

except that of Spain, continue to be of the most friendly character.

With Spain our relations remain in an unsatisfactory condition. In my message of December last I informed you that our envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Madrid had asked for his recall; and it was my purpose to send out a new minister to that court with special instructions on all questions pending between the two governments, and with a determination to have them speedily and amicably adjusted, if that were possible. This purpose has hitherto been defeated by causes which I need not enumerate.

The mission to Spain has been intrusted to a distinguished citizen of Kentucky, who will proceed to Madrid without delay, and make another and a final attempt to obtain justice from that government.

Spanish officials, under the direct control of the captain-general of Cuba, have insulted our national flag, and, in repeated instances, have from time to time inflicted injuries on the persons and property of our citizens. These have given birth to numerous claims against the Spanish government, the merits of which have been ably discussed for a series of years, by our successive diplomatic representatives. Notwithstanding this, we have not arrived at a practical result in any single instance, unless we may except the case of the Black Warrior under the late administration; and that presented an outrage of such a character as would have justified an immediate resort to war. All our attempts to obtain redress have been baffled and defeated. The frequent and oft recurring changes in the Spanish ministry, have been employed as reasons for delay. We have been compelled to wait again and again, until the new minister shall have time to investigate the justice of our demands.

Even what have been denominated "the Cuban claims," in which more than a hundred of our citizens are directly interested, has furnished no exception. These claims were for the refunding of duties unjustly exacted from American vessels at different custom houses in Cuba, so long ago as the year 1844. The principles upon which they rest are so manifestly equitable and just, that after a period of nearly ten years, in 1854, they were recognized by the Spanish government. Proceedings were afterwards instituted to ascertain their amount, and this was finally fixed according to their own statement (with which we were satisfied) at the sum of one hundred and twenty eight thousand six hundred and thirty five dollars and fifty four cents. Just at the moment, after a delay of fourteen years, when we had reason to expect that this sum would be repaid with interest, we have received a proposal offering to refund one third of that amount, (forty two thousand eight hundred and seventy eight dollars and forty one cents), but without interest, if we would accept this in full satisfaction. The offer is also accompanied by a declaration that this indemnification is not founded on any reason of strict justice; but is made as a special favor.

One alleged cause for procrastination in the examination and adjustment of our claims, arises from an obstacle which it is the duty of the Spanish government to remove. Whilst the captain-general of Cuba is invested with general despotic authority in the government of that island, the power is withheld from him to examine and redress wrongs committed by officials under his control, on citizens of the United States. Instead of making our complaint directly to him at Havana, we are obliged to present them through our minister at Madrid. These are then referred back to the captain general for information; and much time is thus consumed in preliminary investigations and correspondence between Madrid and Cuba, before the Spanish government will consent to proceed to negotiation. Many of the difficulties between the two governments would be obviated, and a long train of negotiation avoided, if the captain general were invested with authority to settle questions of easy solution on the spot, where all the facts are fresh, and could be promptly and satisfactorily ascertained. We have hitherto in vain urged upon the Spanish government to confer this power upon the captain general, and our minister to Spain will again be instructed to urge this subject to their notice. In this respect; we occupy a different position from the powers of Europe, Cuba is almost within sight of our shores; our commerce with it is far greater than that of any other nation, including Spain itself, and our citizens are in habits of daily and extended personal intercourse with every part of the island. It is, therefore, a grievance that, when any difficulty occurs, no matter how unimportant, which might be readily settled at the moment, we should be compelled to resort to Madrid, especially when the very first step to be taken there is to refer it back to Cuba.

The truth is that Cuba in its existing colonial condition, is a constant source of injury and annoyance to the American people. It is the only spot in the civilized world where the African slave trade is tolerated; and we are bound by treaty with Great Britain, to maintain a naval force on the coast of Africa, at much expense both of life and treasure, solely for the purpose of arresting slavers bound to that island. The late serious difficulties between the United States and Great Britain respecting the right of search now so happily terminated, could never have arisen if Cuba had not afforded a market for slaves. As long as this market shall remain open, there can be no hope for the civilization of benighted Africa. Whilst the demand for slaves continues in Cuba, wars will be waged among the petty and barbarous chiefs in Africa, for the purpose of seizing subjects to supply this trade. In such a condition of affairs, it is impossible that the light of civilization and religion can ever penetrate these dark abodes.

It has been made known to the world by my predecessors that the United States have on several occasions attempted to acquire Cuba from Spain by honorable negotiation. If this were accomplished, the last relic of the African slave trade would instantly disappear. We would not if we could, acquire Cuba in any other manner. This is due to our national character. All the territory which we have acquired since the origin of our government has been by fair purchase from France, Spain and Mexico, or by the free and voluntary act of the independent State of Texas, in blending her destinies with our own. This course we shall ever pursue, unless circumstances should occur, which we do not now anticipate, rendering a departure from it justifiable, under the imperative and overriding law of self preservation.

The island of Cuba, from its geographical position, commands the mouth of the Mississippi, and the immense and annually increasing trade, foreign and coastwise,

from the valley of that noble river, now embracing half the sovereign States of the Union.

With that island under the dominion of a distant foreign power, this trade, of vital importance to these States, is exposed to the danger of being destroyed in time of war, and it has hitherto been subjected to perpetual injury and annoyance in time of peace. Our relations with Spain, which ought to be of the most friendly character, must always be placed in jeopardy, whilst the existing colonial government over the island shall remain in its present condition.

Whilst the possession of the island would be of vast importance to the United States, its value to Spain is comparatively unimportant. Such was the relative situation of the parties when the great Napoleon transferred Louisiana to the United States. Jealous, as he ever was, of the national honor and interests of France, no person throughout the world has imputed blame to him, for accepting a pecuniary equivalent for this cession.

The publicity which has been given to our former negotiations on this subject, and the large appropriation which may be required to effect the purpose, render it expedient, before making another attempt to renew the negotiation, that I should lay the whole subject before Congress. This is especially necessary, as it may become indispensable to success, that I should be entrusted with the means of making an advance to the Spanish government immediately after the signing of the treaty, without awaiting the ratification of it by the Senate. I am encouraged to make this suggestion, by the example of Mr. Jefferson previous to the purchase of Louisiana from France, and that of Mr. Polk in view of the acquisition of territory from Mexico. I re-iterate the whole subject to Congress and commend it to their careful attention.

I repeat the recommendation made in my message of December last, in favor of an appropriation "to be paid to the Spanish government, for the purpose of distribution among the claimants in the Amistad case." President Polk made a similar recommendation in December, 1847, and it was repeated by my immediate predecessor in December, 1853. I entertain no doubt that indemnity is fairly due to these claimants under our treaty with Spain of the 27th October, 1795; and whilst demanding justice we ought to do justice. An appropriation promptly made for this purpose, could not fail to exert a favorable influence on our negotiations with Spain.

Our position in relation to the independent States south of us on this continent, and especially those within the limits of North America, is of a peculiar character. The northern boundary of Mexico is coincident with our own southern boundary from ocean to ocean; and we must necessarily feel a deep interest in all that concerns the well being and the fate of so near a neighbor. We have always cherished the kindest feelings for the success of that republic, and have indulged the hope that it might at last, after all its trials, enjoy peace and prosperity under a free and stable government. We have never hitherto interfered directly or indirectly, with its internal affairs, and it is a duty we owe to ourselves, to protect the integrity of its territory, against the hostile interference of any other power. Our geographical position, our direct interest in all that concerns Mexico, and our well settled policy in regard to the North American continent, render this an indispensable duty.

Mexico has been in a state of revolution almost ever since it achieved its independence. One military leader after another has usurped the government in rapid succession; and the various constitutions from time to time adopted have been set at naught almost as soon as they were proclaimed. The successive governments have afforded no adequate protection, either to Mexican citizens or foreign residents, against lawless violence. Heretofore, a seizure of the capital by a military chieftain, has been generally followed by at least the nominal submission of the country to his rule for a brief period, but not so at the present crisis of Mexican affairs. A civil war has been raging for some time throughout the republic, which has endeavored to subvert the constitution last framed, by military power, and those who maintain the authority of that constitution. The antagonist parties hold possession of different States of the republic, and the fortunes of war are constantly changing.

Meanwhile, the most reprehensible means have been employed by both parties to extort money from foreigners, as well as natives, to carry on this ruinous contest. The truth is, that this fine country, blessed with a productive soil and benign climate, has been reduced by civil dissension to a condition of almost hopeless anarchy and imbecility. It would be vain for this government to attempt to enforce payment in money of the claims of American citizens, now amounting to more than ten millions of dollars; against Mexico, because she is destitute of all pecuniary means to satisfy these demands.

Our late minister was furnished with ample powers and instructions for the adjustment of all pending questions with the central government of Mexico, and he performed his duty with zeal and ability. The claims of some of our citizens, some of them arising out of the violation of an express provision of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, and others from gross injuries to persons as well as property, have remained unredressed and even unnoticed. Remonstrances against these grievances, have been addressed without effect to the government.

Meantime, in various parts of the republic, instances have been numerous of the murder, imprisonment and plunder of our citizens, by different parties claiming and exercising a local jurisdiction; but the central government, although repeatedly urged thereto, have made no effort either to punish the authors of these outrages or to prevent their recurrence. No American citizen can now visit Mexico on lawful business, without imminent danger to his person and property. There is no adequate protection to either, and in this respect our treaty with that republic is almost a dead letter.

This state of affairs was brought to a crisis in May last, by the promulgation of a decree relieving a contribution pro rata upon all the capital in the republic, between certain specified amounts, whether held by Mexicans or foreigners. Mr. Forsyth, regarding this decree in the light of a forced loan, formerly protested against the application to his countrymen, and advised them not to pay the contribution, but to suffer it to be forcibly exacted.

Acting upon this advice, an American citizen refused to pay the contribution, and

his property was seized by armed men to satisfy the amount. Not content with this, the government proceeded still further, and issued a decree banishing him from the country. He immediately notified them that if this decree should be carried into execution he would feel it to be his duty to adopt the most decided measures that belong to the powers and obligations of the representative office. Notwithstanding this warning, the banishment was enforced, and Mr. Forsyth promptly announced to the government the suspension of the political relations of his legation with them until the pleasure of his own government should be ascertained.

The government did not regard the contribution imposed by the decree of the 10th of May last, to be in strictness a "forced loan," and as such prohibited by the 10th article of the treaty of 1826 between Great Britain and Mexico, so the benefits of which American citizens are entitled by treaty; yet the imposition of the contribution upon foreigners was considered an unjust and oppressive measure. Besides, internal factions in other parts of the republic were at the same time levying similar exactions upon the property of our citizens, and interrupting their commerce. There had been an entire failure on the part of our minister to secure redress for the wrongs which our citizens had endured, notwithstanding his persevering efforts.

And from the temper manifested by the Mexican government, he had repeatedly assured us that no favorable change could be expected until the United States should "give striking evidence of their will and power to protect their citizens," and that "severe chastening is the only earthly remedy for our grievances." From this statement of facts, it would have been worse than idle to direct Mr. Forsyth to retrace his steps and resume diplomatic relations with that government; and it was, therefore, deemed proper to sanction his withdrawal of the legation from the city of Mexico.

Abundant cause now undoubtedly exists for a resort to hostilities against the government still holding possession of the capital. Should they succeed in subduing the constitutional forces, all reasonable hope will then have expired of a peaceful settlement of our difficulties.

On the other hand, should the constitutional party prevail, and their authority be established over the republic, there is no reason to hope that they will be animated by a less unfriendly spirit, and may grant that redress to American citizens which justice requires, so far as they possess the means.

But for this expectation, I should at once have recommended to Congress to grant the necessary power to the President, to take possession of a sufficient portion of the remote and unsettled territory of Mexico, to be held in pledge until our injuries shall be redressed and our just demands be satisfied. We have already exhausted every milder means of obtaining justice. In such a case this remedy of reprisals is recognized by the law of nations, not only as just in itself, but also as a means of preventing actual war.

I can imagine no possible remedy for these evils, and no mode of restoring law and order on that remote and unsettled frontier, but for the government of the United States to assume a temporary protectorate over the northern portions of Chihuahua and Sonora, and to establish posts within the same;—and this I earnestly recommend to Congress. This protection may be withdrawn as soon as local governments shall be established in these Mexican States, capable of performing their duties to the United States, restraining the lawless and preserving peace along the border.

But there is another view of our relations with Mexico, arising from the unhappy condition of affairs along our southwestern frontier, which demands immediate action. In that remote region, where there are but a few white inhabitants, large bands of hostile and predatory Indians roam precipitately over the Mexican States of Chihuahua and Sonora, and adjoining territories. The local governments of these States are perfectly helpless, and are kept in a state of constant alarm by the Indians. They have not the power, and if they possessed the will, even to restrain lawless Mexicans from passing the borders and committing depredations on our remote settlers.

A state of anarchy and violence prevails throughout that distant frontier. The laws are a dead letter, and life and property are wholly insecure. For this reason the settlement of Arizona is arrested, whilst it is of great importance that a chain of inhabitants should extend all along its southern border, sufficient for their own protection and that of the United States Mail passing to and from California. Well-founded apprehensions are now entertained, that the Indians and wandering Mexicans equally lawless, may break up the important stage and postal communication recently established between our Atlantic and Pacific possessions. This passes very near to the Mexican boundary, throughout the whole length of Arizona.

I do not doubt that this measure will be viewed in a friendly spirit by the governments and people of Chihuahua and Sonora, as it will prove effectual for the protection of their citizens on that remote and lawless frontier, as for citizens of the United States.

And, in this connection, permit me to recall your attention to the condition of Arizona. The population of that territory numbering, as is alleged, more than ten thousand souls, are practically without a government, without laws, and without any regular administration of justice. Murder and other crimes are committed with impunity. This state of things calls loudly for redress; and I therefore repeat my recommendation for the establishment of a territorial government over Arizona.

The political condition of the narrow Isthmus of Central America through which transit routes pass; between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, presents a subject of deep interest to all commercial nations. It is over these transits, that a large proportion of the trade and travel between the European and Asiatic continents is destined to pass. To the United States it is of incalculable importance, as a means of communication between their Atlantic and Pacific possessions. The latter now extended throughout seventeen degrees of latitude on the Pacific coast, embracing the important State of California and the flourishing Territories of Oregon and Washington.

All commercial nations, therefore, have a deep and direct interest, that these communications shall be rendered secure from interruptions.

If an arm of the sea, connecting the two oceans, penetrated through Nicaragua and Costa Rica, it could not be pretended that these States would have the right to arrest or retard its navigation, to the injury of other nations. The transit by land over this narrow isthmus, occupies nearly the same position. It is a highway in which they themselves have little interest, when compared with the vast interests of the rest of the world. Whilst their rights of sovereignty ought to be respected, it is the duty of other nations to require, that this important passage shall not be interrupted by the civil wars and revolutionary outbreaks which have so frequently occurred in that region.

The stake is too important to be left at the mercy of rival companies, claiming to hold conflicting contracts with Nicaragua. The commerce of other nations is not to stand still and await the adjustment of such petty controversies. The government of the United States expect no more than this, and they will not be satisfied with less. They would not, if they could derive any advantage from the Nicaragua transit, not common to the rest of the world. Its neutrality and protection, for the common use of all nations, is their only object.

They have no objection that Nicaragua shall demand and receive a fair compensation, from the companies and individuals who may traverse the route; but they insist that it shall never hereafter be closed, by an arbitrary decree of that government. If disputes arise between it and those with whom they have entered into contracts, these must be adjusted by some fair tribunal provided for the purpose, and the route must not be closed pending the controversy. This is our whole policy, and it cannot fail to be acceptable to other nations.

All these difficulties might be avoided, if, consistently with the good faith of Nicaragua, the use of this transit could be thrown open to general competition; providing at the same time for the payment of a reasonable rate to the Nicaraguan government, on passengers and freight.

In August, 1852, the Accessory Transit company made its first interoceanic trip over the Nicaraguan route, and continued in successful operation, with great advantage to the public, until the 18th February, 1855, when it was closed, and the grant to this company, as well as its charter, were summarily and arbitrarily revoked by the government of President Rivas. Previous to this date, however, in 1854, serious disputes concerning the settlement of their accounts had arisen between the company and the government, threatening the interruption of the route at any moment.

These the United States in vain endeavored to compose. It would be useless to narrate the various proceedings which took place between the parties, up to the time when the warrant was discontinued, suffices it to say that since February, 1855, it has remained closed greatly to the prejudice of citizens of the United States. Since that time the competition has ceased between the rival routes of Panama and Nicaragua, and, in consequence thereof, an unjust and unreasonable amount has been exacted from our citizens for their passage to and from California.

A treaty was signed on the 16th day of Nov. 1857, by the Secretary of State and Minister of Nicaragua, under the stipulations of which the use and the protection of the transit route would have been secured not only to the U.S. but equally to all other nations. How and on what pretext this treaty has failed to receive the ratification of the Nicaraguan government will appear by the papers herewith communicated from the State Department. The principal objection seems to have been to the provision authorizing the United States to employ force to keep the route open, in case Nicaragua should fail to perform her duty in this respect.

From the feebleness of that republic, its frequent changes of government, and its constant internal dissensions, this had become a most important stipulation, and one essentially necessary not only for the security of the route, but the safety of American citizens passing and repassing to and from our Pacific possessions. Were such a stipulation embraced in a treaty between the United States and Nicaragua, the knowledge of this fact would of itself most probably prevent hostile parties from committing aggressions on the route, and render our actual interference for its protection unnecessary.

[Conclusion next week.]

Mutiny in the Camp.—It seems that all the opposition press are not willing to receive as gospel the dangerous teachings of the great sectionalist, William H. Seward. His recent Rochester speech, which has excited so much attention throughout the country, has been properly rebuked by James Books Esq., one of the editors and proprietors of the New York Express, in the following pointed and significant language:

"As my name is to continue upon the imprint of *The Express* during my absence in Europe, I avail myself of that coming absence to say, that I am not responsible for its political course, that I have belonged to no party or party organization since 1853, and that I am not likely to belong to any as parties now exist.

What prompts me now especially to break silence, is the revolutionary and anarchical speech of the very prominent Senator from New York, made on the eve of an important election, to be approved or disapproved by his State, and the seeming approval this great State has given to the speech;—Seward, I say, because I cannot feel that the State at heart endorses revolution, or the result; and yet it cannot be disguised that the endorsement has all the force of a reality, or that the coming Legislature, if a vacancy existed in the United States Senate, would re-elect him to fill it. After such a State's endorsement, then, of such a speech, I cannot as a Journalist, refrain from saying, with a full sense of the meaning of the words, that imy judgment, no political calamity could be greater than to add to the New York endorsement, the endorsement of the Republic which his friends are contriving or shaping for him. Conservative Whig as I am, of the School of Clay and Webster, and Critenden, trained in their ideas of Constitutional Law and order, I can have no sympathy with contemplated civil revolution or domestic anarchy, and therefore shrink from and repudiate all endorsements that may lead to them."

JAMES BROOKS.

Nov. 10, 1858.

PUBLIC SALE.—R. B. Long, trustee, advertises 14,000 acres of pine timber and coal lands for sale, situated upon the big and little Moshannon creeks.



CLEARFIELD, December 16, 1858.

THE MORTARA AFFAIR.

Some of the opposition press, who are ever ready "to strain at a gnat and swallow a camel" are endeavoring to create a sensation respecting the recent abduction of a Jewish child by the authorities of Bologna, and the subsequent refusal of the Pope to interfere in the matter, and have restored to its parents. This comparatively trifling affair, for it is trifling when compared with those atrocities of daily occurrence in the countries in which ignorance and religious bigotry banish law and blunt every feeling of humanity, is swollen to an enormous outrage, and our government is implored and petitioned to interfere and cause justice to be done between the respective claimants of the child. The Jews of Philadelphia recently took cognizance of this matter and implored President Buchanan for some expression on the subject, by which the moral weight of the United States might be felt in the controversy; in other words solicited our government to espouse this act by some expression of condemnation, and to become a peace maker in the domestic broils of other countries. To this application for executive interference Secretary Cass replies in a note in which the reasons for non-interference are so plainly laid down that we give the extract.

"This occurrence took place within the territories of an independent power, and without affecting the rights of any American citizen. It is the settled policy of the United States to abstain from all interference in the internal concerns of other countries. Certainly there is nothing in the circumstances of this case, as they are reported, which would impose this reserve upon the government. But it is deemed proper to adhere to the established principle which has heretofore regulated its conduct in its intercourse with other nations.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,
Lewis Cass.

This letter addressed to Abraham Hart President of the synagogue of Portuguese Jews in Philadelphia, simply and respectfully repeats what not only every Jew but every gentleman including publicans and sinners in this country should know, "that it is the settled policy of the United States to abstain from all interference in the internal concerns of other countries."

—However much it may deprecate the barbarism that daily manifests itself among the superstitious nations of the globe.—However much as citizens we may lament the ignorance that impels the blind votary of any religion to commit a wrong.—However revolting to us as a civilized people may be those cruelties inflicted by despots upon their subjects.—However tyrannical may be the mandates that disturb the domestic tranquility of other countries—it has never been, and we sincerely hope never may be, a part of our foreign policy to interfere in the family fights of other nations. Our country, though a defender of the oppressed when within the legitimate sphere of its influence, is not the especial espouser of every petty quarrel that may arise in Europe.—Uncle Sam treats the subjects of other countries as a schoolmaster does his pupils, instructs and corrects them, while with him, but after they have got home permits them without any interference to be instructed and regulated by their parents. His protection is not so elastic as to stretch to Italy and make war on the Pope, because some devout subjects in a remote part of his kingdom steal old Mrs. Mortara's baby. Buchanan is too much of a bachelor to entertain any peculiar veneration for babies, and has wisely concluded to let every country take care of its own. We would indeed have a pretty time did our government consider itself bound to pitch into all their family fights, and become the guardian of Babydom all over the world. And yet for not doing so, vivals of bitter indignation are poured on the head of the administration, and the country counselled to reproach its rulers because they will not declare war against some petty potentate of Europe who refuses to restore to a mother her lost offspring. That foreign policy would indeed be a brilliant one, that would scourge a nation because some irritable old woman in France or Italy punished a disobedient boy and drove him from the paternal roof, and no less bright would be that recommended by our opposition friends—the interference of our government to restore a child which some ignorant and superstitious Bolognians have stolen from its parents. We commend the humanity that prompts the suggestion, but we think the policy so earnestly advocated by our friends is better adapted to nurseries than to Republics.

THE JERSEY SHORE REPUBLICAN.—We tender our acknowledgments to this sterling Democratic paper for its notice of the "Clearfield Republican," and assure its editor that we have thought as much and more in its praise than it says of us.

Long may he live to preside over the destinies of the "Republican."

Where is Clearfield?

We publish this week the proceedings of a removal meeting held at Ansonville for days ago.

We cannot help thinking and saying, too, that a great deal of wind and time is being expended in the agitation of the removal of the County Seat to the neighboring village of Curwensville, that in the end will scarcely "pay." Yet we are willing that those advocating a removal should be heard as well as those opposing it. It is however amusing to see how suddenly important our sister borough has grown, and how completely the very existence of the place seems to be ignored by the friends of her rival. One of the resolutions of the Ansonville meeting resolves that Curwensville is "on the public thoroughfare leading from Erie to Tyrone." Why, dear sirs, so is Clearfield, and on as good a Turnpike, and a route as direct. The distance from Philipsburg to Luthersburg by the Shoe & Packersville turnpike, through this place being about the same as by Curwensville. This fact as well as many others in our favor, seems to have entirely escaped the notice our Ansonville friends. However we do not feel like arguing the case, having no idea that the County Seat will be removed, without stronger reasons than we have yet seen. In fact we are opposed to all changing and shifting of County Seats. Suppose the removal took place, a very few years may see a portion of our territory stricken off, so as to have Curwensville entirely to one side of the county; or the more rapid development of some other section may take place, and thus may arise strong reasons for a removal to some other point. The precarious existence of the County Seat in one place permanently must retard the growth, not only of that place, but of the whole county, as the interests of the people should be identical, and the County should be as much interested in the improvement of the towns as the towns are in the prosperity and development of the country. The people of a county should take a pride in their County Seat, and encourage its growth and embellishment. But who if a County Seat hold its franchise by so uncertain a tenure as seems to be imagined by some of the people of this county, would feel safe in purchasing or improving property therein, if it be liable to be transferred to another location by the time they have constructed and fitted up comfortable residences or places of business. The people of the county should view the question dispassionately, divested of the selfish bias of a trifling reduction of their taxes, so trifling indeed, that it would be scarcely perceptible. The county is amply able to build a Court House of such dimensions as the wants of the people require, without one dollar of private funds to aid in its construction, and without the expense being a burthen.

A Grand and Interesting Meeting.
In pursuance of a call, a large number of the citizens of Jordan township met at Ansonville school house on Saturday evening the 11th day of Dec. 1858. On motion, Robert Liddle was called to the chair, and W. B. Hegarty was chosen secretary.

The object of the meeting having been briefly stated by the president, which was to take into consideration the propriety of the removal of the county seat from Clearfield to Curwensville.

On motion, John Swan, H. Swan, Isaac Hanes, R. B. McCully and James Hunter were appointed a committee to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting. The committee after retiring for a short time, reported the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted.

Resolved, that we are in favor of removing the county seat from Clearfield to Curwensville.

Resolved, that Curwensville is a more central place, being on the public thoroughfare leading from Erie to Tyrone.

Resolved, that the citizens of Curwensville have pledged themselves to erect the public buildings in case of a removal, (which would be a saving to the tax-payers of Clearfield county, of from thirty to forty thousand dollars,) that we will use all honorable means to effect a removal of the county seat from Clearfield to Curwensville.

On motion, D. W. Wise, Isaac Hanes, H. Swan, John Swan and Peter Bloom were appointed delegates to attend the meeting at Curwensville on Friday the 17th day of December next.

On motion, W. B. Hegarty, Peter Bloom, James Davidson and H. P. Shoe-king were appointed to present petitions for signers.

On motion, *Resolved*, that the proceedings of this meeting be published in the "Raftsmans Journal" and the "Clearfield Republican."

On motion, the meeting adjourned.
ROBERT LIDDLE, Pres't.
W. B. HEGARTY, Sec't.

THE MESSAGE occupies so much of our space that we have scarcely any room left for other matter. We give the larger portion of this week, and will conclude it next week. Want of space compels us to forbear comment for the present. The document however is of a character to require none. It is a plain and concise statement of the foreign and domestic relations of the country, and should receive a careful perusal by every reader. We will endeavor to give a synopsis of the various reports at an early date.