The Amcaster Intelligencer.

"THAT COUNTRY IS THE MOST PROSPEROUS, WHERE LABOR COMMANDS THE GREATEST REWARD."-BUCHANAN.

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow-citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives:

Under the benignant Providence of Almighty God, the representatives of the States and of the people are again brought together to deliberate for the public good. The gratinude of the nation sovereign Arbiter of all human events be commensurate with the boundless lessings which we enjoy.

Peace, plenty, and contentment reign through

out our borders, and our beloved country presents a sublime moral spectacle to the world.

The troubled and unsettled condition of some of the principal European powers has had a necessary tendency to check and embarrass trade. and to depress prices throughout all commercial and to depress prices throughout all commercial nations; but notwithstanding these causes, the United States, with their abundant products, have felt their effects less severely than any other

country, and all our great interests are still pros perous and successful. perous and successful.

In reviewing the great events of the past year, and contrasting the agitated and disturbed state of other countries with our own tranquil and happy condition, we may congratulate ourselves that we are the most favored people on the face of the earth. While the people of other countries are struggling to establish free institutions, under which man may govern himself, we are in the actual enjoyment of them—a rich inheritance under which man may govern himself, we are in the actual enjoyment of them—a rich inheritance from our fathers. While enlightened nations of Europe are convulsed and distracted by civil war or intestine strife, we settle all our political conor measure surie, we settle an our pointern con-troversies by the peaceful exercise of the rights of freemen at the ballot-box. The great republi-can maxim so deeply engraven on the hearts of our people, that the will of the majority, consti-tutionally expressed, shall magnific our core tutionally expressed, shall prevail, is our sure information on the subject. His report to the safeguard against force and violence. It is a subject of just pride, that our fame and character as a nation continue rapidly to advance in the es-timation of the civilized world. To our wise and ree institutions it is to be attributed, that while other nations have achieved glory at the price of the suffering, distress, and impoverishmet of their people, we have wen our honorable posi-tion in the midst of an uninterrupted prosperity, and of an increasing individual comfort and happiness. I am happy to inform you that our rela-tions with all nations are friendly and pacific.— Advantageous treaties of commerce have been over, Oldenburg, and Mecklenburg-Schwerin.—
Pursuing our example, the restrictives system of Great Britain, our principal foreign customer, has been relayed to the control of the uniting may at all points, and in proper second the arguments of the uniting vigilance and extraordinary energy of these officers could have enabled them to provide the arguments of the control of the c cluded within the last four years with New been relaxed; a more liberal commercial policy has been adopted by other enlightened nations, and our trade has been greatly enlarged and ex To continue to occupy this proud position, it is only necessary to preserve peace, and faithfully adhere to the great and fundamental principle of n all nations the rights which we enjoy ourse we do not look behind exisiting governments capable of maintaing their own authority. We recognise all such actual governments, not only from the dictates of true policy, but from a sacred

regard for the independence of nations.

While this is our settled policy, it does not for low that we can ever be indifferent spectators of the progress of liberal principles. The govern-ment and people of the United States hailed with enthusiasm and delight the establishment of the enthusiasm and delight the establishment of the French republic, as we now half the efforts in progress to make the States of Germany in a con-federation, similar in many respects to our own federal Union. If the great and chilippinks German States, occupying, as they do, a central and commanding position in Europe, shall suc-ceed in establishing such a confederated government, securing at the same time to the citizens of each State, local governments adapted to the pe-culiar condition of each, with unrestricted trade and intercourse with each other, it will be ar important era in the history of human events.-Whilst it will consolidate and strengthen th vill consolidate and strengthen the whilst it will consolute the save of Germany, it must essentially promote the cause of peace, commerce, civilization, and constitutional liberty throughout the world.

constitutional liberty throughout the world.
With all the governments on this continent our
relations, it is believed, are now on a more
friendly and satisfactory footing than they have ver been at any former period.

Since the exchange of ratifications of the trenty of peace with Mexico, our intercourse with the government of that republic has been of the most friendly character. The Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United

more specifically to them. tivate peace and commerce with all nations.— Tranquility at home, and peaceful relations

litia, and were far from regarding them as an effective force, unless it might be for temporary defensive operations when invaded on our own soil. The events of the late war with Mexico have not only undeceived them, but have removed erroneous impressions which prevailed to some extent even among a portion of our own countrymen. That war has demonstrated, that upon the breaking out of hostilities not anticipated, and for which no previous preparation had been made, a volunteer army of citizen soldiers equal to veteran troops, and in numbers equal to veteran troops, and in a short neriod be brought.

a large proportion of them, especially in the western and more newly settled States are ex-The war with Mexico has demonstrated not only

the ability of the government to organize a numerous army upon a sudden call, but also to provide it with all the munitions and necessary supplies with despatch, convenience, and ease, and to direct its operations with efficiency. The strength of our stitutions has not only been displayed in the valor nd skill of our troops engaged in active service in the field, but in the organization of those executive branches which were charged with the general direction and conduct of the war. While too great praise cannot be bestowed upon the officers and nen who fought our battles, it would be unjust to ome, who where charged with the duty of furnishing the army, in proper time, and at proper places, with all the munitions of war and other suplies so necessary to make it efficient, the comme dation to which they are entitled. The credit due to this class of our officers is the greater, when it times was ever better appointed or provided than our army in Mexico. Operating in an enemy's country, removed two thousand miles from the seat of the federal government, its different corps spread ver a vast extent of territory, hundreds and even nousands of miles apart from each other, nothing short of the untiring vigilence and extraordinary energy of these officers could have enabled them

son, with all that was required for the mos nly the ability of the government to organize a only the ability of the government to organize a numerous army upon a sudden call, but also to provide it with all the manitions and necessary supplies with despatch, convenience, and ease, and to direct its operations with efficiency. The strength of our institutions has not only been displayed in the valor and skill of our troops engaged in active service in the field, but in the convenience of these expensive beauties which rganization of those executive branches which organization of those executive branches which were charged with the general direction and conduct of the war. While too great praise cannot be bestowed upon the officers and men who fought our battles, it would be unjust to withhold from those officers necessarily stationed at home, who were charged with the duty of furnishing, the wray in proper time, and at proper places. the army, in proper time, and at proper places with all the munitions of war and other supplie so necessary to make it efficient, the commenda-tion to which they are entitled. The credit due to this class of our officers is the greater, when is considered that no army in ancient and mo it is considered that no army in ancient and mo-dern times was ever better appointed or provi-ded than our army in Mexico. Operating in an enemy's country, removed two thousand miles from the seat of the federal government, its different corps spread over a vast extent of territory, hundreds and even thousands of miles apart from each other, nothing short of the untiring It is but an act of justice to declare, that the officers in charge of the several executive bureaus, all under the immediate eye and superraision of the Secretary of War, performed their espective duties with ability, energy, and efficency. They have reaped less of the glory of he war, not having been personally exposed the war, not having been personally exposed its perils in battle, than their companions in arm but without the forecast, efficient aid, and coeration, those in the field would not have be rovided with the ample means they possessed f achieving for themselves and their countr

When all these facts are considered, it may cease to be a matter of so much amazement a broad how it happened that our noble army i Mexico, regulars and volunteers, were victor

The war with Mexico has thus fully develor ed the capacity of republican governments to prosecute successfully a just and necessary forprosecute successfully a just and necessary foreign war with all the vigor usually attributed to
more arbitrary forms of government. It has
been usual for writers on public law to impute
to republics a want of that unity, concentration
of purpose, and vigor of execution, which are
generally admitted to belong to the monarchial
and aristocratic forms; and this feature of popular government has been supposed to display itself more particularly in the conduct of a war
carried on in an enemy's territory. The war

nary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to Mexico has been received and accredited and a diplomatic representative from Mexico of similar rank has been received and accredited by this government. The amicable relations in our capacity for extended and successful operations. The amicable relations in our capacity for extended and successful operations of San Francisco, and will occupy the same relations of the dependent of the west commerce which must exist on the Patients of the west commerce which must exist on the Patients of San Francisco, and will occupy the same relations of the patients of the whole western coast of that one are successful operations. on land. The navy is an important arm ational defence. If the services of the

pended have been happily restored, and are despended have been happily restored. The two republics, both situated on this continent, and in the late war with Mexico, it was because republics, both situated on this continent, and with coterminous territories, have every motive of sympathy and of interest to bind them together in perpetual amity.

This gratifying condition of our foreign relations renders it unnecessary for me to call your attention more specifically to them. Both branches of the service performed their whole duty to the country. For the able and gallant services of the officers and men of the navy—acting independently as well as in co-op-awarding independently as well as in co-op-awarding independently as well as in co-op-awarding independently as well as in co-op-Tranquility at home, and peaceful relations abroad, constitute the true permanent policy of seizure and occupation of other and important at lexisted to a considerable extent in California at the time of its acquisition. Recent discoverivoided when it can be done consistently with praise is due. Their vigilance, energy, and skill ies render it probable that these mines are more

other toreign rowers entertained and the tother toreign rowers entertained and erroneous views of our physical strength as a nation, and of our ability to prosecute war, and especially a war waged out of our own country. They saw that our standing army on the peace establishment did not exceed ten thousand men. establishment did not exceed ten thousand men. Accustomed themselves to maintain in peace large standing armies for the protection of thrones against their own subjects, as well as against foreign enemies, they had not conceived that it was possible for a nation without such an army, well disciplined and of long service, to wage war successfully. They held in low repute our militia, and were far from regarding them as an invessels of war on the Pacific and the Gulf of the service. concert of action and of purpose between the heads of the two arms of the service. By the orders which were from time to time issued, our vessels of war on the Pacific and the Gulf of

of farmers, lawyers, physicians, merchants, mandacturers, mechanics and laborers; and this, not only among the officers, but the private soldiers in the ranks. Our citizen soldiers are unlike those of any other country in other respects.—They are armed, and have been accustomed from They are armed, and they are armed thus they are armed they are arm only among the officers, but the private soldiers are unlike in the ranks. Our citizen soldiers are unlike those of any other country in other respects.—
They are armed, and have been accustomed from their youth up to handle and use fire-arms: and their youth up to hand with transmitted, contains one million, one hun-dred and ninety-three thousand and sixty-one western and more newly settled States are expert marks-men. They are men who have a reputation to maintain at home by their good conduct in the field. They are intelligent, and there is an individuality of character which is found in the ranks of no other army—In battle, each private man, as well as every officer, fights not only vate man, as well as every officer, fights not only contains two million fifty-nine thousand five hundred and sixty-three million five hundred and fifty-nine thousand and sixty-one square miles, or seven hundred and sixty-one million five hundred and fifty-nine thousand and sixty-one square miles, or seven hundred and sixty-one million five hundred and fifty-nine thousand and sixty-one square miles, or seven hundred and sixty-one square miles, or seven hundred and sixty-one million five hundred and fifty-nine thousand and sixty-one square miles, or seven hundred and sixty-one million five hundred and fifty-nine thousand and sixty-one square miles, or seven hundred and sixty-three million five hundred and fifty-nine thousand and sixty-one square miles, or seven hundred and sixty-one square miles, or seve is an individuality of character winch is found in the ranks of no other army. In battle, each private man, as well as every officer, fights not only for his country, but for glory and distinction among his follow-citizens when he shall return to civil life.

twenty-six thousand and fifty-eight acres. These estimates show that the territories recently acquired, and over which our exclusive jurisdiction and dominion have been extended, constitute a country more than half as large as all that which was held by the United States before their acquisition. If Oregon be excluded from the estimate, there will still remain within the limits of Torke Nov. Mexica and California. limits of Texas, New Mexico and California, eight hundred and fifty-one thousand five hundred and ninety-eight square miles, or five hundred and forty-five million, twelve thousand sev en hundred and twenty acres, being an addition equal to more than one-third of all the territory withhold from those officers necessarily stationed at owned by the United States before their acquisition, and, including Oregon, nearly as great an extent of territory as the whole of Europe, Russia only excepted. The Mississippi, so lately the frontier of our country, is now only its centre.— With the addition of the late acquisitions, the United States are now estimated to be nearly as large as the whole of Europe. It is estimated by the superintendent of the coast survey, in the accompanying report that the extent of the sea coast of Texas on the Gulf of Mexico is upwards of four hundred miles; of the coast of Upper Culifornia, on the Pacific, of nine hundred and seventy miles; and of Oregon, including the Straits of Fuca, of six hundred and fifty miles;

seacoust, including Oregon, is an addition of one thousand three hundred and seventy miles; be-ing nearly equal to one half of the extent of ing nearly equal to one half of the extent of coast which we possessed before these acquisitions. We have now three great maratine fronts—on the Atlantic, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Pacific—making in the whole an extent of seacoast exceeding five thousand miles. This is the extent of the seacoast of the United States, not including bays, sounds, and small irregularities of the main shore, and of the sea islands. If se be included, the length of the shore line of coast, as estimated by the superintendent of the coast survey, in his report, would be thirty-three

thousand and sixty-three miles.

It would be difficult totcalculate the value of these immense additions to our territorial possessions. Texus, lying contiguous to the western boundary of Louisiana, embracing within its limits a part of the navlgable tributary waters of the Mississippi, and an extensive sea-coast, could not long have remained in the lands of a foreign power without endangering the peace of our southwestern frontier. Her products in the visitity of the tributaries of the matter of the nation, than any running into and through our territory i and the amore of or irritation and collision of interests between Texas as a foreign State and ourselves.

self more particularly in the conduct of a war carried on in an enemy's territory. The war with Great Britain, in 1812, was to a great extent confined within our own limits, and shed but little light on this subject. But the war which we have just closed by an honorable peace, evinces beyond all doubt that a popular representative government is equal to any enil it is all be brought under the government of peace, evinces beyond all doubt that a popular it is scarcely possible to estimate its wealth unrepresentative government is equal to any emergency which is likely to arise in the affairs of our laws, and its resources fully developed. e a nation.

The war with Mexico has developed most strikingly and conspicuously another feature in our institutions. It is, that without cost to the our institutions. It is, that without cost to the government or danger to our liberties, we have in the bosom of our society of freemen, available in a just and necessary way, virtually a standing army of two millions of armed citizen.

tion to the whole western coast of that ocean, as New Orleans does to the valley of the Mississippi New Orleans does to the valley of the Mississippi and the gull of Mexico. To this depot our nu-merous whale ships will resort with their car-goes, to trade, refit, and obtain supplies. This of itself will largely contribute to build up a city, which would soon become the centre of a great and rapidly increasing commerce. Situated or

great western naval depot.

It was known that mines of the precious metals existed to a considerable extent in California ies render it probable that these mines are more extensive and valuable than was anticipated. avoided when it can be done consistently with the rights and honor of the nation.

One of the most important results of the war into which we were recently forced with a neighboring nation, is the demonstration it has afforded of the military strength of our country.

Afforded of the military strength of our country.

One of the most effective service in exchange from the munitions of war and other supplies from the enemy, while they secured a safe entrance for abundant supplies for our own army. Our extended commerce was nowhere interrupted; and the public service, who have visited the minimumity from the evils of war, the credit the reports in general circulation as to the quantity of gold, the officer commanding our for-ces in California visited the mineral district in July last, for the purpose of obtaining accurate

and the facts obtained on the spot, is herewith and the facts obtained on the spot, is necessarial laid before Congress. When he visited the country, there were about four thousand persons engaged in collecting gold. There is every reason to belive that the number of persons so employed has since been augmented. The explorations already made warrant the belief that the supply is very large, and that gold is found at various

is very large, and that gold is found at various places in an extensive district of country.

Information received from officers of the navy and other sources, though not so full and minute, confirm the accounts of the commander of our military force in California. It appears, also, from these reports, that mines of quicksilver are found in the vicinity of the gold region. One of them is now being worked, and is believed to he among the most productive in the world.

The effects produced by the discovery of these rich mineral deposites, and the success which has attended the labors of those who have resorted to them, have produced a surprising change in the the discovery of citizen soldiers any emergency, can in a short period be brought into the field. Unlike what would have occurred in any other country, we were under no nesessity of resorting to draughts or conscriptions. On the contrary, such was the number of volunteers who patriotically tendered their services. This will be the more obvious when we considered the field the field the field the field the field will be discovery of these rich mineral deposites, and the success which has attended the labors of those who have resorted to sitten among mutions than at any former period, our dates and our responsibilities to ourselves that the chief difficulty was in making selections and determining who should be disappointed and compelled to remain at home. Our citizen soldiers are unlike those drawn from the population of any other country. They are composed in discriminately of all professions and pursuits:

The effects produced by the discovery of these ble us to pursue uninterruptedly our cherished policy of "peace with all nations, entangling alliances with none."

Occupying, as we do, a more commanding position at any former period, our detection and at any former period, our defects produced by the discovery of these sinces with none."

Occupying, as we do, a more commanding position at any former period, our detection and at any former period, our defects produced by the discovery of these since mineral deposites, and the success which have produced a surprising change in the state of affairs in California. Labor commanding our detection against every danger. The effects produced by the discovery of these rich mineral deposites, and the success which have resorted to them, have produced a surprising change in the state of affairs in California. Labor commanding our deposites, and the success which have produced a surprising change in the state of affairs in California. Labor commanding our deposites, and the success which have produced a surprising change in the state of affairs in California. Labor them h

who shall withstand the strong temptation, and remain faithful should be rewarded.

This abundance of gold, and the all engrossing pursuit of it, have already caused in California an unprecedented rise in the price of the necessuries of life.

That we may the more speedily and fully avail ourselves of the undeveloped wealth of these prices it is deemed of vest importance.

these mines, it is deemed of vast importance that a branch of the mint of the United States be authorized to be established, at your present session, in California. Among other signal advantages which would result from such an establishment, would be that of raising the gold to dred and eighteen million one hundred and twenty-six thousand and fifty-eight acres. These pot on the west coast, would convert into our own coin not only the gold derived from our own rich mines, but also the bullion and specie which own coin not only the gold derived from our own rich mines, but also the bullion and specie which our commerce may bring from the whole west coast of Central and South America. The west coast of America and the adjacent interior emergence of the considerable population. Attracted by their great considerable population. Attracted by their great fertility, their mineral wealth, their commercial adjacent interior emergence of the considerable population. Attracted by their great fertility, their mineral wealth, their commercial adjacent interior emergence of the considerable population. brace the richest and best mines of Mexico, New Grenada, Central America, Chili, and Peru.—

from the older States, in great numbers, are al-Grenada, Central America, Chili, and Peru. The bullion and specie drawn from these counries, and especially from those of Western Mexico and Peru, to an amount in value of many millions of dollars, are now annually diverted

and carried by the ships of Great Britain to her own ports, to be recoined or used to sustain her National Bank, and thus contribute to increase her ability to command so much of the commerce of the world. If a branch mint be established of the world. If a branch mint be established at the great commercial point upon that coast, a vast amount of bullion and specie would flow thither to be recoined, and pass thence to New Colone. New York and other things the species of the colone of the

Guif of Mexico two thousand and twenty miles.
The length of the coast on the Atlantic from the northern limits of the United States, around the Capes of Florida to the Shine, on the eastern boundary of Texas, is estimated to be three thousand one hundred miles; so that the with the companion around the companion around the southern cape of the continent of America, can never successfully and the companions in arms and fellow-citizens of the same common cause. When prosecuting that was they were brethren and friends, and shared alike with each other common toils, dangers, and sufferings. Now, when their work is ended, when the continent of America, can never successfully a second of the continent of America, can never successfully a second of the continent of America, can never successfully a second of the continent of America, can never successfully a second of the continent of America, can never successfully a second of the continent of America, can never successfully a second of the continent of America, can never successfully a second of the continent of America, can never successfully a second of the continent of America, can never successfully a second of the continent of America, can never successfully a second of the continent of America, can never successfully a second of the continent of America, can never successfully a second of the continent of America, can never successfully a second of the continent of America, can never successfully a second of the continent of America, can never successfully a second of the continent of the continent of America, can never successfully a second of the continent of America, can never successfully a second of the continent of the c nuch less cost by the acquisition of California.

The vast importance and commercial advantages of California have heretofore remained un leveloped by the government of the country of which it constituted a part. Now that this fine province is a part of our country, all the States of the Union, some more immediately and di-rectly than others, are deeply interested in the speedy development of its wealth and resources. No section of the country is more interested, or will be more benefited, than the commercial. will be more benefited, than the commercial, navigating, end manufacturing interests of the eastern States. Our planting and farming interests in every part of the Union will be greatly benefited by it. As our commerce and navigation are enlarged and extended, our exports of productions, in much the larger portion of it, it is registant it could never exist: and in the remainder

established by the military authority during the war. Regarding this to be a de facto government, and that by the presumed consent of the inhabitants it might be continued temporarity, they were advised to conform and submit to itor the short intervening period before Congress would again assemble and could legislate on the subject. The views entertained by the Execuive on this point are contained in a communi-ation of the Secretary of State, dated the seventh of October last, which was forwarded for publica-

tion to California and New Mexico, a copy of which is herewith transmitted.

The small military force of the regular army, which was serving within the limits of the acquired territories at the close of the war, was retained in them, and additional forces have been ordered there for the protection of the inhabitained in them, and additional forces have been ordered there for the protection of the inhabitants, and to preserve and secure the rights and interests of the United States.

No revenue has been called nor could be collected in the protection of the country, however widely their abstract opinions on the subject of slavery may differ, would cheerfully and patriotically acquiesce in it, and peace and harmony would again fill our borders.

lected at the ports in California, because Con-gress failed to authorise the establishment of Custom houses, or the appointment of offices for The Secretary of the Treasury, by a circular letter addressed to the collectors of customs, on the 7th of October last, a copy of which is herewith transmitted, exercised all the power with which he was vested by the law.

In pursuance of the act of the 14th of August

last, extending the benefit of our post office laws to the people of California, the Postmaster General has appointed two agents, who have proceeded, the one to California, and the other to Oregon, with authority to make the necessary arrangements for carrying its provisions into ef-

The monthly line of steamers from Panama to Astoria has been required to "stop and deliver and take mails at San Diego, and San Francisco." These mail steamers, connected by the isthmus of Panama with the line of mail steamers on the Atlantic between New York and Chagres, will

nia.
It is our solemn duty to provide, with the least practicable delay, for New Mexico and California, regularly organized territorial governments. The causes of the failure to do this at last session of causes of the failure to do this at last session of Congress are well known, and deeply to be regretted. With the opening prospects of increased prosperty and national greatness which the acquisition which these rich and extensive territorial possessions affords, how irrational it would be to forego sions affords, how irrational it would be to lorego or to reject these advantages, by the agitation of a domestic question which is coeval with the existence of our government itself, and to endanger by internal striles, geographical divisions, and heated contests for political power, or for any other cause, the harmony of the glorious Union of our confedented States; that Union which binds us together as one people, and which for sixty years has been our which the processing against every danger. In the

low impressive the call upon us and upon all parts now impressive the can upon us and upon an pars of our country, to cultivate a patriotic spirit of har-mony, of good fellowship, of compaomise and mu-tual concession, in the administration of the incom-parable system of government formed by our fath-ers in the midst of almost insuperable difficulties,

paired to those who may come after us!

In view of the high and responsible duties which we owe to ourselves and to mankind, I trust you may be able, at your present session, to approach the adjustment of the only domestic question which seriously threatens, or probably can ever threaten, o disturb the harmony and successful operation of

ready preparing to seek new homes in these invit

ing regions.
Shall the dissimilarity of the domestic institu-tions in the different States prevent us from pro-viding for them suitable governments? These in-stitutions existed at the adoption of the constitution, but the obstacles which they interposed were

Orleans, New York, and other Atlantic cities.—
The amount of our constitutional currency at home would be greatly increased, while its circulation abroad would be promoted. It is well known to our merchants trading to China and the west coast of America, that great inconvenience and loss are experienced from the fact that our coins are not current at their par value in those countries.

To the other.

Our gallant forces in the Mexican War, by whose patriotism and unparalleled deeds of arms we obtained these possessions as an indemnity for our just demands against Mexico, were composed of citizens who belonged to no one State or section of the Union. They were men from slaveholding and non-slaveholding States, from the North and the South, from the East and the West. They were all companions in arms and fellow-citizens of the they were breithren and friends, and shared alike with each other common toils, dangers, and sufferings. Now, when their work is ended, when peace is restored, and they return again to their homes, put off their habiliments of war, take their places in society, and resume their pursuits in civil life, surely a spirit of harmony and concession, and of equal regard for the rights of all and of all sections of the Union ought to prevail in providing governments for the acquired territories—the fruits of their common service. The whole people of the United States and of every State contributed to defray the expenses of that war; and it would not be just for any one section to exclude another from all just for any one section to exclude another from all participation in the acquired territory. This would

not be in consonant ernment which the framers of the consumum adopted.

The question is believed to be rather abstract the precioal, whether slavery can or would exist the precious even if it

gers to the Union, the Missouri compromise line in respect to slavery was adopted. The same line was extended further west in the acquisi-tion of Texas. After an acquiescence of nearly thirty years in the principle of compromise re-cognised and established by these acts, and to avoid the danger to the Union which might follow if it were not disregarded, I have heretofore expressed the opinion that that line of comprom-ise should be extended on a parallel of thirty-six degrees thirty minutes from the western boundegrees thirty minutes from the western confidence of Texas, where it now terminates, to the Pacific ocean. This is the middle ground of compromise, upon which the different sections of the Union may meet, as they have heretofore met. If this be done, it is confidently believed large majority of the people of every section

The restriction north of the line was only yie ded to in the case of Missouri and Texas upon

a principle of compromise, made necessary he sake of preserving the harmony, and possi-ly the existence of the Union. It was upon these considerations that at the close of your last session, I gave my sanction to the principle of the Missouri compromise line, by approving and signing the bill to establish "the Ferritorial government of Oregon. sincere desire to preserve the harmony of the Union, and in deference for the acts of my predecessors, I felt constrained to yield my acquiescence to the extent to which they had gone in compromising this delicate and dangerous question. But if Congress shall now reverse the de-

sion by which the Missouri compromise was effected, and shall propose to extend the restric-tion over the whole territory, south as well as north of the parallel of thirty-six degrees thirty minutes, it will cease to be a compromise, and must be regarded as an original question. If Congress, instead of observing the course of non-interference, leaving the adoption of their own domestic institutions to the people who inhabit these Territories; or if, instead of exten-

ing the Missouri compromise line to the Pacific, shall prefer to submit the legal and constitutional questions which may arise to the decision of the judicial tribunals, as was proposed in a bill that passed the Senate at your last session, an adjustent may be effected in this made. If the whole subject be referred to the judiciary, all parts of the Union should cheerfully acqui-

esce in the final decision of the tribunal created Congress is earnestly invoked, for the sake of the Union, its harmony, and our continued proserity as a nation, to adjust this, the only danger one question which lies in our path—if not in some one of the modes suggested, in some other

which may be satisfactory.

In anticipation of the establishment of regular governments over the acquired territories, at commission of officers of the army and navy as been ordered to proceed to the coast of California and Oregan, for the purpose of making re connoissances and a report as to the proper sites for the erection of fortifications and other defen-

ces on land will be necessary for the security and protection of our possessions: and the establishnent of navy yards, and a dock for the repair and construction of vessels, will be important to our navy and commercial marine. ers in the midst of almost insuperable difficulties, and transmitted to us, with the injunction that we should enjoy its blessings and hand it down unimpaired to those who may come after us! such yards, vessels, whether of the navy or in our Atlantic yards for that purpose. With such establishments vessels, it is believed, may be built or repaired as cheaply in California as up-

on the Atlantic coast. They would give employ-ment to many of our enterprising ship-builders ment to many of our enterprising ship-builders and mechanics, and greatly facilitate and enlarge our commerce in the Pacific.

As it is ascertained that mines of gold, silver, copper, and quicksilver exist in New Mexico

that provision be made for a geological and min-eralogical examination of those regions. Measures should be adopted to preserve the mineral lands, especially such as contain the precious metals, for the use of the United States; or if brought into market, to separate them from the

ming lands, and dispose of them in such manner as to secure a large return of money to the treasury, and at the same time lead to the derelopment of their wealth by individual proprietors and purchasers. To do this, it will be necessary to provide for an immediate survey and location of the lots. If Congress should deem it proper to disposo of the mineral lands, they should be sold in small quantities, and at a fix-

ed minimum price.
I recommend that surveyor generals' offices authorized to be established in New Mexico and California, and provision made for survey-ing and bringing the public lands into market at racticable period. In disposing of these lands, I recommend that the right of p emption be secured, and liberal grants made to the early emigrants who have settled or may settle upon them.

It will be important to extend our revenue laws over these Territories, and especially over California, at an early period. There is already a considerable commerce with California; and until ports of entry shall be established and colectors appointed, no revenue can be received.

If these and other necessary and proper measures be adopted for the development of the realth and resources of New Mexico and California, and regular Territorial governments be established over them, such will probably be the rapid enlargement of our commerce and naviga-tion, and such the addition to the national wealth, that the present generation may live to witness the controlling commercial and monetary power the world transferred from London and other

European emporiums to the city of New York. The apprehensions which were entertained by ome of our statesmen, in the earlier periods of the

and mark the said boundary in its whole cour to the mouth of the Rio Bravo del Norte." will be seen from this provision, that the period within which a commissioner and surveyor of the respective governments are to meet at San Diego, will expire on the thirtieth of May, 1849. Congress, at the close of its last session, made an appropriation for "the expense of running and marking the boundary line" between the two countries, but did not fix the amount of salary which should be paid to the commissioner of compensation which they shall receive should be prescribed by law, and not left, as at present,

Executive discretion. Measures "were adopted at the earliest practicable period to organized the "Territorial government of Oregon," as authorized by the act of the fourteenth of August last. The governor and closed a foreign war by an honorable peace marshal of the Territory, accompanied by a small military escort, left the frontier of Missouri in September last, and took the southern route, condition of the country is similar in some by the way of Santa Fe and the river Gila, to California, with the intention of proceeding thence in one of our vessels of war to their destinotion. The governor was fully advised of the great importance of his early arrival in the country, and it is confidently believed he may reach Oregon in the latter part of the present month, or early in the next. The other officers

for the Territory have proceeded by sea.

The Secretary of the Treasury will present as required by law, the estimate of the receipts and expenditures for the next fiscal year.

The expenditures as estimated for that year are thirty-three millions one hundred and fifty-two dollars and sev-enty-three cents, including three million seven hun-dred and ninety-nine thousand one hundred and

three dollars and nine cents the amount collected during the last fiscal year under the tariff act of 1842, ending the thirtieth of June. 1846. The total revenue realized from the commencement of its operation, on the 1st of December, 1846, until the close of the last quarter, on the thirtieth of Sep close of the last quarter, on the thirtieth of September last, being twenty-two mouths, was fifty-six million six hundred and fifty-four thousand five hundred and sixty-three dollars and seventy-nine cents—being a much larger sum than was ever before received from duties during any equal period under the the tariff acts of 1824, 1829, 1832, and 1842. Whilst by the repeal of highly protective and archibitory duties the revenue has been in-

and prohibitory duties the revenue has been increased, the taxes on the people have been diminished. They have been relieved from the heavy amounts with which they were burdened under former laws in the form of increased prices or bounties paid to favored classes and pursuits.

The predictions which were made, that the tariff act of 1846 would reduce the amount of revenue below that collected under the act of 1842, and would prostrate the business and desirov the proses.

are much less injuriously affected than was to have been anticipated, from the unprecedented revul-sions, which, during the last and the present year, have overwhelmed the industry and paralyzed the

have overwhelmed the industry and paralyzed the credit and commerce of so many great and enlight ened nations of Europe.

Severe commercial revulsions abroad have always heretofore operated to depress, and often to affect disastrously, almost every branch of American industry. The temporary depression of a portion of our manufacturing interests is the effect of foreign causes, and is far less severe than has prevailed on all former similar occasions.

It is believed that, looking to the great aggregate of all our interests, the whole country was never more prosperous than at the present period, and never more rapidly advancing in wealth and population. Neither the foreign war in which we have been involved, nor the loans which have absorbed so large a portion of our apital, nor the commercial revulsion in Britain in 1847, nor the paralysis of credit and ommerce throughout Europe in 1848, have afected injuriously to any considerable extent any of the great interests of the country, or arrested our onward march to greatness, wealth and pow-

Had the disturbances in Europe not occurred our commerce would undoubtedly have been still-more extended, and would have added still more o the national wealth and public prosperity .-But notwithstanding these disturbances, the op-erations of the revenue system established by the tariff act of 1846 have been so generally benefi-cial to the government and the business of the country, that no change in its provisions is de-manded by a wise public policy, and none is re-

The operations of the constitutional treasury established by the act of the 6th of August, 1846, in the receipt, custody, and disbursement of the public money, have continued to be successful. Under this system the public finances have been carried through a foreign war, involving the neressity of loans and extraordinary expenditures, and requiring distant transfers & disbursements without embarrassment, and no loss has occur ed of any of the public money deposited undeits provisions. Whilst it has proved to be safe and useful to the government, its effects have been most beneficial upon the business of the country. It has tended powerfully to secure an exemption from that inflation and fluctuation of the paper currency, so injurious to domestic in dustry, and rendering so uncertain the rewards of labor, and it is believed has largely contributed to preserve the whole country from a serious cial regulation, such as often occurred un

der the bank deposite system. In the year 1847 there was a revulsion in the bu-siness of Great Britain of great extent and intens-ity, which was followed by failures in that kingdom precedented in number and amount of losses .his is believed to be the first instance when such This is believed to be the first instance when such disastrous bankrupticies, occurring in a country with which we have such extensive commerce, producted little or no injurious effect upon our trade or currency. We remained but little affected in our money market, and our business and industry were

During the present year, nearly the whole conand revolutions, attended by numerous bankrupt cies, by an unprecedented fall in their public sec rities and an almost universal paralysis of commerc and industry; and yet, although our trade and the prices of our products must have been somewha unfavorably affected by these causes, we have es-

chiefly designed through the control through t

ing effect of the system upon the tendencies to exbusiness men from bankruptcy and ruin. The perience of the last two years; and it is the dictate The modifications in some of the details of this measure, involving none of its essential principles, heretofore recommended, are again presented for your favorable consideration.

country, and prevent us from assuming and maintaining the first rank among nations, but a disregard of the experience of the past, and a recurrendered necessary and unavoidable in vindication of the national rights and honor. The present close of the war with Great Britain in 1815, and the occasion is deemed to be a proper one to take a retrospect of the measures of public policy which followed that war. There was at that period of our history a departure from our earlier policy.— The enlargement of the powers of the federal government by construction, which obtained, was not warranted by any just interpretation united and combined, constituted what was termed

dred and ninety-nine thousand one hundred and two dollars and eighteen cents for the interest on the public debt, and three millions five hundred and lorty thousand dollars for the principal and interest due to Mexico on the thirtieth of May, 1850; leaving the sum of twenty-five million eight hundred and seventy-four thousand and fifty dollars and thirty-five cents; which it is believed, will be ample for the ordinary peace expenditures.

The operations of the tariff act of 1846 have been such during the past year as fully to meet the public expectation, and to confirm the opinion heretofor expressed of the wisdom of the change in our revenue system which was effected by it. The recipits under it into the treasury for the first fiscal year after its enactment exceeded by the sum of five million forty-four thousand four hundred and severally in war, more power should be depressed to the financer the currency; and by the commercial and pears multiple for the ordinary peace expenditures.

The outroduction of the new policy was fitting favored by the condition of the country time favored by the heavy debt which had been contracted time favored by the heavy debt which had been contracted time favored by the condition of the country time favored by the heavy debt which had been contracted time favored by the heavy debt which had been contracted time favored by the heavy debt which had been contracted time favored by the heavy debt which had been contracted by the heavy debt which had been contracted time favored by the heavy debt which had been contracted time favored by the heavy debt which had been contracted time favored by the heavy debt which had been contracted time favored by the heavy debt which had time favored by the condition of the country; by the heavy debt which had been contracted duthe currency; and by the commercial and pecuni-These were not the only causes which led to its establishment. The events of the war with Great Britain, and the embarrasments which had attended its prosecution, had left on the minds of many of our statesmen the impression that our government was not strong enough, and that to wield its resources successfully in great emerger cies, and especially in war, more power should be concentrated in its hands. This increased power they did not seek to obtain by the legitimate and prescribed mode-an amendment of the constitution—but by construction. They saw govern-ments in the old world based upon different orders of society, and so constituted as to throw the whole power of nations into the hands of a few, who taxed and controlled the many without responsibility or restraint. In that arrangement they conceived the strength of nations in war consisted. There was also something fascinating in the case, luxury, and display of the higher orders, who drew their wealth from the toil of the laboring nillions. The authors of the system drew the witnessed in Europe, and particularly in Great Britain. They had viewed the enormous wealth concentrated in few hands, and had seen the

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