PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

READ IN U. S. SENATE, TUESDAY, DECEM-BER 27TH, 1859.

Fellow citizens of the Senater and House of Repre-

Our deep and beartfelt graffitude is due to that Our deep and beartfelt grafitude is due to that Almighty Power which has bestowed upon us such varied and numerous blessings throughout the past year. The general health of the country has been excellent; our harvests have been unusually plentiful, and prosperity smiles throughout the land. Indeed, notwithstanding our demerits we have much reason to believe from the past events in our history, that we have enjoyed the protection of Divine Providence ever since our origin as a nation. We have been exposed to many threatening and alarming difficulties in our progress; but on each successive occasion the impending cloud has been dissipated at the moment it appeared ready to burst upon our

at the moment it appeared ready to burst upon our head, and the danger to our institutions has passed away. May we ever be under the Divine guidance and protection. Whilst it is the duty of the President "from time

Whilst it is the duty of the President from time to time to give to Congress information of the state of the Union," I shall not refer in detail to the recent sad and bloody occurrences at Harper's Ferry. Still, it is proper to observe that these events, however had and cruel in themselves, derive their chief importance from the apprehension that they are but symptoms of an incurable disease in the public mind, which may break out in still more dangerous outrages, and terminate at last in an open war by the North to abelish slavery in the South.—Whilst for myself I entertain no such apprehension, they ought to afford a soleam warning to us all to beware of the approach of dauger. Our Union is a stake of such inestimable value as to demand our constant and watcom't vigilance for its presesvation. In this view, let me implore my countrymen, North and South, to caltivate the ancient feelings of mutual forbearance and good-will towards each other, and strive to allay the demon spirit of sectional hatred and strife now alive in the lind. This advice proceeds from the heart of an old public functionary whose service commenced in the last generation, among the wise and conservative statesmen of that day, now nearly all passed away, and whose first and dearest earthly wish is to leave his country tranquil, prosperous, united and powerful.

We ought to reflect that in this age, and espacially

of that day, now nearly all passed away, and whose first and dearest earthly wish is to leave his country tranquil, prosperous, united and powerful.

We ought to reflect that in tais age, and especially in this country, there is an incessant flux and reflux of public opinion. Questions which in their day assumed a most threatening aspect, have now nearly gone from the memory of men. They are "volcanous burnt out, and on the lawa and ashes and squalid ecorize of old eruptions grow the peaceful olive, the cheering vine, and the sustaining corn." Such, in my opinion, will prove to be the fate of the present sectional excitement, should those who wisely seek to apply the remedy, continue always to confine their efforts within the pale of the Constitution. If this course be piraned, the existing agiration on the subject of domestic slavery, like everything huvan, will lave its day and give place to other and less threatening controversies. Public opinion in this country is all powerful, and when it reaches a dangerous excess upon any question, the good sense of the people will farnish the corrective and tring it back within sate limits. Still, to hasten this anspicious result, at the present crisit, we ought to remember that every rational creature must be presented to the date of the constitution of the subject to define the resident of the constitution of the subject to define the resident of the constitution of the subject of domestic slavery. Exception of the propose of the people will farnish the corrective and tring it back within sate limits. Still, to hasten this anspicious result, at the present crisit, we ought to remember that every rational creature must be presented to the day of the constitutions of the provisions of this active to diverge and tring it back within sate limits. Still, to hasten the action of the subject of the constitution of the and bring it back within safe limits. Still, to hasten this auspicious result, at the present crisi, we ought to remember that every rational creature must be presumed to intend the natural consequences of his own teachings. Those who amounce abstract doctrines subversive of the Constitution and the Union must not be surprised should their heated partisans advance one step further, and attempt by violence to carry these doctrines into practical effect. In this view of the subject it ought never to be forgotten that, however great may have been the political advantages resulting from the Union to every portion of our common country, these would read. cill prove to be as nothing should the time ever arrive when they cannot be enjoyed without serious danger to the personal safety of the people of fiften members of the confederacy. It the peace of the domestic fireside throughout these States should had framed with so much eare and deliberation.—
They supposed that to prohibit Congress, in express farms from exercising a specific power beil prove to be as nothing should the time ever artheir snildren before the morning-it would be vain rived. which result to them from the Union. Self-preservation is the first instinct of nature; and therefore any state of society in which the sword is all the time suspended over the header of the case, the framers of the Constitution had expended much labor in vain. Had they imagined that Congress would possess no power to be suspended over the header of the case, the framers of the Constitution had expended much labor in vain. Had they imagined that Congress would possess no power to prohibit the trade either before or the case, the framers of the Constitution had expended much labor in vain. their smarth before the monthing—it would be vain to recount to such a people the political benefits which result to them from the Union. Self-presere suspended over the bands of the people, must

I cordially congratulate you upon the final settlement by the supreme Court of the United States of the question of slavery in the Territories, which had presented an aspect so truly formidable at the commencement of my administration. The right had been employed by the members of the Convention, was an absolute necessity from the beginning, property of any kind, including slaves, into the common Territories belonging equally to all States of the Convention. of the Confederacy, and to have it protected there ment, has sanctioned and affirmed these principles Even throughout the late troubles in Kansas there has not been any attempt, as I am ere libly informed, to interfere, in a single instance, with the right of peace without the consent of Congress. has not been and it a single instance, with the right of the master. Had any such attempt been made, the judiciary would doubtless have afforded an the judiciary would doubtless have afforded in adequate remedy. Should they fail to do this adequate remedy. the judiciary would doubtless have afforded an adequate remedy. Should they fail to do this bereafter, it will then be time enough to strengthen their hands by further legislation. Had it been decided that either Congress or the territorial legislation to the number of our domestic at the number of our do at each successive election, and the sacred rights improved. held under the Federal Constitution

ployed, and shall continue to be employed, to execute the laws against the African slave trade. After a most careful and rigorous examination of our coasts and a thorough investigation of the subject, we have not been able to discover that any slaves have been imported into the United States except the cargo by the Wanderer, numbering between three and four hundred. Those engaged in this unlawful enterprise have been rigorously prosecu-ted; but not with as much success as their crimes have deserved. A number of them are still under

Our history proves that the Fathers of the Republic, in advance of all others nations, condemned the African stave trade. It was, notwithstanding, deemed expedient by the framers of the Constitutution to deprive Congress of the power to prohibit othe migration or importation of such persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit? Sprior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight.

It will be sen that this restriction on the power of Congress was confined to such States only as might think proper to admit the importation of slaves. It did not extend to other States or to the trade carried on abroad. Accordingly, we flad that so early as the 22d March, 1794, Congress passed an act imposing severe penalties and punish-Our history proves that the Fathers of the Re-

sed an act imposing severe penalties and punishments upon citizens and residents of the United States who should engage in this trade between

rest at night without suffering dreadful apprehenstons of what may be their own fate and that of right to exercise this power after that day had ar-It this were not the case, the framers of the Con-

they would not have taken so much care to protect the States against the exercise of this power before at less the the exercise of this power before such gloomy forebodings. On the contrary I firmly that period. Nay, more, they would not have attacheve that the events at Harper's Ferry, by cause ing the people to pause and reflect upon the possible have excluded it from the possibility of future reperil to their cherished institutions, will be the means, under Providence, of allaying the existing excitement and preventing future outbreaks of a similar character. They will resolve that the Constitution and the Union shall not be endangered by rash counsels, knowing that, should the "silver cord be loosed or the goiden bowl be broken " year one thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any manner affect?" the provision in the Constitution securing to the States the right to admit the importation of African Slaves previous to that pe

riod. According to the adverse construction, the clause itself, on which so much care and discussion

It was well and wise to confer this power on under the Federal Constitution. Neither Congress | Congress; because, had it been left to the States, nor a territorial negislature nor any human power | its efficient exercise would have been impossible. has any authority to annul or impair this vested right. The supreme judicial tribunal of the country, which is a co-ordinate bench of the Government, has sanctioned and adjument, has sanctioned and adjument, the supreme judicial tribunal the government, which is a co-ordinate bench of the Government, has sanctioned and adjument, has sanctioned and adjument the suprementation of the suprementat their will. And why? Because African slaves of constitutional law, so manifestly just in themselves, and so well calculated to produce peace and
harmony among the States. It is a striking proof
of the sense of justice which is inherent in our people, that the property in slaves has never been distillied, to my knowledge, in any of the Territories.

bereafter, it will then be time chough to strengthen their hands by further legislation. Had it been described that either Congress or the territorial legislatature possess the power to annul or impair the latter possess the power to annul or impair the right to property in slaves, the evil would be intoicrable. In the latter event, there would be a strugger of the African race. The light and the blessings of Christianity have been extended to them, and both gle for a majority of the members of the legislature | their moral and physical condition has been greatly

Reopen the trade, and it would be difficult to deand depend for the time being on the result.—

termine whether the effect would be more deleterious on the interests of the master or on those of the territories coadition remained, and its whilst the territories condition remained, and its bareful influence would keep alive a dangerous excaternal influence would keep alive a dangerous excitement among the people of the several States.

Thus has the status of a Territory, during the intermediate period from its first settlement until it
shall become a State, been irrevocably fixed by the
flual decision of the Supreme Court. Fortunate
has this been for the prosperity of the Territories,
has this been for the prosperity of the Territories,
has this been for the prosperity of the Territories,
has this been for the prosperity of the Territories,
has the second the second territories,
has the second territories of the States. Now

The agent among the people of the states are the one most to be dreated would be the introduction of wild, heather and ignorant barbarians among
the sober, orderly and quiet slaves, whose ancestors have been on the soil for several generations.

This might tend to barbarize, demoralize, and exasperale the whole mass, and produce most deploralike consequences.

has this been for the prosperity of the Territories, as well as the tranquility of the States Now, emigrants from the North and the South, the East and the West, will meet in the Territories on a common platform, having brought with them that appeals of property, been adapted, in their own epident to promote their weitare. From natural causes the sharery question will in each case soon virtually sottle result; and before the Territory is

al nation, to consider what would be the effect apon unhappy Africa itself, if we should re- pire open the slave trade. This would give the never had even in its palmiest days. The numerous victims required to supply it would convert the whole slave coast into a perfect Pandemomium, for which this country would be held responsible in the eyes of both God and man. Its petty tribes would then be con-

stantly engaged in predatory wars against each other for the purpose of seizing slaves to sup-

ply the American market. All hopes of Afri-con civilization would thus be ended. On the other hand, when a market for Af-Cuba, and thus all the world be closed against this trade, we may then indulge a reasonable hope for the gradual improvement of Africa. The chief motive of war among the tribes will cease wherever there is no longer any de-mand for slaves. The resources of that fertile but miserable coun'ry might then be developed by the hand of industry and afford subjects for legitimate foreign and domestic commerce. In this manner Christianity and

civilization may gradually penetrate the ex-

isting gloem. The wisdom of the course pursued by this position in the war waged by Great Britain and command of the veteran and gallant Saubrick. France against the Universe empire, our late The entire expenses of the expedition have minister, in obedience to his instructions, jubech defrayed out of the ordinary appropriadiciously co-operated with the ministers of the e powers in all peaceful measures to secure by treaty the just conversions demanded by the interests of foreign commerce. The result is that satisfastory treaties have been

distinguished citizen of Georgia, was duly world. commissioned as Euroy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotenitary to Chiaa. He left the United States for the place of his destination on the 5th of February, 1859, bearing with him the ratified copy of this treaty, and be of the most friendly character.

arrived at Shanghai on the 28th May. From In my last annual message I prese June, but did not arrive in that city until the 27th July. According to the terms of the delay, and this pledge has been faithfully re- Spanish government itself.

obtain, in consequence of his very proper re fusal to submit to the humiliating ceremonies ple in approaching their sovereign. Novertheess, the interviews on this question were conducted in the most friendly spirit, and with all due regard to his personal feelings and the honor of his country. When a presentation to letter of credence from the President was received with particular honors by Kweiliang, the Emperor's Prime Minister, and the second man in the Empire to the Emperor himself." form at Pei-isang. As the exchange did not cess. take place until sitet the day prescribed by lication, again to submit it to the Senate.

It is but simple justice to the Chinese auof an empire dating back for thousands of years, so far as this may be consistent with our own national honor. The conduct of our mitister on the occasion has received my entire accomplished. approbation.

In order to carry out the spirit of this treaty and to give it full effect, it became necessary to conclude two supplemental conventions the tariff on imports and exports, and to regulate the transit duties and trade of our merchants with China. This duty was satisfactorily performed by our late minister. These November, 1858. Having been considered in

this decision, one way or the other, will have been a foregone conclusion. Meanwhile the settlement of the new Territory will phoceed without serious interruption, and its progress and prosperity will not be endangered or retarded by violent political struggles.

When in the progress of events the inhabitants of any Territory shall have reached the number required to torm a State, they will then proceed, in a regular manner, and in the exercise of the rights of the popular sovereignty, to form a constitution preparatory to admission into the Union. After this has been done, to employ the language of the Kusaas and Nebraska act, they eight admission. The process into the Union with or without stavery, as their constitution may prescribe at the time of their admission. This sound principle has happily been mission. This sound principle has happily been recognised, in some form or other, by an almost unanimous vote of both Houses of the last Congress.

All lawful means at my command have been employed, and shall continue to be employed, to execute the laws against the African slave trades. After a most careful and rigorous examination of our coasts and a thorough investigation of the saliject.

But we are obliged, as a Christian and mortans trading with the Chinese Employed coasts and a thorough investigation of the saliject. ry out the other provisions of the Conventions.
Still I thought it was proper to submit them to the Senate, by which they were ratified on the 31 of March, 1859. The ratified copies, how-

It affords me much satisfaction to inform you trade an impulse and extension, which it has that all difficulties with the Republic of Paraguay have been satisfactorily adjusted. It happily did not become necessary to employ the force for this purpose which Congress had the President of that Republic, in a friendly spirit, acceded promptly to the just and reasonable demands of the Government of the U. States Our Commissioner arrived at Assumption, the capital of the Republic, on the 25th of January, 1859, and left it on the 17th of rican slaves shall no longer be furnished in February, having in three weeks ably and sucsessfully accomplished all the objects of his mission. The treaties which he has concluded will be immediately submitted to the Senate.

To the view that the employment of other than peaceful means might become necessary to obtain "just satisfaction" from Paraguay, a ters of the L. Plata to await contingences, to great credit for the promptness, efficiency, and economy with which this expedition was fitted out and conducted. It consisted of Government towards China has been vindicated by the event. Whilst we sustained a neutral ing 200 guns and 2,500 men, all under the command of the veteran and gallant Soubrick.
The entire expenses of the expedition have tions for the naval service, except the sum of the 3d March last. It is believed that these eral immediately responded to this petition, and been an established government, with its power

The appearance of so large a force, fitted out in such a prompt manner, in the far distant wathe 18th June, 1808, and was ratified by the ters of the La Plata, and the admirable con- post was established at the place designated.— success of the constitutional President might President, by and with the advice and consent duct of the officers and men employed in it, of the Senate, on the 21st December following. have had a happy effect in favor of our coun- the tast return the whole number of troops then the United States. This success became so On the 15th December, 1858, John E Ward, try throughout all that remote portion of the on the island amounted, in the aggregate, to probable that, in January last, I employed a

Our relations with the great empires of France and Russia, as well as with all other governments on the continent of Europe, unless we may except that of Spain, happily continue to

In my last annual message I presented a statethence he proceeded to Peking on the 16th ment of the unsatisfactory condition of our relations with Spain; and I regret to say that this has not materially improved. Without special treaty the ratifications were to be exchanged reference to other claims, even the "Cuban on or before the 18th June, 1859. This was claims," the payment of which has been ably rendered impossible by reasons and events be- urged by our mousters and in which more than yond his control, not necessary to detail; but | a hundred of our citizens are directly intereststill it is due to the Chinese authorities at ed, remain unsatisfied, notwithstanding both Shanghai to state that they always assured their justice and their amount (\$128,635 54) him that no advantage should be taken of the had been recognized and ascertained by the

I again recommend that an appropriation be On the arrival of Mr. Ward at Peking, he made "to be paid to the Spanish government equested an audience of the Emperor, to pre- for the purpose of distribution among the claisent his letter of credence. This he did not | man's in the Amistad case." In common with two of my predecessors, I entertain no doubt that this is required by our treaty with Spain required by the ctiquette of this strange peo- of the 27th October, 1795. The failure to discharge this obligation has been employed by the cabinet of Madrid as a reason against the settlement of our claims.

I need not repeat the arguments which urged in my last annual message in favor of his Majesty was found to be impossible, the the acquisition of Cuba by fair purchase. My opinions of that measure remain unchanged. I, therefore, again invite the serious attention of Congress to this important subject. Without a recognition of this policy on their part, The ratifications of the treaty were afterwards, it will be almost impossible to institute negotion the 16th of August, exchanged in proper ations with any reasonable prospect of suc-

Until-a recent period there was good reason the treaty, it is deemed proper, before its pub- to believe that I should be able to announce to you on the present occasion that our difficulties with Great Britain, arising out of the Clayton thorities to observe, that throughout the whole and Sulwer treaty, had been finally adjusted in transaction, they appear to have acted in good a manner alike honorable and satisfactory to faith, and in a friendly spirit towards the Uni- both parties. From causes, however, which the ted States. It is true this has been done after British Government had not anticipated, they their own peculiar fashion; but we ought to have not yet completed treaty arrangements with regard with a lenient eye the ancient customs | the republics of Honduras and Nicaragua, in pursuance of the understanding between the two governments. It is, nevertheless, confidently expected that this good work will ere long be

Whilst indulging the hope that no other subject remained which could disturb the good understanding between the two countries, the question arising out of the adverse claims of the parthe one for the adjastment and satisfaction of ties to the Island of San Juan, under the Orethe claims of our citizens, and the other to fix | gon treaty of the 15th of June, 1846, suddenly assumed a threatening prominence. In order to prevent unfortunate collision on that remore frontier, the late Secretary of State, on successfully accomplished its objects, and there party is a foreigner. Vessels of the United the 17th July, 1855, addressed a note to Mr. conventions bear date at Shanghai on the 8th | Crampton, then British minister at Washington, communicating to him a copy of the instructions the light of binding agreements subsidiary to which he [Mr. Marcy] had given, on the 14th tiations. the principal treaty, and to be carried into ex- July, to Gov. Stevens, of Washington Terri-

British subjects on the island of San Juan."- | ask the earnest attention of Congress to the un-To prevent this, the Governor was instructed happy condition of that Republic.
"that the officers of the Territory should abtitle ought to be settled before either party should attempt to exclude the other by force, or exercise complete and exclusive sovereign

rights within the fairly disputed limits." In acknowledging the receipt on the next day pressed his entire concurrence "in the propriety of the course recommended to the Governor both parties, and cause them to be published as such for the information and guidance of had "lost no time in transmitting a copy of that the Capitol, and a military rebellion had assume trading with the Chinese Emdocument to the Governor General of British signed the supreme power of the Republic to as to him may appear best calculated to secure, devolve upon the Chief Justice of the Supreme placed at my command under their joint reso-lution of 2d June, 1858. On the contrary, Marcy) on the authorities and citizens of the ever, at the capital, the government of Zuloage United States."

arrangement until the Sth July last, when Gen. as the de facto government of Mexico. The Harney paid a visit to the Island. He found constitutional President, nevertheless, main-Hudson's Bay Company for the purpose of raising sheep. A short time before his arrival one of these residents had shot an animal belonging to the company, whilst trespassing upon his army having pronounced against it, its functions twice its value; but that was refused. Soon citizens was invited for the choice of a new after the "chief factor of the company at Victo- President. This assembly elected Gen. Mirastrong uaval force was concentrated in the was ria, Mr. Dalles, son-in-law of Gov. Douglas, mon, but that officer repudiated the plan under came to the Island in the British sloop-of-war which he was chosen, and Zuloaga was thus rewhilst our commissioner ascended the river to Satellite, and threatened to take "this Ameri- stored to his previous position. He assumed it, Assumption. The Navy Department is entitled | can (Mr. Cutler) by force to Victoria, to answer | however, only to withdraw from it, and Mirafor the trespass he had committed. The American seized his rifle and told Mr. Dalles if any ident Substitute, continues, with that title, at such attempt was made he would kill him on the head of the insurgent party.
the spot. The affair then ended."

In my last annual message I communicated

Under these circumstances, the American settlers presented a petition to the General, late Minister of the United States suspended through the United States Inspector of Cus- his official relations with the central governtoms, Mr. Hubbs, to place a force upon the is- ment, and withdrew from the country. It was land to protect them from the Indians as well impossible to maintain friendly intercourse with concluded with China by the respective ministers of the United States, Great Britain, they are all now usefully and actively employed in the naval service.

The selleved that these concluded with China by the respective ministers of the United States, Great Britain, they are all now usefully and actively employed in the naval service.

The selleved that these constants position, and ordered Capt. George E. Pickett, Ninth Infantry, "to establish his company on Bellevue or San Juan Island, on some suitable position near against it would have been quite justifiable, the harbor, at the southeastern extremity."- and indeed necessary. But the country was This order was promptly obeyed, and a military prey to cival war; and it was hoped that the ogi men.

Whilst I do not deem it proper on the present occasion to go further into the subject, and contending parties. In consequence of his rediscuss the weight which ought to be attached port, and from information which reached me to the statements of the British colonial authorities, contesting the accuracy of the information on which the gallant General acted it appointing a new minister to Mexico, who was due to him that I should thus present his own reasons for issuing the order to Capt. Pickett. From these it is quite clear his object was to prevent the British authorities on Vancouver's island from exercising jurisdiction over Amorican residents on the Island of San Juan, as well as to protect them against the incursions of

Much excitement provailed for some time throughout that region, and serious danger of collision between the parties was apprehended. The British had a large naval force in the vicinity; and it is but an act of simple justice to the Admiral on that station to state that he wisely and discreetly forbore to commit any hostile act, but determined to refer the whole affair to his Government and await their instruc-

manded serious attention. It would have been republic. It is supported by a large majority a great calamity for both nations had they been of the people and the States, bu: there are precipitated into ac's of hostility not on the important parts of the country where it can use tion of title to the island, but merely concurred to the country where it can use the country where it can use the country where the country where it can use the country where it can use the country where the country where the country where it can use the country where the country wher erning what should be its condition during the intervening period whilst the two governments the distant provinces there are military govermight be employed in settling the question to nors, who pay little respect to decrees of which of them it belongs. For this reason Licutenant General Scott was despatched on the 17th which always attend upon civil war in Mexico September last to Washington Territory to take are constantly recurring. Outrages of the the Pacific coast should be deem this necessary. sons and property. There is scarcely any form The main object of his mission was to carry out of injury which has not been suffered by our the spirit of the precautionary arrangement between the late Secretary of State and the Brit- We have been nominally at peace with that reish ministers, and thus to preserve the peace and prevent collision between the British and American authorities pending the negotiations between the two governments. Entertaini g no doubt of the validity of our title, I need scarcely add that, in any event, American citizens were to be placed on a footing at least as favorable as that of British subjects, it being understood that Capt. Pickett's company should remain on the Island. It is proper to observe that, considering the distance from the scene of action, and in ignorance of what might have transpired on the spot before the General's arrival, it was necessary to leave much to his discretion, and I am happy to state the event has groven that this discretion could not have been justice has not proven that this discretion could not have been justice has not been safe from control, and a intrusted to more competent hands. Gen. Scott recent degree of Miramon permits the intervenhas recently returned from his mission, having tion of Government in all suits where either is no longer any good reason to apprehend a States have been seized without law, and a concollision between the forces of the two coun- sular officers who protested against such seigure tries during the pendency of the existing nego- has been Sned and imprisoned for discespet to

stain from all acts on the disputed grounds adjourned on the 17th of February, 1857 adoptwhich are calculated to provoke any conflicts, ed a Constitution and provided for a popular so far as it can be done without implying the election. This took place in the following July concession to the authorities of Great Britain (1857,) and Gen. Comonfort was chosen President, almost without opposition. At the same election a new Congress was chosen whose first session commenced on the 16th of September, (1857.) By the Constitution of 1857 the presidential term was to begin on the first of Docember, (1857,) and continue for four years. of Mr. Marcy's note, the British Minister ex-pressed his entire concurrence "in the propriethe assembled Congress in the city of Mexico, took the oath to support the new Constitution, of Washington Territory by your (Mr. Marcy's) and was duly inaugurated as President. With-instructions to that officer," and stating that he in a month afterwards he had been driven from North America," and had "carnestly recom-mended to his Excellency to take such measures in the absence of the President his office should on the part of the British local authorities and Court, and. Gen. Comenfort having left the counthe inhabitants of the neighborhood of the line try this functionary, Gen. Juarez, proceed to in que stion, the exercise of the same spirit of form at Guanajuato, a constitutional govern-Marcy) on the authorities and citizens of the ever, at the capitol, the government of Zuloage Thus matters remained upon the faith of this corps, including the minister of the U. States, upon it twenty-five American residents with tained his position with firmness, and was soon their families, and also an establishment of the established with his cabinet at Vera Cruz .premises, for which, however, be ordered to pay were declared terminated, and so assembly of

to Congress the circumstances under which the

reliable sgent to visit Mexico, and report to me the actual condition and prospects of the from other sources, favorable to the prospects of the constitutional cause, I felt justified it might embrace the earliest suitable opportunity of restoring our diplomatic relations with that republic. For this purpose a distinguished citizen of Maryland was selected, who pro ceeded on his mission on the 8th of March last, with discretionary authority to recognize the government of President Juarez, if on his arrival in Mexico he should find it entitled to such recognition, according to the established practice of the United States. On the 7th of April following, Mr. McLane presented his oredentials to President Juarez, having no hesitation "in pronouncing the government of Juarez to be the only existing government of the Republic." He was cordially received by the authorities at Vera Cruz, and they have ever since manifested the most friendly sition towards the United States. Unhappily, however, the constitutional government has not This aspect of the matter, in my opinion, de- been able to establish its power over the whole tains himself at the capital, and in some of mucdiate command of the U. States forces on worst description are committed both upon percitizens in Mexico during the last few years. public, but 'so far as the interests of our commerce or of our citizens who have visited the country as merchants, shipmasters, or in other capacities, are concerned, we might as well have been at wir.' Life has been insecure, property unprotected, and trade impossible, except at a risk of loss which prudent men cannot be expected to incur. Important contracte, involving large expenditures, entered into by the central government, have been set at de fiance by the local governments. Peaceful American residents, occupying their rightful possessions, have been suddenly expelled the country in defiance of treaties, and by the more force of arbitrary power. Even the course of the authorities. Military contributions I regret to inform you that there has been no been levied in violation of every principle of causes the slavery question will in each case soon employed as a substitute for African slaves. Both equation or every principle of the slavery question will in each case soon employed as a substitute for African slaves. Both equation strength of the property for the property of the property for admission as a State into the Union ternate of the mass and the last annual message, and I am again obliged to less demand has had his property forcibly taken