency is too striking to require remark.

From the Albany Argus, May 11, 1844.

The Washington Spectator, Mr. Calhoun's organ, while landing Com. Stewart's letter in favor of the immediate annexation of Texas, alludes to the probability of a war with Mexico in a tone of levity, if not of joy. It would be well for such politicians to remember that wars are not so popular as in former times.—People begin to reflect and compare its results before they plunge into its miseries. It is perceived that wars undertaken for extension of dominion exalt the leaders and managers, while they crush and impoverish the masses. The trappings of the war-horse, and the glitter of armed legions, tickle the fancy and please the eye, but the people see that they place a leaden weight upon the hand of honest labor. It is for this reason that true statesmen regard wars, undertaken for such selfish purposes as one of the greatest evils that can afflict a country.

From the Democratic Review, April '43.

Nor ought the annexation be made without the consent of Mexico, or her recognition of her successfully revolted province. We must avoid even the appearance of evil. It is not enough that we may be abundantly certain that Mexico can never again even hope to shake the established independence of Texas. The nominal theoretical right is still asserted, which we cannot disregard without incurring a just liability to a declaration of war with Mexico.

From the Boston Post, November, '43.

The Atlas is beating the air about the admission of Texas into the Union. The Cabinet at Washington, and all the folks this way are opposed to such a measure. Mr. Preston, Mr. Wise, and a few Opposition members of Congress are in favor of it; but they have not strength enough to do any harm.

From the N Hampshire Patriot May '44

Slavery and the defence of slavery form the controlling consideration urged in favor of the treaty [of annexation] by those who have been engaged in its negotiation. To these doctrines we can never subscribe and whenever they are officiously urged upon the free States, they deserve to be pointedly rebuked.

From the Nashua Gazette, Nov. 16, '43.

The evils that will be entailed upon the North by the admission of Texas into the Union, are incalculable, great, vast—beyond all human comprehension. The object and design throughout is as black as ink—as bitter as hell. No other reason on earth can be assigned for this Southern movement than a determination to perpetuate that accursed institution, which, as a matter of compromise, was conceded to by the North at the time of the adoption of the Articles of Confederation. If the South persists in forcing Texas upon us, the result is evident to all. The consequences are multiform—to say nothing of their ruin. May Providence avert this calamity, and save our Republic from disunion, misery, and destruction!

The most wicked, vile, God-abandoned place of which we have any knowledge—its history would make the very savages blush with very shame. Some of its tyrants and marauders have perpetrated their crimes within the United States, and upon American citizens, some of whom they have murdered in cold blood, in the most inhuman manner. Yet there are some who desire to effect a union between Texas and this country, as if we had not enough guilt and crime upon our shoulders. We wish rather that we could fix an impassable gulf between us and its borders, that its breath of pestilence might never reach our shores. Heaven save us from a union with Texas!

From the Portsmouth (N. H.) Mercury (Isaac Hill's Paper), 1843.

It is a matter of deep regret that our Southern friends intend to agitate, in the next Congress, the question of the annexation of Texas to our Union. It is understood that this is a favorite project with Mr. Calhoun. But as its accomplishment might prove fatal to our free institutions, it will be a solemn duty of the Northern Democrats to oppose it.

We shall admit all communications that go against annexation.

The Democracy of New England will go in a solid body against annexation. The absurd and fallacious doctrines of "Aristides" in the New Hampshire Gazette, do not take with the Northern Democracy. He writes with some ability, but, after sifting all his arguments, the only substance is, that we want Texas for a great slave mart.

"Aristides" advocates the annexation of Texas, knowing that the object is to open a great slave mart there; and, as one of

the inevitable results, to entail the curse upon ourselves and our prosperity. Yes, the annexation would be as full of evils as a Pandora's box.

"Aristides" more than intimates that England wishes to gain Texas in order to destroy the peculiar domestic institution of the South.

— "A black and inglorious scheme."

The Bay of San Francisco.

The subjoined description of the bay and harbor of San Francisco is from FARNHAM'S Travels in California. The testimony of all navigators who have visited this magnificent harbor concurs in pronouncing it one of the most noble receptacles of ships and shipping anywhere to be found on the globe.

The harbors on the Pacific coast are so few towards the north that San Francisco, even if its natural advantages were but ordinary, would become an important point in the future development of the commerce of the Pacific. With its very extraordinary advantages, so admirably adapting it to the uses of a vast trade; with its special facilities of access and defence, rendering it so happily suited for a naval depot, such as might be required by the first maritime Power in the world, the importance of such a harbor can scarcely be estimated by any known standards of value applicable to such things. The natural facilities for communication between San Francisco and the valley of the Missouri are such that the hand of art, in perfecting them, will seem to be co-operating with Nature rather than overcoming her.—Baltimore American.

"The Bay of San Francisco is the glory of the Western World. Its mouth lies in latitude 37° 58'. The water on the bar is eight fathoms at low water. The mountains on either had rise several hundred feet above the sea, and form the land marks in foggy weather to point out the bar and the channel into the harbor. The capes at the ocean's edge are about two miles apart, always verdant and refreshing to the eye; and, as you go up the passage, the little streams tumbling from the rocks among the greenwood, and the wild game out on the cliffs or frolicking among the brush, and the seal basking in the water, give promise of pleasure and rest from the toils of the sea.

"This passage is about five miles in length. Four and a half miles from the capes it narrows considerably; and presents a bold point north and south. The fort on which this mighty harbor condenses to depend for protection is in ruins. A dozen old rusty guns, in the care of thirty or forty half-bred, half-breed soldiers, usually foraging in squads of five or ten among the neighboring missions; one side of its walls tumbled down, and another strongly disposed to plunge into the sea, and not the tenth of a true soldier's heart beating for a hundred miles around, is a true summing up of its present strength.

"Six miles from the capes at the mouth and at the point where it begins to open into the bay, are two small islands on which forts might be conveniently built, that would command the narrows and also the entrance into both the north and south part of the bay. Indeed, the whole bay is so studded with islands easily fortified, and so overlooking by headlands, which of themselves are fortresses, that a party in possession of them could hold the bay against vast odds, and in comparative security. From the narrows to the northern point of the bay is twenty-four miles, and to the southeastern point thirty-five miles.

"The southern half of the bay varies from fourteen to fifteen, the northern half from four to twenty miles in width. In every part of this large tract of water is good holding ground, and on all its shores are coves in which vessels of any tonnage may lie snug and secure from storms, within a cable's length from the land. In the northwest corner of the bay is the inlet of the Rio Sacramento.

"The surpassing beauty and magnificence of this harbor of San Francisco can never be properly estimated by being viewed from the land. One must view it from the sea; have a full view of the lofty shores north and south, rising at intervals into lofty peaks, girded at their bases with primeval forests of evergreen cedars and pines, mottled with the boughs of the oak, the ash, and the pine. The bar which springs from the northern headlands of its entrance, and running beneath the blue waters of the Pacific from five to nine fathoms, causing a belt of surf to roll across the mouth, must be passed. A breeze must bear your bark over and along the dangerous rocks three quarters of a mile inside on the right, quarrelling with the surges; and onward four miles between the projecting cliffs, overhanging peaks, and verdant woodlands filled with starting deer and other game, to the harbors at the narrows beneath the fort; thence outward still, past the fort and the bay, is seen a broad sheet of water, stretching off, north and south, the largest and best harbor of the earth, surrounded by a country partly wooded, and partly disposed in open glades and prairies of the richest kind, covered with the flocks and herds of the Missions, and deer, and elk, and bears. And, amid the beautiful hills of the south and east of Santa Clara, El Pueblo San Jose, and Mission San Joss; and on the southern peninsula, five miles wide, is San Francisco, Yerba Cueno, the trading house of the Hudson Bay Fur Company, the Presido and Castillo; on the northern peninsula is San Rafael, and in the north San Francisco Solano, a group of beauty and grandeur that knows no superior in any clime."

"The combat being now in the streets of Sarragossa, the sound of the alarm bell was heard in every quarter—the people crowded into the houses nearest the lodgements of the enemy—additional barricades were constructed across the principal thoroughfares—names were prepared in the more open spaces and the internal communications from house to house were multiplied until they formed a vast labyrinth, the intricate windings of which were only to be traced by the weapons and the dead bodies of the defenders.—From the height of the walls which he had conquered, Lannes contemplated this terrific scene, and judging that men so passionate and so prepared, could not be prudently encountered in open battle, he resolved to proceed by the slow, but certain progress of the mattock and the mine."

NAPUR proceeds to relate the further operations of the siege—how house after house was blown up, street by street gained, and finally Sarragossa captured, but only after it was almost reduced to an indiscriminate mass of smouldering ruins.

In both of the instances here specified the slaughter was immense. And it may be inferred beyond a doubt that if our troops at Monterey had continued the street fighting as it was begun on the first day of the assault, the final capture of the place would not have been accomplished without fearful loss. The city was prepared for just such a defence as that which Sarragossa maintained; it was in fact prepared with more care than had been bestowed upon the latter place, which had its walls to rely upon, and therefore did not mature its interior defences until the walls were destroyed. The streets of Monterey were not only raked and enfiladed by artillery planted in redoubts and fortified houses, but barricades of solid masonry were also erected across the streets leading to the Plaza, by which the advance of the assailants might be stopped, while, at every moment, volleys of musketry could be poured from the tops of the houses on both sides by men concealed behind parapets.

The mode adopted of penetrating through the houses, on both sides of the street, by making holes in the interior partition walls and thus gaining possession of the adjoining houses successively, rendered the street defences of the Mexicans wholly useless. In addition to the

HOW TO CARRY CITIES BY STORM.

The capture of Monterey, after three days' fighting, by Gen. TAYLOR and his gallant men, brings to mind parallel instances in history, in none of which was greater bravery witnessed, nor more masterly generalship, nor more complete success. Two memorable events of this kind have been referred to by journals of recent date—one signaling the last great struggle between Rome and Carthage; the other occurred in the Peninsular war of the present century.

The following account of the manner in which Carthage was taken and destroyed by the Romans under Scipio AFRICANUS DOLLIN:

"Early in the spring Scipio attacked at one and the same time the harbor called Cothon and the citadel. Having possessed himself of the wall which surrounded this port, he threw himself into the great square of the city that was near it, from whence there was an ascent to the citadel up three streets, on each side of which were houses, from the tops whereof a shower of darts was discharged upon the Romans, who were obliged, before they could advance further, to force the houses they came to first, and post themselves in them, in order to dislodge thence the enemy, who fought from the neighboring houses. The combat, which was carried on from the tops and in every part of the houses, continued six days, during which a dreadful slaughter was made. To clear the streets, and make way for the troops, the Romans dragged with hooks bodies of such of the inhabitants as had been slain or precipitated headlong from the houses, threw them into pits, many of them while yet alive and panting. In this toil, which lasted six days and six nights, the soldiers were relieved from time to time by fresh ones, without which they would have been quite spent. Scipio was the only person who did not take a wink of sleep during all this time, and scarce allowed himself leisure to take the least refreshment."

In NAPUR'S admirable history of the Peninsular war a most interesting and graphic description is found of the siege and capture of Sarragossa by the French under Marshal LANNES. The ramparts having been battered down the historian says:

"The walls of Sarragossa thus went to the ground; but Sarragossa herself remained erect, and as the broken girdle fell from the heroic city the besiegers, started at the view of her unshaken strength—the regular defences had indeed crumbled before the skill of the assailants, but the popular resistance was immediately called, with all its terrors, into action, and as if fortune had resolved to mark the exact moment when all the ordinary calculations of science should cease, the chief engineers on both sides were simultaneously slain. The French General, La Coste, a young man, intrepid, skilful and endowed with genius, perished like a brave soldier. The Spanish Col. San Genis died not only with the honor of a soldier but the glory of the patriot—his blood staining the ramparts he had himself raised for the protection of his native place.

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The mode adopted of penetrating through the houses, on both sides of the street, by making holes in the interior partition walls and thus gaining possession of the adjoining houses successively, rendered the street defences of the Mexicans wholly useless. In addition to the

advantages secured by thus advancing under cover, the American rifle, in the hands of such men as the Texan rangers and the Western volunteers, was a more efficient weapon in such a contest as this than any which the assailants of Sarragossa possessed. The rifle, used as it can be used by Americans only, is in fact a weapon which must give superiority to our arms against any foe, in any kind of battle in which it can be efficiently employed. It is unusual to read, in the accounts of battles, of troops being under fire for hours with an aggregate loss in the end so small as to almost incredible.—Now it is not possible for columns of men to be exposed to the fire of American riflemen, even for a short time, without great loss—because every rifleman is a marksman, and no marksman shoots without slaying his man.

From the N. O. Picayune.

LATEST FROM THE ARMY. MONCLOVA AND CHIHUAHUA TAKEN.—EXPEDITION AGAINST VICTORIA.—MARCH OF THE AMERICAN FORCES UPON SALTILLO.

The steamship McKim, Jr., J. B. Peck, master, arrived last evening from the Brazos, which place she left on the 25th inst. The McKim brought the mail and a large number of passengers.—Amongst the latter are Maj. McLean and Graham bearers of despatches from Gen. Taylor, and Capt. G. T. M. Davis; bearer of despatches from Gen. Wool.

"Capt. G. T. M. Davis (add to Gen. Shields) reports that Gen. Wool took peaceable possession of Monclova on the 30th October. The Governor and a number of the principal citizens formed escort and met Gen. Wool about four miles from the city and welcomed him as a friend. One of the best houses in the place was offered to him for his headquarters—which offer was accepted.—Gen. Wool's army, numbering 2300 men was in excellent health and spirits. The country through which it passed is described as abounding in wheat, corn, beef, mutton and every necessary means of subsistence, which could be had at reasonable prices. Capt. Davis reports that corn is raised in quantities and of quality surpassing any thing he had before seen, and that the climate is delightful and the country generally very beautiful, fertile and watered with numerous streams. Gen. Wool marched from the Presidio del Rio Grande to Monclova, a distance of two hundred and four miles in eleven marching days.

News was received at Monclova on the 2d inst. that Col. Donplum; of the Missouri volunteers, who had been detached by Gen. Kearney, at Santa Fe, for that duty, had taken the city Chihuahua with 700 men. He entered the place without impediment—the town having surrendered without a gun being fired, as we always said would be the case.

Col. Riley, of the 3d Infantry, has been ordered to march with the whole of his regiment upon Victoria, de Tamaulipas. He had left upon that service when our informant left Camargo.

Upon the arrival of despatches from the United States Government ordering an end to be put to the armistice, Gen. Taylor despatched Major Graham to Saltillo to confer with the Mexican camp and inform them that each party was at liberty to act as it might think fit. Not an officer nor a soldier was to be seen at Saltillo. Maj. Graham had an interview with the Governor and informed him that the armistice was at an end, and requested him to dispatch the intelligence to the Mexican commander-in-chief at San Luis Potosi. The Governor desired Major Graham to proceed to San Luis and deliver his message, but that officer's instructions being peremptory he returned to Monterey. When Maj. Graham left Monterey on the 16th inst. Gen. Worth was under orders to move against Saltillo. He was to have left the next day. Gen. Taylor intended to accompany him with the 2d Regiment of Dragoons, but would return again to Monterey, leaving Gen. Worth there. No resistance was anticipated from the enemy.

From the N. O. Picayune.

From Brazos Santiago.

The brig Will, Capt. Decker, arrived at this port yesterday from Brazos Santiago, having sailed thence on the 23d inst. two days later than our former advice. The Will brought no mail, as the McKim was to leave the same day and the mails would doubtless be reserved for her; but we have the American Flag of 14th inst., thanks to Dapt. Decker, which is three days later than we have before seen.

The Flag announces that on the 11th inst. the Tennessee cavalry, numbering near 900 men and horses, under the command of Col. Thomas, marched through the streets of Matamoros from their encampment four or five miles south of that place on the San Fernando road. Capt. Haynes's company had been temporarily detached from the regiment and placed in quarters on the upper plaza of the town.

The Flag informs us that Gen. Taylor has been compelled to throw into prison a priest detected in preaching desertion to the American troops. The Flag has little mercy on him.

RAIL ROAD IMPROVEMENTS.

All the contracts for building the New York and Erie Rail Road to Binghamton are taken, at a million less than the estimates. The aggregate amount of the contracts are \$1,500,000. At this rate, \$6,000,000 would complete to road to Dunkirk. About \$1,500,000 of the stock of the

has been taken in Boston. The whole amount required is \$2,500,000. The contracts for building the Road are all made, and the work is to be commenced immediately.

The People and the War.

The North American has the following remarks on the war. They place the matter on the right grounds.

"There is not, never has been, the slightest manifestation of a disposition on the part of the Whig party to withhold support from the Government in the prosecution of the war. To say that there has been, is most false, most factious, and is meant to make the mischief it affects to denounce. The Union and kindred prints have made such charges, and from such motives; they know them to be false; every American recognizes and reverts them as a slander against our common country. The Whigs assumed their position broadly, at the first. They hastened to offer every thing for the war; to have withheld the proffer would have worked evil to our country. At the same time they have protested against the wrong done and reserved their claim for future justice! to have omitted this would have been to have proclaimed an extra-constitutional Dictatorship. Their position is unchanged. It is true that they have murmured against the policy of the administration, and why? Because the President did not second the efforts of the Whigs;—they asked more men, more ships, more munitions, more heart, more honesty; they alleged a design to belittle the war and protract a dangerous contest. Were they right in their charges? They are sustained by present facts; the war is more formidable now than ever. Were they right in their recommendations?—They have been recognized and adopted by the administration. Mr. Polk has been constrained to adopt Whig counsels. The army is reinforced; and will be still further strengthened; and the Gulf squadron will be made efficient. Scott has been sent to the army; Stewart will be to the Navy. These are Whig movements; and under their inspiring influence we look for earnest results. If they be insufficient—add to them; to the last drop and last dollar the Whigs are eager to meet the requisition. They regard the war as unnatural and therefore pant to fight it out, vigorously and at once, and be freed from it.

Somerset Lyceum.

Will meet at the Lyceum room on Friday evening next, at 6 o'clock.

QUESTION FOR DISCUSSION.

Ought the Constitution to provide only for biennial sessions of the Legislature.

ESSAYIST, DECLAIMER,
R. L. Stewart, S. W. Pearson,
H. P. HITE, Sec'y.

STRAY HEIFFER.

CAME to the premises of the subscriber in Elick township, on the 27th of October last, a one year old BLACK HEIFFER, with some WHITE spots about the head and a hole in the right ear.

The owner is requested to come and prove property and pay charges, otherwise said heiffer will be sold as the law directs. WM. RINGLER.

Dec. 15, '46.

ROBERT S. N. RAIG. SAMUEL M'GUIRE.

M'KAIG & M'GUIRE,
Forwarding & Commission
MERCHANTS,
At the Railroad Depot,
CUMBERLAND MD.

REFERENCES.

Hon. A. Stewer, } Fayette co.
Hon. H. W. Beeson }
Hon. J. S. Black, } Somerset Pa
Col. J. Aukeny, }
Jonas Keim, Esq., }
Thomas J. & W. W. McKaig, }
Cumberland, Md.
Dec. 15—5m.

Jayne's Medicine.

JAYNE'S EXPECTORANT.

22) THIS medicine has already proved itself to be all that it has been recommended, by those who have given it a fair test in this country, and the demand for it increases daily. We have just heard of an important cure of Asthma, which has been effected by the use of it in a neighboring town—the case was that of a female, who had for a long time been under the care of a physician but had received no relief, and her case was considered hopeless. As a last resort she purchased a bottle of Jayne's Expectorant, which caused her to expectorate freely, gradually eased her cough, and rapidly restored her to health. We have no hesitation in saying, that this preparation of Dr. Jayne, for the cure of Coughs, Colds, Influenza, Asthma, Consumption, &c., is the most valuable medicine ever offered to the American public. There is no quackery about it—Dr. Jayne is one of the most skillful practicing physicians in Pennsylvania, and wherever his various preparations have been thoroughly tested, he is looked upon as a great public benefactor.—Somerset (Maine) Journal.

Prepared only by Dr. David Jayne, N. 3 South Third Street, Philadelphia.

Sold by J. J. & H. F. Schell, Somerset Pa.

Also by Edward Berlin, Etowah Pa.