

Mr. Dickerson's Speech on the National Defense, and in reply to Mr. Benton, may be found on our outside. It created in the Senate, at the time of its delivery, the most profound interest and attention...

DEFERRED—Editorial, Correspondence, Communications, News items, &c., are deferred to make room for the Oregon Correspondence.

The State Administration.

Until recently, no State in this Union has suffered to the extent of this, by mal-administration. From a condition of great prosperity and high reputation, in a few years it fell to the verge of bankruptcy.

There is a certain class of men, to whom honesty is a name; who have so long made use of political party usages and principles, as a machine, that the moment they cease to contribute to their individual emolument...

No one pretends to make the slightest change against the official conduct of the Governor; none can do it; yet there is a snarling, growling opposition coming from the vantage to which we allude.

The Union & Lewiston Republican.

Letter writers and rumormongers implicate Mr. Buchanan in the rejection of Judge Woodward. Mr. Buchanan owes it to himself and to the democracy to explain his position in regard to this appointment.

We copy the foregoing paragraph from the Lewiston Republican, and we confess we are surprised that the editor should attempt to connect the name of Mr. Buchanan with the rejection of Judge Woodward.

The above is taken from the Democratic Union of the 7th inst. Our object in transferring the remarks of the Lewiston Republican and The Union to our columns, is to assert the right of the former, and repudiate the assertions and attempt at intimidation of the latter.

Our Representatives.

We are not about to speak of these gentlemen, merely to sound the trumpet of praise. We salute no men, or set of men, but shall be prompt to do justice to all our public servants. Without intending any disparagement to their predecessors, we believe our country has never been more ably represented than it now is, by Messrs. WEAVER and PIOLLET.

Brilliant Debut of Mr. Wilmot.

We learn from Washington, that Mr. Wilmot made his debut in Congress on Saturday the 7th inst., and though made under unfavorable circumstances, was a most brilliant and masterly effort.

WASHINGTON, February 7.

DEAR SIR—Among the 14 speakers who occupied the floor of the House of Representatives today, were two of the distinguished orators from Pennsylvania—Gen. Foster and Mr. Wilmot.

Mr. Wilmot's light hair and complexion and full face, gives him something of a youthful appearance, and being from a diet in the remote interior, there was but little expected from him among the members as an orator.

Whatever, he said, our title might once have been to the whole of this territory, he feared that 25 years of negotiation and 4 distinct offers to compromise on the 49th parallel of north latitude had impaired its moral force.

Suppose, said he, that Great Britain should offer to accede to our proposition, as he believed she would, and accept of the 49th parallel, could we as a just and high-minded nation refuse to accept our own proposal these terms solemnly and formally offered!

He spoke of the 49th parallel as the ultimatum. Hence, he said, he would by his stake and never surrender one inch below it, so long as the Republic had an abiding place in the family of nations.

As he spoke of the valor of our navy, and invincibility of our army in the late war, there was a fervid eloquence in his swelling voice which was truly thrilling.

MORROW MORNING, No. 137, of the L. O. of O. F. was opened and the officers installed in regular form.

The ceremonies of the occasion are spoken of as gratifying; the decorations of the Hall appropriate and elegant; and the opening highly auspicious for the permanent prosperity of the first Lodge of Odd Fellows established within our borders.

The designs of the furniture, the painting and decorations, are by Wm. H. Strickland and reflect credit on his art and taste.

Thursday afternoons and evenings are the regular weekly meetings of the Lodge.

We wish the pioneers of the Institution among us, success in every effort to extend the fellowship of good.

THE DEMOCRATIC UNION misrepresents the Resolutions of our County Meeting as "declaring that the Senate of Pa., in approving of the tariff act of 30th Aug. '42 has attempted a usurpation of power &c."

Our Resolution goes to the point of the Pennsylvania Senate's employing the same language of instruction to Senators and Representatives in Congress, of which this is the first instance within our knowledge, and are deserving the rebuke of democracy on the threshold of "usurpation."

Proceedings of the Penn'a. Legislature.

(Correspondence of the Bradford Reporter.) HARRISBURG, February 13, 1846.

GENTLEMEN—The principal business of general interest transacted since my last has been the action of the two Houses on the subject of the Tariff.

The House voted down the amendments offered to the resolutions of the Senate by Mr. Burrell and Mr. Piollet, when the resolutions were agreed to by a vote of 79 to 14—Messrs. Bird, Campbell, Daily, Emme, Fassett, Kline, Knox, Merrifield, Piollet, Samuels, Thomas, (of Susquehanna) West and Webb, voting in the negative.

Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be further instructed and requested to oppose the establishment of a National Bank, the distribution of the proceeds of the public lands, and to vote for the separation of the Government from the Banking institutions, and for the creation of a constitutional treasury as the best means pointed out by the people.

The resolutions as thus amended were adopted by the following vote: YEAS—Messrs. Armstrong, Bachman, Barber, Boughner, Boyer, Bright, Burside, Burrell, Campbell, Chesnut, Clark, Cross, Daly, Donaldson, Dotts, Emme, Fassett, Fernon, Forsyth, Funston, Galloway, Gray, Gwin, Halliwell, Haymaker, Hill, (Fayette), Hill, (Montgomery), Hinelein, Hoffman, Ives, James, Keller, Knox, Levan, Means, Morphy, McAbee, McClelland, Owen, Power, Rider, Ruper, Samuels, Snyder, Starr, Steiler, Stewart, (Lycoming) Tire, Van Heil, Wadsworth, Wilson, Worman, Worrell, Patterson—54.

Mr. Piollet made an able and eloquent speech against the instructions in favor of the Tariff, as it will shortly appear in full in one of the Harrisburg papers, I refrain from giving you a synopsis of it.

During the discussion Mr. Magehan assailed all who differed from him on the Tariff question, and particularly the members from Bradford and Tioga, classing them with church-burners, robbers, murderers, &c.

You will perceive by the final vote that the whigs, in their fondness for a national bank, deserted their post, and, after all their blustering about the protective system, abandoned the Tariff and left it in the hands of the Democrats.

Mr. Gibbons offered the following as a substitute for the amendment of the House: "That for the purpose of preventing a reduction of the Tariff of 1842, and of relieving the people of Pennsylvania as much as possible from the heavy taxation that now oppresses them, our Senators and Representatives in Congress be further requested to sustain the measure of distributing the money arising from the sales of the public lands among the respective States, under which Pennsylvania would be entitled to receive, as appears by the official reports for the last year, the sum of two hundred thousand dollars annually."

The motion was rejected by the following vote: YEAS—Messrs. Carson, Cornman, Crabb, Darrah, Darsie, Dunlap, Gibbons, Jordan, Morrison, Quay, Sanderson, Smith, Sullivan, Wagenseller and Williamson—15.

NAYS—Messrs. Anderson, Benner, Bigler, Black, Chapman, Crecraft, Dimmick, Ebaugh, Fegely, Gillis, Hill, Hoover, Rahn, Ross, Sterigere and Sherwood Speaker—16.

The question recurring on agreeing to the House amendment, a division of the question was ordered.

The first division, against a national bank was agreed in yeas 19, nays 9, as follows: YEAS—Messrs. Anderson, Benner, Bigler, Black, Chapman, Crecraft, Dimmick, Ebaugh, Fegely, Gillis, Heckman, Hill, Hoover, Rahn, Ross, Sanderson, Sterigere, Wagenseller, and Sherwood Speaker—19.

NAYS—Messrs. Carson, Darragh, Darsie, Gibbons, Jordan, Morrison, Quay, Sanderson, Smith, Sullivan, Wagenseller and Williamson—9.

The second division, against a division of the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, was rejected, yeas 15, nays 17, as follows: YEAS—Messrs. Anderson, Benner, Bigler, Black, Chapman, Crecraft, Dimmick, Ebaugh, Fegely, Gillis, Heckman, Hill, Hoover, Rahn, Ross, Sterigere and Sherwood, Speaker—15.

NAYS—Messrs. Carson, Crabb, Darrah, Darsie, Dunlap, Ebaugh, Gibbons, Heckman, Jordan, Morrison, Quay, Sanderson, Smith, Sullivan, Wagenseller, Williamson and Cornman—17.

The third division, in favor of a separation of the government from the banks, and of a constitutional treasury, was agreed to, yeas 17, nays 14, as follows: YEAS—Messrs. Anderson, Benner, Bigler, Black, Chapman, Crecraft, Dimmick, Ebaugh, Fegely, Gillis, Heckman, Hill, Hoover, Rahn, Ross, Sterigere and Sherwood, Speaker—17.

NAYS—Messrs. Carson, Crabb, Darrah, Darsie, Dunlap, Gibbons, Jordan, Morrison, Quay, Sanderson, Smith, Sullivan, Wagenseller and Williamson—14.

So the House amendment as amended, was agreed to.

These rates show that two Whigs (Messrs. Sanderson and Wagenseller) voted for the instruction against the establishment of a National Bank, and that two Democrats (Messrs. Heckman and Ebaugh) voted against the instructions to oppose the distribution of the public lands among the several States.

The bill granting the right of way to the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company through Pennsylvania at Pittsburg has been under discussion for several days in the Senate. This bill has been ably discussed by its friends and opponents. Its fate is yet uncertain.

The bill granting the right of way through the Northern counties of Pennsylvania to the New York and Erie Rail Road Company, is under consideration in the House. An amendment to make the grant contingent upon the State of New York securing a connection between the North Branch and the Chemung and Chenango Canals was voted down, yeas 40 nays 46.

A large number of private bills have been reported and partially acted upon. A. B.

Correspondence Relating to Oregon.

TRANSMITTED TO CONGRESS, BY THE PRESIDENT, IN COMPLIANCE WITH A RESOLUTION PASSED 3D OF FEBRUARY, 1846, BY THE H. R.

To the House of Representatives of the U. S. In compliance with the request of the House of Representatives, in their resolution of the 3d inst. I herewith communicate a report from the Secretary of State, with the accompanying correspondence which has taken place between the Secretary of State and the minister of the United States at London, and between the government of Great Britain and this government, in relation to the country west of the Rocky mountains, since the last annual message of the President to Congress.

Washington, Feb. 7, 1846.

To the President of the United States. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. Washington, Feb. 5, 1846.

The Secretary of State, to whom has been referred a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 3d instant, requesting the President to communicate to that House, "so far as, in his opinion, is not incompatible with public interest, all correspondence of Great Britain and this government, or by or between any of the officers of said government, in relation to the country west of the Rocky Mountains since the last annual message of the President to this House," has the honor to lay before the President the accompanying papers.

Mr. Buchanan to Mr. McLane. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. Washington, December 13, 1845.

Sir: The President has received information from a variety of sources, which he cannot disregard, that Great Britain is now making extensive warlike preparations. As her relations with all the powers of Europe seem at present to be of a peaceful character, the prevailing and natural inference here is that these preparations look to a rupture with the United States on the Oregon question.

Mr. McLane to Mr. Buchanan. LONDON, Jan. 4, 1846.

Sir: I received on the 29th of December your despatch, dated the 13th of that month; and on the day following, I sought an interview with Lord Aberdeen, in order that, in conformity with your instructions, I might bring to his notice the warlike preparations making by Great Britain, and, if possible, ascertain their real character and object.

In introducing the subject, I adverted at the same time to the information the President had received from a variety of sources, of the extensive warlike preparations making by Great Britain, and the natural inference upon his part that in the present pacific state of the relations of Great Britain with all the powers of Europe, they could only look to a rupture with the United States on the Oregon question.

Lord Aberdeen said very promptly and frankly that it would be improper to disguise with the sincerest desire to avoid it, they were obliged to look to the possibility of a rupture with the United States; and that in such a crisis the warlike preparations now making would be useful and important; but he stated at the same time, very positively and distinctly, that they had no direct reference to such a rupture; and would have been made in the same way, and to the same extent, without regard to the relations of Great Britain and the United States.

He also adverted to the fact that such preparations as were actually making had been commenced before the relations between the United States and Great Britain had become as serious as they now appeared to be, and therefore could not at that time have had any connexion with difficulties which had since grown out of the Oregon question.

In short, he assumed the preparations in progress to be of only a part of a wise and prudent system of national defence and protection, and of preparing in time of peace for the exigencies of war, if it should unfortunately come from any quarter repeated his disclaimer that they had particular reference to a rupture with the United States on the Oregon question, or any other ground.

In regard to my own opinion upon this subject, which the President has been pleased to desire, it is altogether probable that the possibility of other difficulties from other quarters in Europe may have its influence in dictating the policy of the extensive preparations in progress in all parts of the kingdom; and, with unabated confidence in the frankness and straight forwardness of Lord Aberdeen, and without meaning to distrust in the slightest degree the sincerity of his disclaimers in our recent conversation, I do not think it ought to be assumed by any one that warlike preparations upon such a scale as that upon which they are undeniably making here could not have even an indirect reference to the possible contingency of a rupture with us.

I am not prepared to say, nor do I deem it material to decide, how far we have a right to expect an explicit disclaimer of the character and purpose of the warlike preparations now making by Great Britain under the circumstances. They may be the dictates of various causes; and, without attempting to assign to each its particular influence, I am by no means prepared to admit that the apprehension of difficulties with the United States had no share in them; and it is very true that if a rupture with the United States should grow out of our present difficulties, this country will be as fully and effectually prepared for it at all points, and for all possible purposes, as if that, and that alone, had been the object of all her warlike preparations.

The Hon. JAMES BUCHANAN, Secretary of State, Washington.

Mr. Pakenham to Mr. Buchanan. WASHINGTON, Dec. 27, 1845.

An attentive consideration of the present state of affairs, with reference to the Oregon question, has determined the British government to instruct the undersigned, her Britannic Majesty's envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, again to represent in pressing terms to the government of the United States the expediency of referring the whole question of an equitable division of that territory to the arbitration of some friendly sovereign or State.

Under these circumstances, her Majesty's government think that a resort to arbitration is the most prudent, and perhaps, the only feasible step which could be taken, and the best calculated to allay the existing effervescence of popular feeling which might otherwise greatly embarrass the efforts of both governments to preserve a friendly understanding between the two countries.

The British government confidently hope that the government of the United States will not reject a proposal made with such a friendly intention, and for a purpose so holy.

There is nothing in it, they are convinced, not perfectly compatible with the strictest regard for the honor and just interest of both parties, particularly when it is considered of what small value to either is the portion of the territory which in reality forms the subject of controversy, compared with the importance of preserving a state of peace and good will between two such nations.

The undersigned takes advantage of this opportunity to renew to the Hon. James Buchanan the assurance of his high consideration.

Mr. Buchanan to Mr. Pakenham. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. Washington, Jan. 3, 1846.

The undersigned, Secretary of State of the United States, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note of Mr. Pakenham, her Britannic Majesty's envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, dated the 28th ultimo, by which, under instructions from his government, he proposes to the government of the United States the expediency of referring the whole question of an equitable division of that (the Oregon) territory to the arbitration of some friendly sovereign or State.

The undersigned has submitted this note to the President, who, after having bestowed upon it that respectful consideration so eminent due to any proposition emanating from the British Government, has instructed him to give it the following answer:

The British government do not propose to refer to the arbitration the question of the title to the Oregon territory, claimed by the two powers, respectively. It is a proposition to refer to a friendly sovereign or State, merely the partition or "equitable division" of that territory between the parties. It assumes the fact that the title of Great Britain to a portion of the territory is valid, and thus takes for granted the question in dispute.

Under this proposition, the very terms of the submission would contain an express acknowledgement of the right of Great Britain to a portion

of the territory, and would necessarily preclude the United States from claiming the whole of the territory. This, too, in the face of the note of the undersigned to Mr. Pakenham of the 30th August last, by which the President had asserted, in the most solemn form, the title of the United States to the whole territory. Even if there were no other conclusive reasons for declining the proposition, this would be deemed sufficient by the President.

The President heartily concurs with the British government in their regret that all attempts to settle the Oregon question by negotiation have hitherto failed. He cannot, however, concur with that government in the opinion that a resort to arbitration, and especially on the terms proposed, would be followed by happier consequences. On the contrary, he believes that any attempt to refer this question to a third power, would only involve it in new difficulties.

In declining this proposition, the President refers to the sentiment expressed in the note of the undersigned of the 30th of August last, which illusion has already been made, that "cherishes the hope that this long-pending controversy may yet be finally adjusted in such a manner as not to disturb the peace, or interrupt the harmony now so happily subsisting between the two nations."

The undersigned avails himself of this occasion to renew to Mr. Pakenham's assurance of a distinguished consideration.

Right Hon. RICHARD PAKENHAM, &c., &c. Mr. Pakenham to Mr. Buchanan. WASHINGTON, January 6, 1846.

The undersigned, her Britannic Majesty's envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, has the honor to receive the note of the Secretary of State of the United States, dated the 3d instant, in answer to that of the undersigned dated 27th ultimo, containing a proposal for referring the question of an equitable partition of the Oregon territory to the arbitration of some friendly sovereign or State.

The undersigned will take an early opportunity to transmit this communication to her Majesty's government.

Mr. Pakenham to Mr. Buchanan. WASHINGTON, Jan. 16, 1846.

With an anxious desire to contribute by every means in his power to a satisfactory conclusion of the question pending between the two governments respecting Oregon, the undersigned, her Britannic Majesty's envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, has reflected on the contents of the note addressed to him on the 3d instant, by the Secretary of State of the United States, in answer to that which the undersigned had the honor to address to him on the 27th of last month.

The note of the undersigned proposed to the government of the United States, that the whole question of an equitable partition of the Oregon territory should be referred to the arbitration of some friendly sovereign or State.

In his answer, the Secretary of State intimated the undersigned that his proposition was not accepted. That it did not propose to refer to arbitration the question of the title to the Oregon territory claimed by the two powers respectively. That in proposing to refer to a friendly sovereign or State merely the partition or equitable division of the territory between the parties, it assumes the fact that the title of Great Britain to a portion of the territory is valid, and thus takes for granted the very question in dispute.

That under this proposition the very terms of the submission would contain an express acknowledgement of the right of Great Britain to a portion of the territory, and would necessarily preclude the United States from claiming the whole territory before the arbitrator; and thus, too, the Secretary of State goes on to observe, in the face of his note to the undersigned of 30th August, by which the President has asserted in the most solemn form the title of the United States to the whole territory.

It is not the purpose of the undersigned in the present note to renew the discussion as to the title of either party, Great Britain or the United States, to the whole or to any part of the Oregon territory.

He must, however, beg leave, with reference to the observation which he has just quoted, to remind the United States Secretary of State that if the government of the United States have formally advanced a claim to the whole of the Oregon territory, it is no less equitable that Great Britain has, in a manner equally formal, declared that she, too, has rights in the Oregon territory, incompatible with the exclusive claim advanced by the U. States.

This declaration, arising from a conviction equally sincere, will, the undersigned is persuaded, be viewed with the same consideration by the government of the United States, as they expect that their own declaration should receive at the hands of the government of Great Britain.

This premises, the object of the undersigned in addressing to Mr. Buchanan the present communication is to ascertain from him whether supposing the British government to entertain no objection to such a course, it would suit the views of the United States government to refer to arbitration, not, as has already been proposed, the question of an equitable partition of the territory, but the question of title in either of the two powers to the whole territory, subject of course to the condition that if neither should be found, in the opinion of the arbitrator, to possess a complete title to the whole territory, there should in that case, be assigned to each that portion of the territory which would, in the opinion of the arbitrating power, be called for by a just appreciation of the respective claims of each.

The undersigned has suggested a reference on the above principle to some friendly sovereign or State.

This the undersigned believes to be the course usually followed in such cases; in that two governments, (and more than one,) there may be other forms of arbitration, perhaps, more agreeable to the government of the United States.

There might be, for instance, a mixed commission, with an umpire appointed by mutual consent; or there might be a board, composed of the most distinguished civilian and jurists of the time, appointed in such a manner as should bring all pending questions to the decision of the most enlightened, impartial and independent minds.

In the present position of affairs, and feeling how much the interests of both countries require an early as well as an amicable and satisfactory adjustment of existing difficulties, the undersigned earnestly invites the Secretary of