

## VOL. LVI.

## LANCASTER CITY, PA., TUESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 8, 1856.

## President's Message.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives .

FOREIGN RELATIONS.—CENTRAL AMERICA. Whilst relations of amity continue to exist between the pitted States and all foreign powers, with some of them rave questions are depending, which may require the unideration of Contrast. Upited states and an to egg power of the state state of the states and an to egg power of the states of the states

umstances surrender.

By the convention concluded between the two govern-ments on the 19th of April, 1850, both parties covenanted that "neither will ever occupy, or forlify, or colonize or assume, or exercise any dominion over Nicaragua, Costa Rica, the Mosquito cost, or any part of Central America." It was the undoubted understanding of the United States, in making this treaty, that all the present States of the former republic of Central America, and the onlive territory of each, would theneforth enjoy complete inde-pendence; and that both contracting parties engaged equally, and to the same extent, for the present and for the future, that if either of them had any claim of right in Gentral America, such claim, and all occupation or su-thority under it, were unreservedly relinquished by the stipulations of the convention; and that no dominion was Applications of the convertion, and that he dominion was thereafter to be exercised onesamed in any part of Cen-tral America, by Great Britain or the United States. This government consented to restrictions in regard t vegion of country, wherein we had specific and peculia

rests, only upon the conviction that the like restric

a region of country, wherein we had specific and peculiar interests, only upon the sonviction that the like restric-fions were in his same some obligatory on Great Britain. But for this understanding of the force and effect of the constraints of the source of the second of the the source of the source of the source of the source of the the Societar was this understanding on the part of the Uni-tal States, that, in correspondence entemporaution were not intended to apply to the British establishments of the Balize. This qualification is to be ascribed to the fact, that in wirthe of successive treaties with previous sover-creigns of the country. Great British had obtained a con-cession of the right to cut malogany or dyewoods at the Balize, but with positive seclusion of all domain or sov-ereighty; and thus it confirms the natural construction and understood input of the treat an early day after en-tring upon the discharge of my present functions, that Great Rite: that site of the treat and early day after en-tring upon the discharge of my present functions, that Great Rite: that site of Honoraguite const, and covering the untire length of the State of Nicaragua, and a part of Costa Rice: that she regarded the Balize, but whow as the Bay Islands, and belonging, or right, to that State. All these acts opretunious of Great Britains at the dominize at the subject of negative is fact and have in the state. All these acts opretunions of the state of States and and regative from the functions, the dominest actos opretunions of the state and are greated the Kates. All these actis opretunions of the state is Bay Islands, and belonging, of right, to that State. a friendly state. to the manifest tends of the stipulations with the United States, as understood by this government, have been made the subject of negotiation through the American Minister in London. I trausmit herewith the instruc-tions to him on the subject, and the corespondence be-tween him and the British Secretary for Forsign Affairs, by which you will perceive that the two governments differ widely and irreconcileably as to the oristruction of the correction, and its either on their respective relations to Central America. Great Britian so construes the convention, as to mani-tain uuchanged all her previous pretamions over the Mosquito coast, and in different parts of Central Ameri-ca. These pretuosions, as to the Mosquito coast, are founded on the assumption of political relation between threat Britain and the remnant of a tribe of Indians on that coast, entered into at a time when the whole coun-try was a colonial possession of Spain. It examptes

that coast, entered into at a time when the whole country was a colonicl presension of Spain. If example, successfully controverted, that, by the public law of Ear tope and America, no possible act of such indians or their predecessors could confer on Great Britain any provider that the successful confermation of the successful confermati

their predecessors could confer on Great Britain any po-litical rights. Great Britain does not allege the assent of Spain as the origin of her claims on the Mosquito corst. She has, on the contrary, by repeated and successive relatios, re-nounced and reliaquished all pretensions of her own, and recognized the full and sovereign rights of Spain in the most unequivocal terms. Yet these pretensions, so without solid foundation in the beginning, and thus re-peatedly adjured, were, at a recent period, revived by Great Britain against the Central American States, the lectlimate successors to all the ancient jurisdiction of Great Britain against to all the ancient jurisdiction of legitimate successors to all the ancient jurisdiction of Spain in that region. They were first applied only to a C defined part of the coast of Nicargua, after wards to the viole of its Atlantic coast, and lastly to a part of the coast of Costa Rica; and they are now reasserted to this stent, netwithstanding engagements to the United Blates. On the castern coast of Nicargua and Costa Rica, the interference of Great Britain, though exorted at one time other state

states, we may reasonably expect them not which would be the readiest means of termi-to interfere with our lawful enjoyment of its nating all questions, can be obtained on such hostilities, our citizens retain the indi-such hostilities, our citizens retain the indi-vidual right to continue all their accustom-Congress.

vidual right to continue all their accustom-ed pursuits, by land or sea, at home or abroad subject only to such restrictions in this rela-tion as the laws of war, the usage of nations, of the House of Representatives: The Constitution of the United States provides that Congress shall assemble annually on the first Monday of December, and it has been usual for the President to make no communication of a public character to the State and House of Representatives until advised of their readiness to creative it. I have deferred to this usage until the close of the first month of the session, bat my convictions of duty will not period by the constitution upon the President to the Congress information of the state and the close of the first month of the session, bat my convictions of duty will not period by the constitution upon the President to the Congress information of the state of the trotice, and recommend to their condideration such means the state is the operations of their freshill under necessary and extendent to the state of the trotice, and recommend to their condideration such means trotice and the state of the state of the state of the trotice and the state of armies, the operations of their fleets, the levy templated, for determining the rights of armies, the shall judge necessary and expedient." It is matter of congratulation that the Republic is of troops for their service, the fitting out of fishery in rivers and months of rivers, on the rangeilly advancing in a career of property and peace of rivers and reput the row of the reput to the service of the row of the reput to the reput to the reput to the row of the cruisers by or against either, or any other coasts of the United States and the British

act or incident of war. And these undenia- North American provinces, has been orgable rights of neutrality, individual and na- nized and has commenced its labors; to complete which there is needed further appro-priations for the service of another season. SOUND DUES. tional, the United States will under no cir-In pursuance of this policy, the laws of the United States do not forbid their citizens to

In pursuance of the authority, conferred by resolution of the Senate of the United sell to either of the belligerent powers, arti- a resolution of the Senate cles, contraband of war, or to take munitions States passed on the 3d of Ma a resolution of the Senate of the United lawless irruptions, which in effect throws States passed on the 3d of March last, notice most of the task to the United States. Thus of war or soldiers on board their private ships was given to Denmark, on the 14th day of it is that the distracted internal condition o for transportation; and although, in so doing, the individual citizen exposes his property April, of the intention of this government to the State of Nicaragua has made it incumbavail itself of the stipulation of the subsist-ing convention of friendship, commerce, and citizens ty abstain from unlawful intervening convention of friendship, commerce, and navigation between that Kingdom and the United States, whereby either party might af-ter ten years terminate the same at the expi-tration of one year from the date of netting for the same and the best results in reassur-ter ten years terminate the same at the expi-ter ten years terminate terminate the same at the terminate t or person to some of the hazards of war, his acts do not involve any breach of national neutrality, nor of themselves implicate the government. Thus, during the progress of the present war in Europe, our citizens have, without national responsibility therefor, sold ration of one year from the date of notice for | ing the peace of the Mexican States of Sonothat purpose

ra and Lower California. consideration which led me to call the Since the last session of Congress a treaty of amity, commerce and navigation, and for

gunpowder and arms to all buyers, regard-less of the destination of those articles. Our attention of Congress to that convention, and induced the Senate to adopt the resolution remerchantmen have been, and still continue ferred to, still continue in full force. The to be, largely employed by Great Britain and by France, in transporting troops, provisi-ons, and munitions of war to the principal seat of military operations, and in bringing home their sick and wounded soldiers; but such use of our mercantile marine is not in-terdicted either by the international or by our municipal law, and therefore does not interfered werk and therefore does not interfered werk and the eavy minicipal of international of the set of the convention contains an article, which, al- kingdom of the Two Sicilies; a treaty by France, in transporting troops, provisi-ons, and munitions of war to the principal compromit our neutral relations with Russia. justified by any principle of international law But our municipal law, in accordance to be a state of the right and the duty of the Uni-ted States to relieve themselves from the in-

with the law of nations, peremptorily forbids, not only foreigners, but our own citizens, to plication of engagement on the subject, so as to be perfectly free to act in the premises in fit out, within the limits of the United States, a vessel to commit hostilities against any such way as their public interest and honor state with the United States are at peace, or shall demand. I remain of the opinion that the United to increase the force of any foreign armed vessel intended for such hostilities against

The

States ought not to submit to the payment of the Sound dues, not so much because of their amount, which is a secondary matter, but beamount, which is a secondary matter, but be-cause it is in effect the recognition of the right the base of the treasury, that the receipts during the last fiscal year ending June 30th, 1855, from Whatever concern may have been felt by either of the belligerent powers lest private armed cruisers, or other vessels, in the serof Denmark to trust one of the great maritime all sources, were sixty-five millions three

vice of one, might be fitted out in the ports highways of nations as a close sea, and the thousand nine hundred and thirty dollars navigation of it as a privilege for which tri-bute may be imposed upon those who have occasion to use it. This government, on a former occasion not unlike the present signalized its determine of the other, all such fears have proved to be utterly groundless. Our citizens have been withheld from such act or purpose by good

bute may be any faith, and by respect for the law. While the laws of the Union are thus peremptory in their prohibition of the equipment or armament of belligerent cruisers in our ports, they provide not less absolutely that no person shall, within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States, enlist or by them, the United States although sufferenter himself, or hire or retain another per-son to go beyond the limits or jurisdiction of ing less by their depredations than may was eighteen millions nine hundred and thir-ing other nations, returned the explicit answer, that we prefered war to tribute, and six dollars; the receipts of the first quarter thus opened the way to the relief of the comthe United States with intent to be enlisted, swer, that we prefered war to tribute, and in the service of any foreign state, either as merce of the world from an ignominious tax, so long submitted to by the more powerful seven millions nine hundred and eighteen a soldier, or as a marine or seaman on board of any vessel of war, letter of marque, or

ns of Europe. nation privateer. And these enactments are also If the manner of payment of the Sound lars; thus affording in all, as the available in strict conformity with the law of national dues differ from that of the tribute formerly resources of the current fiscal year, the sum conceded to the Barbary States, still their of eighty-six millions eight hundred and fifwhich declares, that no state has the right to raise troops for land or sea service in an execution by Denmark has no better foundawithout its consent, and that, Each was, in its orign, noth-ars. If, to the actual expenditures of the first tion in right. whether forbidden by the municipal law or ing but a tax on a common natural right, ex-

not, the very attempt to do it, without such torted by those, who were at that time able quarter of the current fiscal year, be added consent, is an attack on the national sover- to obstruct the free and secure employment the probable expenditures for the remaining quarter of the current fiscal year, be added such being the public rights and the muof it, but who no longer possesses that power. Denmark, while resisting our assertion of the freedom of the Baltic Sound and Belts,

such matters on the part of this government But, if the revolutionary movements, which

TREATIES

TREASURY.

belong to the movements of the troops, and the efficiency of an army in the field would materially depend upon the ability with which those duties are discharged. It is not, as in the case of the ar-tillery, a speciality, but requires, also, an intimate knowledge of the duties of an officer of the line, and it is not doubled that to complete the advac have lately occurred in that republic, end in the organization of a staple government, ur-gent appeals to its justice will then be made, and, it may be hoped, with success, for the redress of all complaints of our citizens. knowledge of the duties of an officer of the line, t and it is not doubted that, to complete the education it an officer for either the line or the general staff, it is desireable that he shall have served in both. With this 'vew, it was recommended on a former occasion that the duties of the staff should be mainly performed by details from the line; and with conviction of the advantages which would re-sult from such a change, it is again presented for the consideration of Congress. CENTRAL AMERICA. In regard to the American republics, which, from their proximity and other considerations, have peculiar relations to this govern-ment, while it has been my constant aim

NAVY. The report of the Secretary of the Navy, here-with submitted, exhibits in full the naval opera-tions of the past year, together with the present condition of the service, and it makes suggestions of further legislation, to which your attention is invated nvited.

The construction of the six steam frigates, for which appropriations were made by the last Con-gress; has proceeded in the most satisfactory man-ner, and with such expedition, as to warrant the her, and with such expendition, as to warrant the belief that they will be ready for service gearly in the coming spring. Important as this addition to our naval force is, it still remains inadequate to the contingent exigencies of the protection of the extensive sea coast and vast commercial interests of the United States. In view of this fact, and of the commended and relations of the patients. of the United States. In view of this mote, and of the acknowledged wisdom of the policy of a grad-ual and systematic increase of the navy, an approrecommended for the construction the surrender of fugitive criminals, with the x steam sloops of-war.

In regard to the steps taken in execution of the act of Congress to promote the inefficiency of the havy, it is unnecessary for me to say more than to express entire concurrence in the observations on express entire concurrence in the observations on that subject presented by the Secretary in his re-

PORT. FORT OFFICE. It will be perceived, by the report of the Post-master General, that the gross expenditure of the department for the last fiscal year was nine million nine, hundred and sixty-sight thousand three hun-dred and forty-two dollars, and the gross receipts seven million three hundred and forty-two thou-sand one hundred and thirty-six dollars, making supercass of expanditure over receipts of two miltion between the United States and Bussis sand one hundred and thirty-six dollars, making nexcess of exponditure over receipts of two mil-lion six hundred and twenty six thousand two hundred and six dollars; and that the cost of mail transportation during that year was six hundred and seventy-four thousand nine hundred and fifty-two dollars greater than the previous year. Much of the heavy expenditures to which the trensury is thus subjected, is to be ascribed to the large quan-tity of printed matter conveyed by the mails, ei-ther franked or liable to no postage by law, or to very low rates of postage compared with that char-ged on letters, and to the great cost of mail service on railroads and by ocean steamers. The sugges-tions of the Post Master General on the subject deserve the consideration of Congress. The statements made, in my last annual message, respecting the anticipated receipts and expenditures of the Treasury, have been substantially verified. It appears from the report of the Secretary leserve the consideration of Congress.

lions eight hundred and forty-four thousang five hundred and twenty-eight dollars.

deserve the consideration of Congress. INTERIOR. The roport of the Secretary of the Interior will engage your attention, as well- for useful sugges-tions it contains, as for the interest and importance-of the subjects to which they refer. The aggregate amount of public land sold du-ring the last fiscal year, located with military serip or land warrants, taken up under grants for roads, and selected as swamp lands by States, is twenty four million five hundred and fifty-seven thousand four hundred and nine acres; of which the portion sold was fifteen millions seven hundred and twenty nine thousand five hundred and twenty four acres, yielding in roceipts the sum of eleven million The balance in the Treasury at the begin ning of the present fiscal year, July 1, 1855, was eighteen millions nine hundred and thircres, yielding in receipts the sum of eleven million four hundred and eighty five thousand three hun-ired and eighty dollars. In the same period of time, eight million seven hundred and twenty three thousand eight hundred and fifty four acres have thousand seven hundred and thirty-four doleen surveyed ; but, in consideration of the quanty-six thousand seven hundred and ten dol tity already subject to entry, no additional tracts

With freedom and concert of action, it has enabled us to contend successfully on the battle field against foreign foes, has elevated the feeble colonies into powerful States, and has raised our industrial pro ductions, and our commerce which transports them, to the level of the richest and the greatest nations of Europe. And the admirable adaptation of our political institutions to their objects, combining local self-government with aggregate strength, has established the practicability of a government like ours to cover a continent with confederate States. The Congress of the United States is, in effect, that congress of sovereignties, which good men in the Old World have sought for, but could never attain, and which imparts to

America an exemption from the mutable eagues for common action, from the wars, the mutual invasions, and vague aspirations after the balance of power, which convulse from ime to time the governments of Europe. Our co-operative action rests in the conditions of

permanent confederation prescribed by the constitution. Our balance of power is in the separate reserved rights of the States, and heir equal representation in the Senate. That independent sovereignty in every one of the States, with its reserved rights of local self-government assured to each by their co-equal ower in the Senate, was the fundamental conition of the constitution. Without it the Union would never have existed. However desirous the larger States might be to re-organ-ize the government so as to give to their population its proportionate weight in the common

counsels, they knew it was impossible, unless they conceded to the smaller ones authority to exercise at least a negative influence on all the measures of the government, whether legisla-tive or executive, through their equal repre-

entation in the Senate. Indeed, the larger States themselves could not have failed to perceive that the same power was equally nece sary to them, for the security of their own domestic interests against the aggregate force of the general government. In a word, the original States went into the permanent league on the agreed premises, of exerting their comnon strength for the defence of the whole, and of all its parts; but of utterly excluding all capability of reciprocal aggression. Each sol-emnly bound itself to all the others, not to undertake, nor permit an encroachment upon, or intermeddling with, another's reserved rights. When it was deemed expedient, particular rights of the States were expressly guarantied by the constitution; but, in all things beside, these rights were guarded by the limitation of the powers granted, and by express reservation powers not granted, in the compact of Thus, the great power of taxation was inion. limited to purposes of common defence and general welfare, excluding objects appertaining to the local legislation of the several States; and those purposes of general welfare and common delence were afterwards defined by specific enumeration, as being matters only corelation between the States themselves, or between them and foreign governments, which because of their common and general nature, could not be left to the separate control of each

State. Of the circumstances of local condition, interest and rights, in which a portion of the States, constituting one great section of the Union differed from the rest, and from another section, the most income the rest, and from another section, the most important was the peculiarity of a larger relative colored population in the southern than in the northern States.

A population of this class, held in subjection existed in nearly all the States, but was more numerous and of more serious concernment in the South than in the North, on account of control differences of climate and production; control differences of climate and producting climate and production; control d thy already subject to entry, no additional tracts have been brought into market. The peculiar relation of the general government to the District of Columbia renders it proper to commend to your care not only its materials, but also its moral interests, including education, more especially in those parts of the district outside of the cities of Washington and Georgetown. The semulation and the North, on account of the stated in nearly all the States, but was more natural differences of climate and production; and it was foreseen that, for the same reasons, while this population would diminish, and,

and for its eventual sub-division into new States, was adopted in the Congress of the confederation, it is not to be supposed that the question of future relative power, as be-tween the States which retained, and those which did not retain, a numerous colored pop-ulation, escaped notice, or failed to be considered. And yet the concession of that vast territory to the interests and opinions of the Northern States, a territory now the seat of five among the largest members of the Union, was, in great measure, the act of the State of

and for its eventual sub-division into new

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Virginia and of the South. When Louisiana was acquired by the United States, it was an acquisition not less to the North than to the South ; for which it was important to the country at the month of the river Mississippi to become the emporium of the country above it, so also it was even more important to the whole Union to have that emportum; and although the new province, by eason of its imperfect settlement, was mainly regarded as on the Gulf of Mexico, in fact, it ex-tended to the opposite boundaries of the United States, with far greater breadth above than below, and was in territory, as in everything else, equally at least an accession to the north ern States. It is mere delusion, therefore, to speak of Louisiana as acquisition in the speial interest of the South.

The patriotic and just men, who narticinated in that act, were influenced by motives far above sectional jealousies. It was in truth the great event, which, by completing for us the possession of the valley of the Mississippi, with commercial access to the Gulf of Mexico. imparted unity and strength to the whole con-federation and attached together by indissoluble ties the East and the West, as well as the

ble the East and the west, as well as the North and the South. As to Florida, that was but a transfer by Spain to the United States of territory on the east side of the river Mississippi, in exchange east slde of the river Mississippi, in exchange for large territory, which the United States transferred to Spain on the west side of that river, as the entire diplomatic history of the transaction serves to demonstrate. Moreover, it was an acquisition demanded by the com-mercial interests and the security of the whole Union.

In the meantime, the people of the United States had grown up to a proper consciousness of their strength, and in a brief contest with France, and in a second serious war with Great Britain, they had shaken of all which remained of undue reverence for Europe, and emer-ged from the atmosphere of those transatlantic affuences which surrounded the infant Republic, and had begun to turn their attention to the full and systematic development of the internal resources of the Union.

Among the evanescent controversies of that period, the most conspicuous was the question of regulation by Congress of the spical condi-tion of the future States to be founded in the

territory of Louisiana. The ordinance for the government of the territory north-west of the river Ohio, had contained a provision, which prohibited the use of servile labor therein, subject to the condition of the extradition of fugitives from service due in any other part of the United States. Subsequently to the adoption of the constitu-tion, this provision ceased to remain as a law; or its operation as such was absolutely supereded by the constitution. But the recollection

of the fact excited the zeal of social propagandism in some sections of the confederation; and when a second State, that of Missouri, came to be formed in the territory of Louisiana, propo ition was made to extend to the latter territory the restriction originally applied to

ng rights of the intended new State eluctantly acquiesced in by southern States as a sacrifice to the cause of peace and of the nion, not only of the rights stipulated by the treaty of Louisiana, but of the principle of equality among the States guaranteed by the constitution. It was received by the northern States with angry and rescatful condemnation and complaint, because it did not concede all which they had exactingly demanded. Having passed through the forms of legislation, it took its place in the statute book, standing open to repeal, like any other act of doubtful constiutionality, subject to be pronounced null and void by the courts of law, and possessing no possible efficacy to control the rights of the States, which might thereafter be organized out of any part of the original territory of Louisiana

interference of yreas, between a finite port of sam in the form of indifary occupation of the port of sam Juan del Norte, then in the peaceful possession of the appropriate authorities of the Central America States, is now presented by here as the rightful exercise of a pro-tectorship over the Mosquito tribe of Indians. But the establishment at the Balize, now reaching far beyond its treaty limits into the State of Honduras, and that of the Bay Islands, appertaining of right to the same State, are as distinctly colonial governments as those of Jamaica or Canada, and therefore contrary to

some State, are as distinctly colonial governments as those of Janaica or Canada, and therefore contrary to the very letter as well as to the spirit of the convention with the United States, as it was at the time of ratifica-tion, and now is, understood by this government. The interpretation which the British government thus in assertion and act, persists in ascribing to the conven-tion, entirely changes its character. While it holds us to all our obligations, it in a great measure releases Great Britain from those, which constituted the consid-eration. It is impossible, in my judgment, for the United States to acquiesce in such a construction of the respect-ive relations of the two governments to Central America. To a renewed call by this government up-on Great Britain, to abide by, and carry, into

on Great Britain, to abide by, and carry into effect, the stipulations of the convention, according to its obvious import, by withdrawing from the possession or colonization of portions of the Central American States of Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica, the British government has at length replied. affirming that the operation of the treaty is prospective only, and did not require Great Britain to abandon or contract any possessions held by her in Central America at the date of its conclusion.

This reply substitutes a partial issue the place of the general one presented by the United States. The British government passes over the question of the rights of Great Britain, real or supposed, in Central America and a supposed, in Central America, and assumes that she had such rights at the date of the treaty, and that those rights comprehended the protectorship of the Mosquito Indians, the extended jurisdiction and limits of the Balize, and the colony of the Bay Islands, and therefore proceeds by implication to infer, that, if the stipulations of the treaty be merely future in effect, Great Britain may still continue to hold the contested portions of Central America. The Uni ted States cannot admit either the inferences or the premises. We steadily deny, that, at the date of the treaty, Great Britain

had any possessions there, other than the limited and peculiar establishment at the Balize, and maintain that, if she had any, they were surrendered by the convention. This government, recognising the obliga-tions of the treaty, has of course desired to

see it executed in good faith by both parties and in the discussion, therefore, has no looked to rights, which we might assert independently of the treaty, in considerati of our geographical position und of other circumstances, which create for us relations to the Cental American States, different from those of any government of Europe.

The British government, in its last communication, although well knowing the views of the United States, still declares that it sees no reason why a conciliatory spirit may not enable the two governments to overcome all obstacles to a satisfactory adjustment of the

Assured of the correctness of the constru tion of the treaty constantly adhered to by this government, and resolved to insist rights of the United States, yet actuated also by the same desire which is avow ed by the British government, to remove all causes of serious misunderstanding between two nations associated by so many ties of interest and kindred, it has appeared to me proper not to consider an amicable solution of the controversy hopeless.

There is, however, reason to apprehend that, with Great Britain in the actual occupation of the disputed territories, and the treaty therefore practically null, so far as treaty therefore practically null, so far as regards our rights, this international difficulty cannot long remain undetermined, without involving in serious danger the friendly relations which it is the interest as, well as duty of both countries to cherish and pre-serve. It will afford me tho sincere gratifica-of collision between the subjects of Great tion if futur efforts shall result in the suc- Britain and the citizens of the United States, cess, anticipated heretofore with more confidence than the aspect of the case permits me now to entertain.

## RECRUITMENT.

One other subject of discussion between the United States and Great Britain has of delay on the part of the two governments grown out of the attempt, which the exigen- to act in the matter will increase the dangers cies of the war in which she is engaged with and difficulties of the controversy. ed her to make, to draw recruits from the United States.

It is the traditional and settled policy of the United States to maintain impartial neu-trality during the wars which from time to time occur among the great nations of the Britain relative to the Territory of Oregon. world. Performing all the duties of neu- I have reason to believe that a cession of the trality towards the respective belligerent rights of both companies to the U. States,

tude on the subject was entertained by this has indicated a readiness to make some new government, when, a year since, the British arrangement on the subject, and has invited government, when, a year since, the British Parliament passed an act to provide for the enlistment of foreigners in the military serice of Great Britain: Nothing on the face of the act, or in its public history, indicated that the British government proposed to at-tempt recruitment in the United States; nor

did it ever give intimation of such intention to this government. It was matter of sur orise, therefore, to find, subsequently, that the engagement of persons within the United States to proceed to Halifax, in the British province of Nova Scotia, and there enlist in the service of Great Britain, was going on extensively, with little or no disguise. Ör dinary legal steps were immediately taken to arrest and punish parties concerned, and so put an end to acts infringing the municipal law and derogatory to our sovereignty. Meanwhile suitable representations on the

subject were addressed to the British government. Thereupon it became known by the adission of the British government itself, that

the attempt to draw recruits from this counwith, and made subordinate to a matter wholtry originated with it, or at least had its aply extraneous, the balance of power among the while, however, rejecting this proposition, and insisting on the right of free transit into proval and sanction; but it also appeared that the public agents engaged i t had

"stringent instructions" not to violate the nunicinal law of the United States. It is difficult to understand how it should

have been supposed that troops could be raised here by Great Britain, without violation of the municipal law. The unmistakable object of the law was to prevent every such act, which, if performed, must be either Sound and Belts. in violation of the law, or in studied evasion I lay before you, herewith, sundry docu-ments on the subject, in which my views are by of it; and, in either alternative, the act done yould be alike injurious to the sovereignty more fully disclosed. Should no satisfactory

of the United States. arrangement be soon concluded, I shall again In the meantime, the matter acquired adcall your attention to the subject, with recditional importance, by the recruitments in the United States not being discontinued, ommendation of such measures as may ap-pear to be required in order to assert and seand the disclosure of the fact that they were oure the rights of the United States so far as they are affected by the pretentions of Denprosecuted upon a systematic plan devised mark. by official authority; that recruiting rendez-vous had been opened in our principal cities, and deputs for the reception of recruits es-

tablished on our frontier; and the whole usiness conducted under the supervision and by the regular co-operation of British officers, civil and military, some in the North American provinces, and some in the United States. The complicity of those officers in an undertaking, which could only be accom-plished by defying our laws, throwing sus-picion over our attitude of neutrality, and of the most friendly nature. disregarding our territorial rights, is con-clusively proved by the evidence elicited on the trial of such of their agents as have been

apprehended and convicted. Some of the cers thus implicated are of high official position, and many of them beyond our jurisdiction, so that legal proceedings could not reach the source of mischief. d and of both governments. These considerations, and the fact that

the cause of complaint was not a mere casual occurrence, but a deliberate design entered upon with full knowledge of our laws and national policy, and conducted by responsi-ble white fact three sectors and the sector of the sect lisavowed and disapproved the conduct ble public functionaries, impelled me to pre the officers who illegally seized and detained the steamer Black Warrior at Havana, but sent the case to the British government, in order to secure, nct only a cessation of the has also paid the sum claimed as indemnity wrong, but its reparation. The subject is still for the loss thereby inflicted on citizens of under discussion, the result of which will be the United States. communicated to you in due time.

quarter.

والرجعين والمتناجة المناكر والعلال

In consequence of a destructive hurrioane which visited Cuba in 1854, the supreme au-thority of that island issued a decree, per-BRITISH RELATIONS-continued I repeat the recommendation submitte to the last Congress, that provision be made mitting the importation, for the period of six months, of certain building materials and provisions, free of duty, but revoked it when and establish the boundary line, which di about half the period only had elapsed, te vides the Territory of Washington from the the injury of citizens of the United States. contiguous British possessions. By reason of the extent and importance of the country who had proceeded to act on the faith of that decree. The Spanish Government refused indemnification to the parties aggrieved until recently, when it was assented to, pay-ment being promised to be made so soon as the amount due can be ascertained. Satisfaction claimed for the arrest and including their respective authorities in that juarter. The prospect of a speedy arrange-nent has contributed hitherto to induce on

search of the steamer El Dorado has not yet been accorded, but there is reason to believe both sides forbearance to assert by force that it will be, and that case, with others, what each claims as a right. Continuance continues to be urged on the attention of the Spanish Government. I do not abandon the hope of concluding with Spain some Misunderstanding exists as to the extent, character and value of the possessory rights

general arrangement, which, if it do not whol-ly prevent the recurrence of difficulties in Cuba, will render them less frequent, and whonever they shall occur facilitate their more speedy settlement. MEXICO.

SPAIN.

thousand eight hundred and forty-six dollars, thereby leaving an estimated balance in the governments interested, including the treasury on July 1, 1856, of fifteen million the United States, to be represented in a convensix hundred and twenty-three thousand eight ion to assemble for the purpose of receiving hundred and sixty-three dollars and forty and considering a proposition, which she inone cents.

tends to submit for the capitalization of the Sound dues, and the distribution of the sum In the above estimated expenditures of the present fiscal year are included three millions to be paid as commutation among the governof dollars to meet the last instalment of ter according to the respective propor. nillions provided for in the late treaty with ions of their maritime commerce to and from Mexico, and seven millions seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars appropriated on account of the debt due to Texas, which two the Baltic. I have declined in behalf of the Inited States to accept thie invitation, for sums make an aggregate of ten millions sev-en hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and the most cogent reasons. One is, that Denmark does not offer to submit to the convenion the question of her right to levy the reduce the expenditures, actual or estimated Sound dues. A second is, that, if the conven for ordinary objects of the year, to the sur tion were allowed to take cognizance of that of sixty millions four hundred and seventy particular question, still it would not be six thousand dollars. ompetent to deal with the great internatio

The amount of the public debt, at the comnal principle involved which effects the right mencement of the present fiscal year, was forty millions five hundred and eighty-three in other cases of navigation and ormmercial freedom, as well as that of access to the Baltic. housand six hundred and thirty-one dollars Above all, by the express terms of the propoand, deduction being made of subsequen sition it is contemplated, that the considera-tion of the Sound dues shall be commingled payments, the whole public debt of the federal government remaining at this time is less than forty millions of dollars.

The remnant of certain other governme stocks, amounting to two hundred and fortyty-three thousand dollars. referred to in my ast message as outstanding, has since been and from the Baltic, I have expressed to Den- paid. I am fully persuaded that it would be difnark a willingness on the part of the United

ficult to devise a system superior to that, by which the fiscal business of the government States, to share liberally with other powers in compensating her for any advantages which commerce shall hereafter derive from is now conducted. Notwithstanding the great number of public agents of collection and disexpenditures made by her for the improveent and safety of the navigation of the bursement, it is believed that the checks and

mend the subject to your enry attention. CONSTITUTIONAL THEORY OF THE GOVERNMENT. I have thus passed in review the general state of the Union, including such particular concerns of guards provided, including the requirement of monthly returns, render it scarcely possible for any considerable fraud on the part of those agents, or neglect involving hazard of serious public loss, to escape detection. I the federal government, whether of domestic of the reacting overnment, whether of domestic or foreign relation, as it appeared to me desirable and useful to bring to the special notice of Congress. Unlike the great states of Europe and Asia, and many of those of America, these United States are wasting their strength neither in foreign war nor domestic strife. Whatever of discontent or public dissatisfaction exists, is attributable to the imper-fections of human nature, or is incident to all gov. renew, however, the recommendation, hereto-fore made by me, of the enactment of a law declaring it felony on the part of public officers to insert false entries into their books of record or account, or to make false returns and also requiring them on the terminalion

the question, then existing between this gov-ernment and that of France, respecting the French Consul at San Francisco, has been sa-French Consul at San Francisco, has been satisfying evidence of the prosperty, tisfactorily determined, and that the rela-tions of the two governments continue to be great interests upon which that depends.

The principle that all moneys not requir-ed for the current expenses of the govern-GREECE. A question, also, which has been pending def for the current expenses of the govern-ment should remain for active employment for several years, between the United States and the Kingdom of Greece, growing out of the sequestration, by public authorities of that country, of property belonging to the the annual revenue from all sources exceeds, by many millions of dollars, the annual revenue from all present American Consul at Athens, and mical administration of public affeire exceeds which had been the subject of very and the subject of very subject of v which had been the subject of very earnest discussions heretofore, has recently been set tled to the satisfaction of the party interest-imports. It is now so generally conceded

that the purpose of revenue alone can justi-fy the imposition of duties on imports, that, With Spain peaceful relations are still in readjusting the impost tables and schemaintained, and some progress has been made in securing the redress of wrongs complained tial modifications, a departure from the prinof by this government, Spain has not only ciples of the present tariff is not anticipated

Cipies of the present tarif is not anticipated. ARMT. The army, during the past year, has been ac-tively engaged in defending the Indian frontier the state of the service permitting but, few, and small garrisons in our permanent fortifications. The ad-

garrisons in our permanent fortifications. The ad-ditional regiments authorized at the last session of Congress have been recruited and organized, and a large portion of the troops have already been sent to the field. All the duties which devolve on the military establishment have been satisfactorily performed, and the dangers and the privations in-cident to the character of the service required of our troops have furnished additional evidence of their courage, zeal and capacity, to meet any requisition which their country may make upon them. For the details of the military operations, the distribution of the troops, and additional pro-visions required for the military service, I refer to the report of the Secretary of War and the accom-panying documents. tion. The object of that war was to disenthral the United Colonies from foreign rule, which had proved to be oppressive, and to separate them permanently from the mother country: the political result was the foundation of a federal republic of the free white men of the colonies, constituted, as they were, in distinct, and reciprocally independent State governments. As for the subject races, whether Indian or African, the wise and brave statesmen of that day, being engaged in no extra-vagant scheme of social change, left them as they were, and thus preserved themselves and their pos-terity from the anarchy, and the ever-recurring

Experience, gathered from events which have transpired since my last annual message, has but served to confirm the opinion then'expressed of the propriety of making provisions, by a retired list, for disabled officers, and for increased compensa-tion to the officers biand tionized European colonies of America. When the confederated States found it convenient ion to the officers retained on the list for activ daty. All the reasons which existed, when these measures were reccommended on former occasions, continue without modification, except so far as cir-cumstances have given to some of them additional

rce. The recomendations, heretofore made for a par The recombandous, hereofore make for a par-tial reorganization of the army, are also renewed. The thorough elementary education given to those officers, who commenced their service with the grade of cadet, qualifies them, to a considerable ently with those purposes, of the independent pow-ers of the individual States. For objects of com-

MEXICO. The interposition of this government has been invoked by many of its citizens, on ac-count of injuries done to their persons and years; and it is not, therefore, believed to be adnon defence and security, they intrusted to the general government certain carefully defined func-tions, leaving all others as the undelegated rights of the separate independent sovereignties.

The commissioners appointed to revise and codify the laws of the District have made such progress in the performance of their task, as to insure its completion in the time preseribed by the act of sooner or later, cease to exist, in some States, it might increase in others. The peculiar character and magnitude of this question of local rights, not in material relations only, ongress. Information has recently been received, that the but still more in social ones, caused it to enter ence of the settlements in the Territories of Ore- into the special stipulations of the constitu-

generation of the sectements in the refittories of Ore-gon and Washington is disturbed by hostilites on the part of the Indians, with indications of exten-sive combinations of a hostile character among the tribes in that quarter, the more serious in their possible effect by reason of the undetermined for-ion intermet critering in these Tamitosing to miking lion. Hence, while the general government, as well by the enumerated powers granted to it, as by those not enumerated, and therefore refused to it, was forbidden to touch this matter ign interests existing in those Territories, to which n the sense of attack or offence, it was placed your attention has already been especially invited. Efficient measures have been taken, which, it is under the general safeguard of the Union, in believed, will restore quiet, and afford protecti the sense of defence against either invasion of our citizens. In the Territory of Kansas there have been acts of the several States. Each State expressly The ferrory of Ransa there have been acts prejudicial to good order, but as yet none have oc-aurred under oircumstances to justify the interpo-sition of the Federal Executive. That could only be in case of obstruction to Federal law, or of or-ganized resistance to territorial law, assuming the character of insurrection, which, if it should occur, the constitution, that any person, held to ser-vice or labor in one State, escaping into anoth-vice or labor in one State, escaping into anoth-

er, should not, in consequence of any law or regulation thereof, be discharged from such service or labor, but should be delivered up on it would be my duty promptly to overcome and suppres. I cherish the hope, however, that the claim of the party to whom such service or la-bor might be due by the laws of his State.

suppres. I cherish the hope, however, that the occurrence of any such untoward events will be prevented by the sound sense of the people of the Territory, who, by its organic law, possessing the right to determine their own domestic institutions, are entitled, while deporting themselves peacefully, to the free exercise of that right, and must be pro-teoted in the enjoyment of it, without interference on the part of the citizens of any of the States. The southern boundary line of this Territory has never heer surrevad and established. The randidy Thus, and thus only, by the reciprocal guaranty of all the rights of every State against interference on the part of another, was the present form of government established by our fathers and transmitted to us; and by no other means is it possible for it to exist. The southern boundary line of this Territory has never been surveyed and established. The rapidly extending settlements in that region, and the fact that the main route between Independence, in the State of Missouri, and New Mexico, is contaguous to this line, suggest the probability that embarras-ing questions of jurisdiction may consequently arise. For these and other considerations, I com-wand the subject to your easily attention If one State ceases to respect the rights of another, and obtrusively intermeddles with its local interests,—if a portion of the States as-sume to impose their institutions on the others, or refuse to fulfil their obligations to them,we are no longer united friendly States, but distracted, hostile ones, with little capacity

distracted, hostile ones, with inthe capacity left of common advantage, but abundant means of reciprocal injury and mischief. Practically, it is immaterial whether aggres sive interference between the States, or delib erate refusal on the part of any one of them to comply with constitutional obligations, arise from erroneous conviction or blind prejudice, whether it be perpetrated by direction or indi-rection. In either case, it is full of threat and of danger to the durability of the Union.

CONSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS OF SLAVERY. Placed in the office of Chief Magistrate a he executive agent of the whol bound to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and specially enjoined by the con-stitution to give information to Congress on the State of the Union, it would be palpable neglect of daty on my part to pass over a sub-ject like this, which, beyond all things at the present time, vitally concerns individual and public security. It has been a matter of painful regret to see

States, conspicuous for their services in found-ing this Republic, and equally sharing its ad-vantages, disregard their constitutional obligations to it. Although conscious of their in-ability to heal admitted and palpable social evils of their own, and which are completely within their jurisdiction, they engage in the offensive and hopeless undertaking of reformmunicipal and social institutions of each, its laws of property and of personal relation, even in its political organization, were such only as each one choose to establish, wholly without interference from any other. In the language of the Declara-tion of Independence, each State had "fall power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, es-tablish commerce, and to do all other acts and there with independences. ing the domestic institutions of other States wholly beyond their control and authority. In the vain pursuit of ends, by them entirely unattainable, and which they may not legally at-tempt to compass, they peril the very existence

of the constitution, and all the countless benefits which it has conferred. While the people of the southern States confine their at-tention to their own affairs, not presuming officiously to intermeddle with the social institablish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent States may of right do." The several colonies differed in climate, in soil, in natural productions, in religion, in system of edu-cation, in legislation, and in the forms of political administration; and they continued to differ in these respects when they voluntarily allied. them-selves as States to carry on the war of the revolu-tion. tutions of northern States, too many of the inhabitants of the latter are permanently organized in associations to inflict injury on

the former, by wrongful acts, which would be cause of war as between foreign powers; and only fail to be such in our system, because perpetrated under cover of the Union.

It is impossible to present this subject as truth and the occasion require, without noti and the South has persistently asserted claims and obtained advantages in the practical ad-ministration of the general government, to the prejudice of the North, and in which the latter has acquiesced. That is, the Stoter which terity from the anarchy, and the ever-recurring

o modify the condition of their association, by ine, and constantly aver, that they, whose cou-stitutional rights are thus systemetically as-sailed, are themselves the aggressions. At the present time, this imputed aggression, resting, as it does, only in the vague, declanatory there are a constant on the union of the unio ine, and constantly over, that they, whose con giving to the general government direct access, in giving to the general government direct access, in some respects, to the people of the States, instead of confining it to action on the States as such, they proceeded to frame the existing constitution, ad-hering steadily to one guiding thought, which was, to delegate only such power as was necessary and proper to the execution of specific purposes, or, in other words, to retain as much as possible, consist-only with these purposes of the independent power as it does, only in the vague, declanatory charges of political agitators, resolves itself into misapprehension, or misinterpretation, of the principles and fasts of the politicul organi-zation of the new Territories of the United States States.

ordinance which provided for the government f the Territory morthy est of the river Ohio, (Concluded on Fourth Page.)

In all this, if any aggression there were, any innovation upon pre-existing rights, to which portion of the Union are they justly chargeable?

This controversy passed away with the occasion, nothing surviving it save the dormant letter of the statute.

But, long afterwards, when, by the proposed accession of the Republic of Texns, the United States were to take their next step in territorial greatness, a similar contingendy occurred. and became the occasion for systematized at-tempts to intervene in the domestic affairs of one section of the Union, in defiance of their rights as States, and of the stipulations of the constitution. These attempts assumed a practical direction, in the shape of persevering endeavors, by some of the representatives, in both houses of Congress, to deprive the Southern States of the supposed benefit of the pro-visions of the act authorizing the organization

of the State of Missouri. But, the good sense of the people, and the vital force of the constitution, triumphed ove sectional prejudice, and the political errors of the day, and the State of Texas returned to the Union as she was, with social institutions which her people had chosen for themselves, and with express agreement, by the re-annexing act, that she should be susceptible of subdivision

That she should be gatespine of subtrivious into a plurality of States. Whatever advantage the people of the South-ern States, as such, gained by this, were far inferior in results, as they unfolded in the pro-gress of time, to those which sprang from preious concessions made by the South

world additional assurance of the strength and stability of the constitution. Who would wish to see Florida still a European colony? Who would rejoice to hail Texas as a lone star, instead of one in the galaxy of States? Who does not appreciate the incalculable benefits of the acquisition of Louisiana? And yet nar-

row views and sectional purposes would inevi-tably have excluded them all from the Union. But another straggle on the same point en-qued, when our victorious army returned from Moxico, and it devolved on Congress to provide

for the territories acquired by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The great relations 1 of the subject had now become distinct and clear to the perception of the public mind, which appreciated the evils of sectional controversy upon the question of the admission of new In that crisis intense solicitude pervaded the nation. But the patriotic impulses of the popular heart, guided by the admonitory advice of the Father of his Country rose su-perior to all the difficulties of the i'ncorpora-

ion of a new empire into the Union-In the counsels of Congress there was manifested extreme antagonism of opinion and ac

tion between some representatives, who sought by the abusive and unconstitutional employ either promote or tolerate attacks on the rights of persons and of property in other States, to disguise their own injustice, pretend or imagalone, action of the general government, while in reality it was the endeavor, by abuse of

states. What is the voice of history? When the stitutional faith proved vigorons enough in

FRANCE. I announce with much gratification, that, since the adjournment of the last Congress, ince then aristing between this gov. Derived as our public revenue is, in chief fections of human nature, or is incident to all gov erments, however perfect, which human wisdom can devise. Such subjects of political agitation, as occupy the public mind, consist, to a great ex-tent, of exaggeration of inevitable evils, or over zeal in social improvement, or mere imagination o grievance, having but remote connexion with any of the constitutional functions or duties of the fede-ral government. To whatever extent these ques-

in goot hibit a tendency menacing to the stability of the constitution, or the integrity of the Union, and no farther, they demand the consideration of the Executive, and require to be presented by him to Comment the Database and the second se geographical position, and by the mutual tie of com-mon dependence on Great Britain. When that tie was sundered, they severally assumed the powers and rights of absolute self-government. The municipal and social institutions of each, its laws