

THE SOMERSET HERALD.

AND FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' REGISTER.

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1847,

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THE SOMERSET HERALD.

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NEW COUNTERFEITS.

Counterfeit 5's and 10's on the Bank of Chambersburgh are in circulation.—They read "The Chambersburgh Bank." Also 10's on the State Bank of Indiana—vignette, an Indian looking at a train of cars.

OUR MOUNTAIN BOYS.

We are gratified to learn that the young men of our borough and neighborhood are about raising a company to go to Mexico, in case there should be an other requisition for Volunteers. A number have already enrolled themselves. This is a praiseworthy move, and we hope there will be no holding back. It matters not now how the war originated or who is responsible for it; the national honor is involved in the issue, and every effort of the Government ought to be exerted to secure an early and honorable peace. It is therefore the duty of all to stand by the country and to aid, in whatever way they best can, the constituted authorities. In case our "Frosty Sons of Thunder" get an opportunity to fight the Mexicans, we venture to predict they will "do it up brown," for they know how to use the "shooting irons" and their appendages, and would walk into a regiment of rancheros like "ten thousand bricks."

THE WAR.

The prospect for a speedy termination of the war is anything but encouraging. The Mexicans are evidently determined to hold out as long as they can, and our present forces are hardly sufficient to bring them to their senses and to terms. A great error, it seems to us, has been committed in invading Mexico with so small a force,—and the Government ought to lose no time in sending on ample reinforcements. The ten regiments which are to be enlisted for the regular army cannot be raised and got into service short of six months, if even then, and the government's chief reliance must therefore be, for the present, upon volunteers. By increasing the pay of these to 10 or 12 dollars per month and securing to each a section of good land, a force sufficient to "conquer a peace" could be raised in a very short time; and the public moneys could not be more advantageously applied, nor could a more just disposition ever be made of the public lands.

NATIONAL FINANCE.

For the following synopsis we are indebted to the Pittsburgh Gazette.

We find some interesting facts in relation to the National Finances, developed by the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore American. They state that the appropriation bills reported in the House last Saturday, from the Committee of Ways and Means amount, in the aggregate, to nearly forty millions of dollars; and it is supposed that those which are to follow will swell the amount to fifty-five or sixty millions.

The amount of the Army bill is \$29,538,704.25. Of this sum there is for the pay and subsistence of officers and men; transportation of troops; purchase of horses, mules, &c.; ordnance and ordnance stores; manufacture of arms, &c.; for the Army proper, \$6,813,373.25; for the pay, subsistence, ordnance, transportation and supplies, for the VOLUNTEERS, \$17,932,331; and to supply deficiencies in the existing appropriations for the pay, travelling allowance, transportation and supplies of volunteers, under the act of 30th May, and joint resolution of 8th August, \$4,793,000.

The amount of the Navy bill is \$8,920,204.49, of which \$2,500,000 is for the increase and repairs of vessels; \$469,417 for improvements of Navy Yards; \$275,000 for the Dry Dock at Brooklyn; and \$320,546 for the support of the Marine Corps.

The amount of Indian appropriations is \$1,179,324, of which \$124,000 is for fulfilling the recent treaty with the Cherokees, and \$110,000 for that with the Potawatamians.

They also state that the monthly statement of the Treasury Department was only furnished by the Department on Thursday evening, after the adoption of the Resolutions calling for the statement. The balance of \$2,947,162, in the Treas-

ury on the 31st of December show a falling off of \$1,937,67. The Government have received as a balance of the last loan \$1,539,000, and the receipts into the Treasury it is supposed were nearly two millions of dollars during the month—making a total expenditure of \$5,476,547,67 during the month of December. The expenditures will be equal to this sum, it is thought, in January.

STATE FINANCES.

The following facts we glean from the State Treasurer's Report.

The receipts at the Treasury during the last fiscal year amounted to \$3,529,057.

The balance in the Treasury, on the 1st Nov. 1845 was \$384,886.

Total revenue last year, \$3,913,943.

Expenditures for the same period amounted to \$3,529,264.

Making the balance in the Treasury, 30th Nov. last, \$384,678.

The State Treasurer estimates the revenue for the present fiscal year at \$4,026,178, and the expenditures at \$3,447,058; leaving a surplus on the 30th November of \$579,000.

The public debt amounts to \$40,739,577.

The receipts from the public improvements during the year amounted to \$1,357,203.

The expenditures on the public works during the year, \$732,067.

Balance over expenditures, \$625,136.

The Treasurer thinks the February interest will be paid.

From the National Intelligencer.

At the present moment, the following letter, received by the mail of yesterday, cannot fail to be of the deepest interest to every class of our readers:

TO THE EDITORS.

Santa Anna will not march on Saltillo, but will make a feint to create such impression.

Should the Army under General Taylor be concentrated in that neighborhood, Santa Anna, with his whole force, will rush on Tampico; and, if he accomplishes the reduction of that place, he will proceed along the coast to the Rio Grande, and, with an overwhelming force between Matamoras and Point Isabel, cut off the supplies to our army.

With some knowledge of the character of Santa Anna, and the topography of the country, combined with the recent news, I have arrived at the above conclusion.

The subject being one of great importance and interest just now, is the reason I trouble you with the perusal, and request the publication of this short letter.

Very respectfully,

A NAVAL OFFICER,

Annapolis, Jan. 13, 1847.

"Aid and Comfort."

A Whig member of the Illinois Legislature, conceiving it to be his duty to "aid and comfort" the locofocos, particularly in their present dilemma, recently introduced the following resolutions into that body.

Resolved, by the General Assembly of the State of Illinois, That we heartily approve of the message of the Hon. James K. Polk, President of the United States, vetoing the bill passed at the last session of Congress of the United States, making appropriations for the improvement of Rivers and Harbors.

Resolved further. That the course of the President of the United States in compromising the line of boundary on the forty ninth degree, after asserting that our title up to fifty-four degrees and forty minutes was "clear and unquestionable," meets the entire approbation of the General Assembly of the State of Illinois.

This applause of two of the main acts of Mr. Polk's administration, operated like a fire-brand thrown into the midst of the "faithful;" they immediately adjourned, and at the next meeting, laid them on the table! Does this look like backing Mr. Polk!

N. P. Willis says:—It was in the church of St. Nicholas that I first became aware of a very sensible German custom—that of concentrating the cough and nose blowing during service time. The clergyman stops at different periods of his discourse, steps back from the pulpit stand, and blows his nose—the entire congregation imitating his example, and disturbing the service with the operation at no other time.

The Washington Fountain notices a report that Col. Bomford's big gun is to be brought to bear upon the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa; that the shells are all cast and ready for it, and that it has been shipped from Boston to the squadron off Vera Cruz.

LAST GATHERING.

Ocean and earth restore
All that your arms entomb
From every distant shore
Come to the gathering—come!

Sages of days gone by
Long mouldering in the tomb
Haste to the realms on high
Come to the gathering—come!

Warrior with laurel brow
Who fixed a nations doom,
Come to the judgment now,
Come to the gathering—come!

Bright was thy dark eyes gleam,
Fair was thy cheek of bloom;
Again those clarms shall beam;
Come to the gathering—come!

Mourner with tearful eye,
Thy peaceful rest on high,
Come to the gathering—come!

Loved one of days gone by
Haste from the graves cold gloom
Again we meet on high,
Come to the gathering—come!

Ocean and earth restore,
All that your arms entomb,
Myriads of every shore,
Come to the gathering—come!

[From the Nat. Intelligencer.]

THE CRISIS.

When the present Administration came into power, the country was eminently prosperous. We had a Tariff which protected our own labor against the pauper labor of Europe. All the great enterprises of the country were in successful operation. Real estate was gradually advancing in value, and the products of labor met with a ready sale. The money-market was steady, and credit rested on a solid basis. There was a general confidence felt and expressed in the state of things which existed. All this was attributable to the wise measures adopted by the Whig party, which came into power with the Harrison Administration.

But this fair scene, which cheered the hearts and enlivened the hopes of this great people, was doomed to a sudden reverse. The Baltimore Convention, with its baleful influence, met, and, assuming to act for the people, without their instructions and against their interests, virtually elected the present Chief Magistrate: a citizen who did not himself aspire to the office, and who, without the influence of the nomination, could scarcely have received the vote of any county in the Union. But this usurpation of the popular rights by the Convention did not stop here. The same body decreed that the whole of Oregon was ours; that Texas should be annexed; that the Tariff of 1842 should be overthrown; and that the Subtreasury should be established.

Never did a body of men in so short a time entail upon their country a system of measures so calamitous. And, when we consider the elements of which that Convention was composed—some of its members being irresponsible, others self-appointed, and many of those who had a show of authority receiving it in disregard of popular rights and of the principles which they professed to hold sacred—it is amazing with what tame submission—a submission that argued unfavorably for the cause of free government—the decrees of this body were received.

The rights of the People were not only usurped by imposing upon them a Chief Magistrate, but the Convention bound in party fetters this instrument of its creation, and the National Legislature. True to the behests of that body, Mr. Polk, in assuming his duties, expressed a determination to carry out to the letter its decrees. The Oregon controversy brought us to the verge of a war with England, from which we were saved by the wisdom and firmness of the Senate. But Texas was annexed, the Tariff was overthrown, and the Subtreasury enacted. And we are now realizing the fatal consequences of these measures.

We have had a war of about eight months with Mexico. Two brilliant victories in the field against superior numbers, and the capture of a city, strongly fortified and defended by a force much greater than ours, have added to the renown of our arms. We claim a nominal possession over a great extent of country, through which General KEARNEY has marched, and which Captain STROCKTON has surveyed from his quarter-deck; but we only hold by a forcible tenure that which has been subjugated by General TAYLOR. And, to maintain this possession, our little army is necessarily divided and placed in garrisons remote from each other, liable to the attack of the enemy, and difficult to be defended. This is the "bright side of the picture. Let us turn to that of a darker shade.

The people with whom we are at war are greatly exasperated, and their discor-

dant elements have, in a great degree, become united. Their most favored and experienced captain, by the permission of the President of the United States, has returned from his banishment, and now leads its army. Several thousands of our brave citizens have fallen victims of this war, whose graves are on the battle-fields of the 8th and 9th of May, at Point Isabel, Monterey, on the shores of the Rio Grande, or on the line of their return homeward: and it is impossible to say how many now bear within them the seeds of fatal diseases in the army, at home, or on their way thither.

The Administration seem to have been as ignorant of the Mexican character as they have shown themselves to be of their own powers and of the great duties which devolve upon them. They evidently believed that a military array on the Rio Grande would alarm the Mexican Government and induce it to avoid a conflict, by a large cession of territory; and that this would glorify the Administration, and give great strength to its party. But, if this threatening attitude of our army should fail to intimidate, it was certain that a collision would take place, which would afford an occasion for our troops to sweep over the country, and, in the course of a few months, to "revel in the halls of the Montezumas." And then all Mexico would be annexed, or at least the terms of peace would be dictated by the Administration. In thus claiming, under their own measurement, compensation for past delinquencies, and indemnity for the expenses of the war, a rich harvest of glory was anticipated. Whatever may be said on the subject, we are satisfied that some such visions as these floated in the minds of the President and his Cabinet.

But they have experienced a sad reverse in their hopes. The death-scene has broken upon them. It is said that more men have fallen in this unfortunate and unnecessary war than fell in the late war with England: a war which involved our rights as a nation, and in which we exhibited a prowess and acquired a military fame, on the land and on the water, that astonished the world.

But an eight months' war has not only proved fatal to many thousands of our citizens, but it has brought our Treasury to the verge of bankruptcy. The Subtreasury hangs like an incubus upon the moneyed action of the country. The Tariff of 1846 will greatly diminish the revenue, and yet the friends of the Administration shrink from a vote for duties which the Secretary of the Treasury declares to be necessary to enable him to obtain any further loans.

Can the Administration, under the circumstances, ask the Whigs to impose taxes which have been refused by the friends of the war? Common decency would prevent this. The Whigs will, no doubt, appropriate all the means for the prosecution of the war which the Administration may ask, and which shall be reasonable. But, as the Whig system of finance has been repudiated by the Administration, and as they have imposed upon the country the Subtreasury, it is but just that they should carry out their system of finance, which their decided majorities in both Houses will enable them to do. As this state of things was brought about by a series of measures which has been steadily and zealously opposed by the Whigs, they are not answerable for the consequences.

If the co-operation of the Whigs is desired, let the Administration repeal the Subtreasury and re-enact the Tariff of 1842—let them undo so much as is in their power of the mischief which they have perpetrated—and we hazard nothing in saying that the Whigs will not shrink from the imposition of any taxes which the exigencies of the country shall require. But they do not believe that the credit of the Government can be sustained whilst that miserable contrivance of a Subtreasury remains in force. There is not a man in the nation, we believe, who has any adequate knowledge of finance, that does not concur with them in this belief.

The futile attempt to identify the position of the Whigs with that of the Opposition to the late war with England will not be countenanced by any one who has a proper regard for his own character.—Such a work must be left to the lowest political drivellers—those who fetch and carry to order, and who are only tolerated because they are useful.

Whether we regard their patriotism, their intelligence, or their character, the Whigs constitute an association of men unsurpassed in the history of any country. They conscientiously believe that, whilst the present Administration was brought into power under the forms of the Constitution, a serious and possibly a fatal blow was given to the principles which lie at the foundation of our Government; and they as sincerely believe that this Mexican War was commenced by a gross usurpation of the Executive, for admit—as we have said more than once before, and which cannot be too strongly impressed upon the public mind—admit that there was cause of war, Congress, and Congress only, could declare it. Notwithstanding which considerations, we believe, and indeed we

know, that the Whigs, under every discouragement, will stand up for their country, and, so far as they can, sustain its honor. But the Administration asks too much when it calls upon the Whigs to surrender their discretion, their knowledge and experience, in matters of finance, to those who have shown themselves to be ignorant of its first principles.

Very late from the Gulf of Mexico.

The U. S. steam frigate *Mississippi*, H. A. ADAMS, commander, arrived at Norfolk on Wednesday morning, having on board Com. M. C. PERRY. She left Anton Lizardo on the 29th December, and touched at Havana for coal and water.

Com. Perry arrived in this city yesterday, accompanied by Lieut. Contee, also of the *Mississippi*, to whom we are indebted for the following information, and for Havana papers:—"On the 20th December, Com Perry, with the *Mississippi*, *Vixen*, *Bonita*, and *Petrel*, took possession of Laguna and destroyed the guns and munitions of war found in the forts and town. Commander Sands, with the *Vixen* and *Petrel*, was left in charge of the place, and the *Bonita* was left to assist in holding Frontera and the mouth of Tabasco river. Off Alvarado, the *Mississippi* captured a Mexican schooner, the *Amalio*, and sent her to New Orleans for adjudication.

"The *Mississippi* came home for some necessary repairs to her machinery. As soon as these can be completed, she will return to the Gulf of Mexico, ready to assist in any operation which may be contemplated against the enemy.

"Purser A. D. Crosby, of the *Mississippi*, was killed by falling from aloft on board the *Vixen*, which vessel he was assisting to pilot over the bar at Laguna, on the occasion of the attack on that place.

From Havana papers of the 7th of this month we learn that on the 23d of December was published at Mexico a decree of the Constituent Congress declaring Gen. Antonia Lopez de Santa Anna to be the Provincial President of the Republic, and of Valentin Gomez Farias to be Provincial Vice President of the Republic. In consequence of the absence of the President, and in accordance with a decree of the Congress, the Vice President had assumed the duties of Acting President, and taken the oath of office.

The Government had recognised as Agent of Great Britain at San Luis de Potosi during the war with the United States, Senor Juan Davies. Gen. Don Valentin Canizales had been appointed Minister of War and Marine of Mexico.

The subjoined paragraph, the only one of any consequence besides those which state the above facts, would seem to authorize an apprehension that the reported advance of Santa Anna with a large army towards Saltillo was in reality a movement towards Tampico, were it not that we have ourselves received letters from Tampico as late date as the 23d of December, when every thing was quiet; which could hardly have been the case had the movement of the body of 5,000 men been in the direction stated in the following paragraph:

From the Vera Cruz Locomotor of the 14th.

"We learn by the express of last night that a division, consisting of 5,000 men of all arms, moved from San Luis in the direction of Tula, with a view to intercept the passage of the enemy who will march their forces by this route in order to place themselves in communication with Tampico.—*Nat. Int.*

The Sub-Treasury.

The New York Tribune says:

"The Sub-Treasurer here begins to see the Elephant, and finds it impossible to get through with the receipt and disbursement of specie even by working after night fall. A small lot of silver coin, \$300, was sent in at 1 o'clock, and at 3 o'clock was handed back to the depositor, as the gentleman from Schenectady would neither count nor receive it without counting. Great inconvenience is occasioned to those who have sums to pay in by the requirement of the Treasurer, that they must come and see the coin counted. A great loss of time occurs in this way."

The journal of Commerce says that the Sub-Treasury, so far as it hears, is not much besides an object of contempt, and that the government itself is the chief sufferer by it; and letters from Washington state that the Government will soon resort to the issue of Treasury Notes to a large amount, and some as low as \$10.

This, he remembered, is the anti-bank—hard money administration!

FEDERAL RELATIONS.

A member of the Iowa Legislature was highly indignant at the Speaker of the House, when he announced him a member of the committee on "Federal Relations." He considered it a rank biting insult. "Look here, Mr. Speaker," said he, "none of your tricks upon travellers.—You needn't think that, because I am a new member, you can run your rigs upon me. I am not as green as you suppose. Go to thunder with your federal relations! I can't get one of them in the world—and wouldn't own him if I had."

OFFICIAL.

FROM THE WASHINGTON UNION OF WEDNESDAY.

The "Rumors" from the Rio Grande.

The despatches received from Major General TAYLOR, by last night's mail, are from Monterey of the 14th December, at which date there were no tidings of the movements of Santa Anna upon the advance post at Saltillo. The General was to have left on the 15th for Victoria; but if the accounts be true that we see published in the newspapers, he must have returned to Monterey before he had proceeded a half a day on his march. The force at Saltillo, under Gen. Worth, is about 1,700, which was to have been reinforced, according to previous advices from General Taylor, by two regiments of volunteers, which would make an aggregate of about 2,600 men. The force at Monterey under Major General Butler, including the division which marched on the 13th and 14th December under Generals Twigg and Quitman, which no doubt was recalled and rapidly marched in the direction of Saltillo, should the news of the advance of Santa Anna turn out to be true, would amount to about 3,400, which, with Gen. Worth's command, would make a force of about 6,000. We have seen a letter from an officer at Brazos Santiago, of the 23th of December, which expresses the opinion that "a sufficient force was doubtless collected at Saltillo to meet the emergency; and if Santa Anna's movement was anything more than a *feint*, he has unquestionably been repulsed."

A letter from Major General SCOTT, now commanding all the land forces in Mexico, dated December 28th, from Brasos Santiago, states that he should leave the next day, via Matamoras and Camargo, in search of official news by which he should be governed accordingly. Referring to the reports of the movement of the enemy, he states that, in the mean time, events may take him to Monterey, and that "if Santa Anna be in the offensive he must be repulsed," &c.

One of the letters we have seen from the Rio Grande of so recent date as December 28 (the latest) expressly states:—"We are here without accurate information, and the General-in-chief, now commanding all the forces in Mexico, has determined to move rapidly forward with the view of ascertaining facts upon which he can rely. We should have been off to-day, but for the difficulty of landing our saddle horses from the steamer yesterday."

The force under Gen. Wool at Parras is about 2,400, which is in excellent order. Capt. Washington's company of flying artillery, more than 100 strong, has a battery of eight pieces, and is represented to be one of the most efficient and well appointed companies which belong to the army. It probably is the best, as it is the strongest. Whatever may be the truth of the rumors afloat, it will be seen that, with the junction of Wool's division, which should be counted upon, General Taylor, upon this emergency, will probably be at the head of an army of more than seven thousand, and we have no fears of the result.

From South America.

Advices from Rio de Janeiro of the 16th November have been received at New York, including accounts from Montevideo to the 1st of November.

General Rivera and President Oribe had set their forces in motion, and it was expected that they would soon meet and have a battle. Governor Rosas had prohibited communication with the revolted province of Entre Rios, but the report of the alliance of that province with Corrientes still wanted confirmation.

A horrible shipwreck had taken place on the coast of Brazil, near Bahia, of the Swedish ship *Brenza*, by which some thirty lives were lost, and a large amount of property destroyed: many of the crew were actually starved to death.

North Carolina.

We learn that the Resolution appropriating Ten Thousand Dollars for the equipment of the North Carolina Regiment of Volunteers now enrolling for the Mexican war, which passed the Senate of that State, (with a preamble declaring the war to have been begun by the act of the Executive of the United States,) has also passed the House of Commons. The appropriation has heretofore been made. We trust that the amount of this appropriation, and of all like appropriations by the State Governments, will in due time be reimbursed to them by the General Government.

A farmer once hired a Vermonter to assist him in drawing logs. The Yankee, when there was a log to lift, generally contrived to get the smallest end, for which the farmer chafed him, and told him always to take the butt end. Dinner came, and with it a sugar loaf Indian pudding. Jonathan sliced off a generous portion of the largest part, giving the farmer a wink, exclaiming—
"Always take the butt end!"

A beautiful butterfly was seen in Newark, New Jersey, on the 2d inst.