

Towanda, Wednesday, Dec. 10, 1845

To the Patrons of the Bradford Reporter.

Hereafter the publication of the Reporter will be carried on by my two sons, E. O. & H. P. Goodrich.

The new proprietors are both practical printers, having worked in the Reporter office since its first establishment. They have been educated in a Democratic school, and imbibed the principles of democracy as well from choice as from necessity.

In retiring from the publication department of the paper, my acknowledgments are due to many kind friends who have aided me by their counsel, their approval and a prompt discharge of all their liabilities to the office.

The President's Message.

The first message of President Polk to the American Congress, will be found entire in our columns this week. Its great length necessarily excludes nearly all other reading matter, and allows us only room to say that it is well written, bold and clear in all its points, and in our judgment, correct in all its views.

Congress.

The first session of the 29th Congress, commenced at Washington, on Monday. The Vice President took the chair in the Senate.

In the House, John W. Davis, of Indiana, (Dem.), was elected Speaker on the first ballot, receiving 120 votes.

B. B. France, the late Clerk of the House, was unanimously re-elected.

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

[CONCLUDED FROM FOURTH PAGE.]

Five cents per ton, as though they had been Spanish vessels; and this, whether our vessels arrive in Spain directly from the United States, or indirectly from any other country.

By the act of the fourteenth of July, 1832, coffee was exempted from duty altogether. This exemption was universal, without reference to the country where it was produced, or the national character of the vessel in which it was imported.

The government of the Netherlands complains that such a discriminating duty should have been imposed on coffee, the production of one of its colonies, and which is chiefly brought from Java to the ports of that kingdom, and exported from thence to foreign countries.

Under the eighth section of the tariff act of the thirteenth of August, 1842, a duty of fifteen cents per gallon was imposed on Port wine in casks, while, on the red wines of several other countries, when imported in casks, a duty of only six cents per gallon was imposed.

The amount of the public debt remaining unpaid on the first of October last, was seventeen millions seven hundred and sixty thousand four hundred and forty-five dollars and fifty cents.

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or manufacture of the kingdom and possessions of Portugal, than such as are or shall be payable on the like article being the growth, produce, or manufacture of any other foreign country.

Accordingly, to give effect to the treaty, as well as to the intention of Congress, it is provided in the tariff act itself, that nothing therein contained should be so construed as to interfere with subsisting treaties with foreign nations.

By virtue of another clause in the same section of the act, it is provided that all imitations, of Port, or any other wines, shall be subject to the duty provided, for the genuine article.

The late President, in his annual message of December last, recommended an appropriation, to satisfy the claims of the Texan government against the United States, which had been previously adjusted, so far as the powers of the Executive extended.

The commissioner appointed to China during the special session of the Senate, in March last, shortly afterwards set out on his mission in the United States ship Columbus.

Unfortunately, differences continue to exist among some of the nations of South America, which, following our example, have established their independence, while in others internal dissensions prevail.

I have thus adverted to all the subjects connected with our foreign relations, to which I deem it necessary to call your attention. Our policy is not only peace with all, but good-will towards all the powers of the earth.

The Secretary of the Treasury, in his report to Congress, will communicate a full statement of the condition of our finances.

The imports for the fiscal year ending on the thirteenth of June last, were of the value of one hundred and seventy million two hundred and fifty-four thousand five hundred and sixty-four dollars, of which the amount exported was fifteen million three hundred and forty-three thousand eight hundred and thirty dollars.

The exports for the same year were of the value of one hundred and fourteen million six hundred and forty-six thousand and six dollars, of which the amount of domestic articles was ninety-nine million two hundred and ninety-nine thousand seven hundred and seventy-six dollars.

The expenditures for the same period were twenty-nine million nine hundred and sixty-eight thousand two hundred and sixty-eight and ninety-eight cents; of which, eight million five hundred and eighty-eight thousand one hundred and fifty-seven dollars and sixty-two cents were applied to the payment of the public debt.

The amount of the public debt remaining unpaid on the first of October last, was seventeen millions seven hundred and sixty thousand four hundred and forty-five dollars and fifty cents.

Further payments of the public debt would have been made, in anticipation of the period of its reimbursement under the authority conferred upon the Secretary of the Treasury, by the acts of July 21st, 1841, and of April 15th, 1842, and March 2d, 1843, had not the unsettled state of our relations with Mexico, menaced

hostile collision with that power. In view of such a contingency, it was deemed prudent to retain in the Treasury an amount unusually large for ordinary purposes.

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The well known fact that the tariff act of 1842 was passed by a majority of one vote in the Senate, and two in the House of Representatives, and that some of those who felt themselves constrained under the peculiar circumstances existing at the time to vote in its favor, proclaimed its defects, and expressed their determination to aid in its modification on the first opportunity, affords strong and conclusive evidence that it was not intended to be permanent, and of the expediency and necessity of its thorough revision.

In recommending to Congress a reduction of the present rates of duty, and a revision and modification of the act of 1842, I am far from entertaining opinions unfriendly to the manufacturers. On the contrary, I desire to see them prosperous, as far as they can be, without imposing unequal burdens on other interests.

The precise point in the ascending scale of duties, at which it is ascertained from experience that the revenue is greatest, is the maximum rate of duty which can be laid for the bona fide purpose of collecting money for the support of government.

It does not merely follow that Congress should levy the highest duty on all articles of import, which they will bear, within the revenue standard; for such rates would probably produce a much larger amount than the economical administration of the government would require.

In levying a tariff of duties, Congress exercise the taxing power, and for purposes of revenue may select the objects of taxation. They may exempt certain articles altogether, and permit their importation free of duty.

By the constitution of the United States it is provided, that "no money shall be drawn from the treasury but in consequence of appropriations made by law."

The safe keeping of the public money should be confided to a public treasury, created by law, and under like responsibility and control. It is not to be imagined that the framers of the constitution could have intended that a treasury should be created as a place of deposit and safe keeping of the public money which was irresponsible to the government.

By adopting the policy of graduation and reduction of price, these inferior lands will be sold for their real value, while the States in which they lie will be freed from the inconvenience, if not the injustice, to which they are subjected, in consequence of the United States continuing to own large quantities of public lands within their borders; nor liable to taxation for the support of their local government.

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