

Bradford Reporter.
 Free Soil, Free Speech, Free Men!
 Freedom for Every American.
 E. O. GOODRICH, EDITOR.
 Towanda, Saturday, December 7, 1850.

The President's Message.
 The Message excludes our usual family. His reasonable length, well written, and altogether a creditable production. To its suggestions, of course, we do not agree, but have no room this week for comments.

The Union to be Saved!
 We were mistaken in saying last week that the Great Union Demonstration at Philadelphia had saved the Union. The work is to be consummated at this place on Tuesday evening next, when the last dark cloud which looms upon our country will be dispersed, and the bright sun of liberty and peace shine in all its effulgence upon our glorious land. The patriotism of Bradford is aroused, and like another Richmond is in the field, to sustain the Union and Constitution, and frown down the unholty desperadoes who are threatening to subvert our liberties and our free institutions! Free the Union! Free the Union! While New York, Boston, and Philadelphia are lighting up the fires of patriotism, and the firmament is illuminated, shall not Towanda, and its disinterested patriots be allowed to send up their penny-rocket, to make the great spectacle more magnificent? Some such demonstration is greatly needed to make the Union perfectly safe.

This Union stands on the brink of a frightful precipice. The Niger slave law threatens to tear it into the awful gulf. Dark and potentia clouds make murky night settle upon our country. The Constitution is in danger! Arouse, Freemen arouse! Men dare to ask if the Executive Slave Law is just in all its particulars. The Law must be taken as it is, and no very farces made, or our union is shivered into a limited thousand fragments, more or less. Every one who will not huzza for the Law, as it is, as the height of wisdom in legislation, is a fanatic, an abolitionist, a traitor to our country, and should be denounced. Turn out, Freemen, turn out! Rally every man who wishes himself understood as the peculiar guardian of the Constitution, and that every one else is opposed to it! Every man, who would accept some fat office if offered him! Every man who would devote some means to get such office. This is a glorious opportunity of manufacturing capital—(over the left)—it may be the last. Don't neglect it!

Seriously, We have seen the call for a Union meeting, at the Court House, in this place on Tuesday evening next, addressed to those "opposed to its agitation of all Dissensions, whether under the garb of Abolitionism, Free Soils, and all the other terms." (Freehold has been erased, see notice,) and we advise all who can conveniently attend, to be present. It will be a "fight as it is," to see all the old fogies, congregated together, endeavoring to prove who are opposed to our Constitution and our laws, and laying plans in the faint hope of manufacturing political capital. It will be pleasant to see the movers in the late Canal meeting, which was so much commended by the Legislature (only it didn't) conspicuous in convincing people our liberties are safe in the hands of no one else. Of course their motives can't be questioned. We particularly advise those antiquated politicians who have "stirred their brief hour" upon the political stage, enjoyed its remunerations, and been quietly consigned by the public voters to their original obscurity, to be on hand, and labor zealously for a restoration, influenced by the remembrance of offices once enjoyed, and pleasant anticipations of the speedily ending of the "good time coming."

When this meeting shall have been held, the danger is passed; the MacIntoshism, whose fearful tolex our country was fast hastening, will disappear; South Carolina will inscribe praise to its originators, and offer up incense in after days to their memory. Theirs shall be the glory of having saved our country from anarchy and civil war, and all their concomitant horrors. They have saved the Capitol, and shall go down in history, as the saviors of Rome, on Capitoline hill, have become celebrated. Father Ritchie, will wash his doleful Jeremiah, and the prayers of our patriots shall arise his gratuity. If the principle of *similia similibus* ad curatur—(we won't say the dose is homeopathic)—by agitating where there is no agitation, they will ally all agitation! By raising up spears of dissensions, they can buffet the monsters to their hearts content, and work themselves into a perfect fever of patriotism with perfect safety. Of course they will deal gently with those who are arrayed in open hostility to the Constitution at the South—denouncing them would not answer their purposes here.

The Public Meeting, called for Monday evening, was adjourned until Wednesday evening, and finally broke up in great confusion. We are reluctantly obliged to postpone our account of the scenes until our next.

COMMERCE RAILROAD.—On Saturday last, under the act to construct a Railroad to avoid the Inland Fluag, near Philadelphia, the best of Canal Company, Messrs. J. B. Starnes & Co., of Philadelphia and Columbia, Railroad, lying between Broad Street and the plane, including the Schuylkill Viaduct the Collector's Office and the Engine Depot at the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and Schuylkill Street. The sale was effected and John Tucker, Esq., President of the Railroad and Canal Company, purchased it for the sum of \$1,200,000—the payments to be without interest, from the date of the delivery of the road as follows:—\$250,000 each at the time of sale and delivery of the road; \$500,000 on the first day of April, 1851; and \$450,000 monthly thereafter, until the entire debt is liquidated.

Proceedings of the XXXIst Congress.
SECOND SESSION.
 Wednesday, Monday, Dec. 2, 1850.
 The Senate was called to order at 12 o'clock. The following members were present:—Messrs. Bradley, Hays, Hays, Norris, John P. Wise, Whittier, Phelps, Drake, Upham, Smith, Dickinson, Baldwin, Sumner, Sargent, Wales, Spruance, Pratt, Pearce, Mason, Hooper, Badger, Mangum, Berrien, King, Clements, Morton, Peaton, Bell, Turner, Ewing, Chase, Shields, Whitcomb, Dodge, Wisconsin, Walker, Jones, Dodge, Iowa, Feltch, Cass.

Mr. Sturgeon offered a resolution that the Secretary inform the House that a quorum was present, and that they were now ready to proceed to business. Adopted.
 On motion of Mr. Dodge, of Iowa, it was ordered that the Senators be allowed newspapers equal to the cost of four daily papers.
 On motion it was ordered that the hour of meeting shall be 12 o'clock.

A message was received from the House, stating that a quorum was present.
 Mr. Berry submitted a resolution that a committee of two be appointed by the chair, to act with a like committee of the House, and inform the President of the United States that a quorum was present in each House, and were ready to receive any communication from him. Adopted.
 The President appointed Messrs. Berrien and Dickinson the committee on the part of the Senate. The committee retired at 25 minutes before two o'clock, and reported that the Message was received and the usual number of that and the accompanying documents were ordered to be printed.

At three o'clock the Senate adjourned.
 Hereupon after the opening of the doors this morning, the galleries were filled by a good-humored audience. The members on the floor were exchanging happy salutations with each other, all seemingly glad again to meet. A great confusion of tongues prevailed, but at 12 o'clock the speaker's voice was heard above the din calling to order. The members took their seats, and in a few minutes comparative stillness prevailed.
 The Clerk then called the roll, when 160 members answered to their names.

Mr. Hays presented a memorial of Jared Perkins, contesting the seat of George W. Morrison, which was referred to the committee on elections.
 On motion of Mr. Hillard, it was resolved, that a committee be appointed by the House to join such committee on the part of the Senate to wait on the President, and inform him that a quorum of both Houses is now in Session, and that Congress is ready to receive any communication which he may be pleased to make.
 In accordance with this resolution, Messrs. Hillard, McDowell and Duer, were appointed a committee.

Mr. Johnston, of Arkansas, offered a resolution that the members vacate their seats, and that they proceed to draw for a choice. Several amendments were proposed, one of which only was adopted, providing that Mr. Owe, of Georgia, who is sick in his bed, shall retain the privilege of drawing for his seat through a friend. The resolution, as amended, was adopted.
 The members vacated their seats, and their names were placed in a box, and as each name was drawn, the members selected their seats.

Mr. Johnston, of Arkansas, presented a memorial of the President would immediately send his Message to both Houses.
 The Message was then handed by the Speaker to the Clerk, who proceeded to read it.
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives:
 Being suddenly called, in the midst of the last session of Congress, to the painful dispensation of Divine Providence, to the responsible station which I now hold, I content myself with such communications to the Legislature as the exigency of the moment seemed to require. The year which is about to be closed in mourning for the loss of its venerated chief magistrate, and all hearts were penetrated with grief. Neither the time nor the occasion appeared to require or to justify, on my part, any general expression of political opinion, or any announcement of the principles which would govern me in the discharge of the duties to which I am now called. It may not be deemed inappropriate, if I avail myself of the opportunity of the re-assembling of Congress to make known my sentiments in a general manner, in regard to the policy which ought to be pursued by the government, both in its intercourse with foreign nations, and in its management and administration of internal affairs.

Nations, like individuals, in a state of nature, are equal and independent, possessing certain rights, and owing certain duties to each other, arising from their necessary and inavoidable relations; which rights and duties they are not common to themselves, but which they owe to the rights and duties, binding in morals, in conscience, and in honor, although there is no tribunal to which an injured party can appeal but the disinterested judgment of mankind, and ultimately the arbitration of the sword.
 Among the acknowledged rights of nations is that which each possesses of establishing that form of government which it may deem most consistent with the happiness and prosperity of its own citizens; and of changing that form, as circumstances may require; and of managing its internal affairs, according to its own will. The people of the United States claim this right for themselves, and they readily concede it to others. Hence it becomes an important duty to interfere not in the government or internal policy of other nations; and although we may sympathize with the unfortunate or oppressed, everywhere, in their struggles for freedom, our principles forbid us from taking any part in such foreign contests.

My opinion will be frankly expressed upon the leading subjects of legislation; and if, which I do not anticipate, any act should appear to me unwarranted or unjust, I should not shrink from the duty of remonstrating to you with my reasons, for your further consideration. Beyond the due performance of the constitutional obligations, both my respect for the legislature and my sense of propriety will restrain me from any attempt to control or influence your proceedings. With you is the power, the honor, and the responsibility of the legislation of the country.

The Government of the United States is a limited Government. It is confined to the exercise of powers expressly granted, and such others as may be necessary for carrying those powers into effect; and it is at all times an essential duty to guard against an infringement of the just rights of the States. Over the objects and subjects intrusted to Congress, its legislative authority is supreme. But here that authority ceases, and every citizen who truly loves the Constitution, and desires the continuance of its existence and its blessings, will zealously and firmly resist any interference in those domains intrusted to the States, and which are not unequivocally left to the exclusive authority of the States. And every such citizen will also deplore any interference with the powers of the Government of the Union, and all reproach and censure tending to alienate one portion of the country from another. The beauty of our system of government consists in the equality and equality of jurisdiction, in avoiding mutual collisions and encroachments, and in the regular separate action of all, while each is revolving in its own distinct orbit.

The Constitution has made it the duty of the President to take care that the laws be faithfully executed. In a Government like ours, in which all rights are vested in the people, and their representatives are chosen for such short periods, that any injurious or obnoxious law can very soon be repealed. It would appear unlikely that any great numbers should be found to resist the execution of the laws. But it must be borne in mind that the country is extensive, that there may be local interests or prejudices, and that the law is not so generally and uniformly popular. The law is the only sure protection of the weak, and the only efficient restraint upon the strong. When impartially and faithfully administered, none is beneath its protection, and none above its control. You, gentlemen, and the country may be assured, that to the utmost of my ability I shall endeavor to see that the laws be faithfully executed. In the discharge of this duty, solemnly imposed upon me by the Constitution, and by my oath of office, I shall shrink from no responsibility, and shall endeavor to meet every case as it may arise, with firmness, as well as with moderation. The joint Committee, reported that the President would immediately send his Message to both Houses.

The Message was then handed by the Speaker to the Clerk, who proceeded to read it.
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.
 Fellow Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives:
 Being suddenly called, in the midst of the last session of Congress, to the painful dispensation of Divine Providence, to the responsible station which I now hold, I content myself with such communications to the Legislature as the exigency of the moment seemed to require. The year which is about to be closed in mourning for the loss of its venerated chief magistrate, and all hearts were penetrated with grief. Neither the time nor the occasion appeared to require or to justify, on my part, any general expression of political opinion, or any announcement of the principles which would govern me in the discharge of the duties to which I am now called. It may not be deemed inappropriate, if I avail myself of the opportunity of the re-assembling of Congress to make known my sentiments in a general manner, in regard to the policy which ought to be pursued by the government, both in its intercourse with foreign nations, and in its management and administration of internal affairs.

Nations, like individuals, in a state of nature, are equal and independent, possessing certain rights, and owing certain duties to each other, arising from their necessary and inavoidable relations; which rights and duties they are not common to themselves, but which they owe to the rights and duties, binding in morals, in conscience, and in honor, although there is no tribunal to which an injured party can appeal but the disinterested judgment of mankind, and ultimately the arbitration of the sword.
 Among the acknowledged rights of nations is that which each possesses of establishing that form of government which it may deem most consistent with the happiness and prosperity of its own citizens; and of changing that form, as circumstances may require; and of managing its internal affairs, according to its own will. The people of the United States claim this right for themselves, and they readily concede it to others. Hence it becomes an important duty to interfere not in the government or internal policy of other nations; and although we may sympathize with the unfortunate or oppressed, everywhere, in their struggles for freedom, our principles forbid us from taking any part in such foreign contests.

My opinion will be frankly expressed upon the leading subjects of legislation; and if, which I do not anticipate, any act should appear to me unwarranted or unjust, I should not shrink from the duty of remonstrating to you with my reasons, for your further consideration. Beyond the due performance of the constitutional obligations, both my respect for the legislature and my sense of propriety will restrain me from any attempt to control or influence your proceedings. With you is the power, the honor, and the responsibility of the legislation of the country.

The Government of the United States is a limited Government. It is confined to the exercise of powers expressly granted, and such others as may be necessary for carrying those powers into effect; and it is at all times an essential duty to guard against an infringement of the just rights of the States. Over the objects and subjects intrusted to Congress, its legislative authority is supreme. But here that authority ceases, and every citizen who truly loves the Constitution, and desires the continuance of its existence and its blessings, will zealously and firmly resist any interference in those domains intrusted to the States, and which are not unequivocally left to the exclusive authority of the States. And every such citizen will also deplore any interference with the powers of the Government of the Union, and all reproach and censure tending to alienate one portion of the country from another. The beauty of our system of government consists in the equality and equality of jurisdiction, in avoiding mutual collisions and encroachments, and in the regular separate action of all, while each is revolving in its own distinct orbit.

The Constitution has made it the duty of the President to take care that the laws be faithfully executed. In a Government like ours, in which all rights are vested in the people, and their representatives are chosen for such short periods, that any injurious or obnoxious law can very soon be repealed. It would appear unlikely that any great numbers should be found to resist the execution of the laws. But it must be borne in mind that the country is extensive, that there may be local interests or prejudices, and that the law is not so generally and uniformly popular. The law is the only sure protection of the weak, and the only efficient restraint upon the strong. When impartially and faithfully administered, none is beneath its protection, and none above its control. You, gentlemen, and the country may be assured, that to the utmost of my ability I shall endeavor to see that the laws be faithfully executed. In the discharge of this duty, solemnly imposed upon me by the Constitution, and by my oath of office, I shall shrink from no responsibility, and shall endeavor to meet every case as it may arise, with firmness, as well as with moderation. The joint Committee, reported that the President would immediately send his Message to both Houses.

The Message was then handed by the Speaker to the Clerk, who proceeded to read it.
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.
 Fellow Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives:
 Being suddenly called, in the midst of the last session of Congress, to the painful dispensation of Divine Providence, to the responsible station which I now hold, I content myself with such communications to the Legislature as the exigency of the moment seemed to require. The year which is about to be closed in mourning for the loss of its venerated chief magistrate, and all hearts were penetrated with grief. Neither the time nor the occasion appeared to require or to justify, on my part, any general expression of political opinion, or any announcement of the principles which would govern me in the discharge of the duties to which I am now called. It may not be deemed inappropriate, if I avail myself of the opportunity of the re-assembling of Congress to make known my sentiments in a general manner, in regard to the policy which ought to be pursued by the government, both in its intercourse with foreign nations, and in its management and administration of internal affairs.

My opinion will be frankly expressed upon the leading subjects of legislation; and if, which I do not anticipate, any act should appear to me unwarranted or unjust, I should not shrink from the duty of remonstrating to you with my reasons, for your further consideration. Beyond the due performance of the constitutional obligations, both my respect for the legislature and my sense of propriety will restrain me from any attempt to control or influence your proceedings. With you is the power, the honor, and the responsibility of the legislation of the country.

The Government of the United States is a limited Government. It is confined to the exercise of powers expressly granted, and such others as may be necessary for carrying those powers into effect; and it is at all times an essential duty to guard against an infringement of the just rights of the States. Over the objects and subjects intrusted to Congress, its legislative authority is supreme. But here that authority ceases, and every citizen who truly loves the Constitution, and desires the continuance of its existence and its blessings, will zealously and firmly resist any interference in those domains intrusted to the States, and which are not unequivocally left to the exclusive authority of the States. And every such citizen will also deplore any interference with the powers of the Government of the Union, and all reproach and censure tending to alienate one portion of the country from another. The beauty of our system of government consists in the equality and equality of jurisdiction, in avoiding mutual collisions and encroachments, and in the regular separate action of all, while each is revolving in its own distinct orbit.

The Constitution has made it the duty of the President to take care that the laws be faithfully executed. In a Government like ours, in which all rights are vested in the people, and their representatives are chosen for such short periods, that any injurious or obnoxious law can very soon be repealed. It would appear unlikely that any great numbers should be found to resist the execution of the laws. But it must be borne in mind that the country is extensive, that there may be local interests or prejudices, and that the law is not so generally and uniformly popular. The law is the only sure protection of the weak, and the only efficient restraint upon the strong. When impartially and faithfully administered, none is beneath its protection, and none above its control. You, gentlemen, and the country may be assured, that to the utmost of my ability I shall endeavor to see that the laws be faithfully executed. In the discharge of this duty, solemnly imposed upon me by the Constitution, and by my oath of office, I shall shrink from no responsibility, and shall endeavor to meet every case as it may arise, with firmness, as well as with moderation. The joint Committee, reported that the President would immediately send his Message to both Houses.

The Message was then handed by the Speaker to the Clerk, who proceeded to read it.
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.
 Fellow Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives:
 Being suddenly called, in the midst of the last session of Congress, to the painful dispensation of Divine Providence, to the responsible station which I now hold, I content myself with such communications to the Legislature as the exigency of the moment seemed to require. The year which is about to be closed in mourning for the loss of its venerated chief magistrate, and all hearts were penetrated with grief. Neither the time nor the occasion appeared to require or to justify, on my part, any general expression of political opinion, or any announcement of the principles which would govern me in the discharge of the duties to which I am now called. It may not be deemed inappropriate, if I avail myself of the opportunity of the re-assembling of Congress to make known my sentiments in a general manner, in regard to the policy which ought to be pursued by the government, both in its intercourse with foreign nations, and in its management and administration of internal affairs.

Nations, like individuals, in a state of nature, are equal and independent, possessing certain rights, and owing certain duties to each other, arising from their necessary and inavoidable relations; which rights and duties they are not common to themselves, but which they owe to the rights and duties, binding in morals, in conscience, and in honor, although there is no tribunal to which an injured party can appeal but the disinterested judgment of mankind, and ultimately the arbitration of the sword.
 Among the acknowledged rights of nations is that which each possesses of establishing that form of government which it may deem most consistent with the happiness and prosperity of its own citizens; and of changing that form, as circumstances may require; and of managing its internal affairs, according to its own will. The people of the United States claim this right for themselves, and they readily concede it to others. Hence it becomes an important duty to interfere not in the government or internal policy of other nations; and although we may sympathize with the unfortunate or oppressed, everywhere, in their struggles for freedom, our principles forbid us from taking any part in such foreign contests.

My opinion will be frankly expressed upon the leading subjects of legislation; and if, which I do not anticipate, any act should appear to me unwarranted or unjust, I should not shrink from the duty of remonstrating to you with my reasons, for your further consideration. Beyond the due performance of the constitutional obligations, both my respect for the legislature and my sense of propriety will restrain me from any attempt to control or influence your proceedings. With you is the power, the honor, and the responsibility of the legislation of the country.

The Government of the United States is a limited Government. It is confined to the exercise of powers expressly granted, and such others as may be necessary for carrying those powers into effect; and it is at all times an essential duty to guard against an infringement of the just rights of the States. Over the objects and subjects intrusted to Congress, its legislative authority is supreme. But here that authority ceases, and every citizen who truly loves the Constitution, and desires the continuance of its existence and its blessings, will zealously and firmly resist any interference in those domains intrusted to the States, and which are not unequivocally left to the exclusive authority of the States. And every such citizen will also deplore any interference with the powers of the Government of the Union, and all reproach and censure tending to alienate one portion of the country from another. The beauty of our system of government consists in the equality and equality of jurisdiction, in avoiding mutual collisions and encroachments, and in the regular separate action of all, while each is revolving in its own distinct orbit.

The Constitution has made it the duty of the President to take care that the laws be faithfully executed. In a Government like ours, in which all rights are vested in the people, and their representatives are chosen for such short periods, that any injurious or obnoxious law can very soon be repealed. It would appear unlikely that any great numbers should be found to resist the execution of the laws. But it must be borne in mind that the country is extensive, that there may be local interests or prejudices, and that the law is not so generally and uniformly popular. The law is the only sure protection of the weak, and the only efficient restraint upon the strong. When impartially and faithfully administered, none is beneath its protection, and none above its control. You, gentlemen, and the country may be assured, that to the utmost of my ability I shall endeavor to see that the laws be faithfully executed. In the discharge of this duty, solemnly imposed upon me by the Constitution, and by my oath of office, I shall shrink from no responsibility, and shall endeavor to meet every case as it may arise, with firmness, as well as with moderation. The joint Committee, reported that the President would immediately send his Message to both Houses.

The Message was then handed by the Speaker to the Clerk, who proceeded to read it.
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.
 Fellow Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives:
 Being suddenly called, in the midst of the last session of Congress, to the painful dispensation of Divine Providence, to the responsible station which I now hold, I content myself with such communications to the Legislature as the exigency of the moment seemed to require. The year which is about to be closed in mourning for the loss of its venerated chief magistrate, and all hearts were penetrated with grief. Neither the time nor the occasion appeared to require or to justify, on my part, any general expression of political opinion, or any announcement of the principles which would govern me in the discharge of the duties to which I am now called. It may not be deemed inappropriate, if I avail myself of the opportunity of the re-assembling of Congress to make known my sentiments in a general manner, in regard to the policy which ought to be pursued by the government, both in its intercourse with foreign nations, and in its management and administration of internal affairs.

My opinion will be frankly expressed upon the leading subjects of legislation; and if, which I do not anticipate, any act should appear to me unwarranted or unjust, I should not shrink from the duty of remonstrating to you with my reasons, for your further consideration. Beyond the due performance of the constitutional obligations, both my respect for the legislature and my sense of propriety will restrain me from any attempt to control or influence your proceedings. With you is the power, the honor, and the responsibility of the legislation of the country.

The Government of the United States is a limited Government. It is confined to the exercise of powers expressly granted, and such others as may be necessary for carrying those powers into effect; and it is at all times an essential duty to guard against an infringement of the just rights of the States. Over the objects and subjects intrusted to Congress, its legislative authority is supreme. But here that authority ceases, and every citizen who truly loves the Constitution, and desires the continuance of its existence and its blessings, will zealously and firmly resist any interference in those domains intrusted to the States, and which are not unequivocally left to the exclusive authority of the States. And every such citizen will also deplore any interference with the powers of the Government of the Union, and all reproach and censure tending to alienate one portion of the country from another. The beauty of our system of government consists in the equality and equality of jurisdiction, in avoiding mutual collisions and encroachments, and in the regular separate action of all, while each is revolving in its own distinct orbit.

The Constitution has made it the duty of the President to take care that the laws be faithfully executed. In a Government like ours, in which all rights are vested in the people, and their representatives are chosen for such short periods, that any injurious or obnoxious law can very soon be repealed. It would appear unlikely that any great numbers should be found to resist the execution of the laws. But it must be borne in mind that the country is extensive, that there may be local interests or prejudices, and that the law is not so generally and uniformly popular. The law is the only sure protection of the weak, and the only efficient restraint upon the strong. When impartially and faithfully administered, none is beneath its protection, and none above its control. You, gentlemen, and the country may be assured, that to the utmost of my ability I shall endeavor to see that the laws be faithfully executed. In the discharge of this duty, solemnly imposed upon me by the Constitution, and by my oath of office, I shall shrink from no responsibility, and shall endeavor to meet every case as it may arise, with firmness, as well as with moderation. The joint Committee, reported that the President would immediately send his Message to both Houses.

The Message was then handed by the Speaker to the Clerk, who proceeded to read it.
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.
 Fellow Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives:
 Being suddenly called, in the midst of the last session of Congress, to the painful dispensation of Divine Providence, to the responsible station which I now hold, I content myself with such communications to the Legislature as the exigency of the moment seemed to require. The year which is about to be closed in mourning for the loss of its venerated chief magistrate, and all hearts were penetrated with grief. Neither the time nor the occasion appeared to require or to justify, on my part, any general expression of political opinion, or any announcement of the principles which would govern me in the discharge of the duties to which I am now called. It may not be deemed inappropriate, if I avail myself of the opportunity of the re-assembling of Congress to make known my sentiments in a general manner, in regard to the policy which ought to be pursued by the government, both in its intercourse with foreign nations, and in its management and administration of internal affairs.

Nations, like individuals, in a state of nature, are equal and independent, possessing certain rights, and owing certain duties to each other, arising from their necessary and inavoidable relations; which rights and duties they are not common to themselves, but which they owe to the rights and duties, binding in morals, in conscience, and in honor, although there is no tribunal to which an injured party can appeal but the disinterested judgment of mankind, and ultimately the arbitration of the sword.
 Among the acknowledged rights of nations is that which each possesses of establishing that form of government which it may deem most consistent with the happiness and prosperity of its own citizens; and of changing that form, as circumstances may require; and of managing its internal affairs, according to its own will. The people of the United States claim this right for themselves, and they readily concede it to others. Hence it becomes an important duty to interfere not in the government or internal policy of other nations; and although we may sympathize with the unfortunate or oppressed, everywhere, in their struggles for freedom, our principles forbid us from taking any part in such foreign contests.

My opinion will be frankly expressed upon the leading subjects of legislation; and if, which I do not anticipate, any act should appear to me unwarranted or unjust, I should not shrink from the duty of remonstrating to you with my reasons, for your further consideration. Beyond the due performance of the constitutional obligations, both my respect for the legislature and my sense of propriety will restrain me from any attempt to control or influence your proceedings. With you is the power, the honor, and the responsibility of the legislation of the country.

The Government of the United States is a limited Government. It is confined to the exercise of powers expressly granted, and such others as may be necessary for carrying those powers into effect; and it is at all times an essential duty to guard against an infringement of the just rights of the States. Over the objects and subjects intrusted to Congress, its legislative authority is supreme. But here that authority ceases, and every citizen who truly loves the Constitution, and desires the continuance of its existence and its blessings, will zealously and firmly resist any interference in those domains intrusted to the States, and which are not unequivocally left to the exclusive authority of the States. And every such citizen will also deplore any interference with the powers of the Government of the Union, and all reproach and censure tending to alienate one portion of the country from another. The beauty of our system of government consists in the equality and equality of jurisdiction, in avoiding mutual collisions and encroachments, and in the regular separate action of all, while each is revolving in its own distinct orbit.

The Constitution has made it the duty of the President to take care that the laws be faithfully executed. In a Government like ours, in which all rights are vested in the people, and their representatives are chosen for such short periods, that any injurious or obnoxious law can very soon be repealed. It would appear unlikely that any great numbers should be found to resist the execution of the laws. But it must be borne in mind that the country is extensive, that there may be local interests or prejudices, and that the law is not so generally and uniformly popular. The law is the only sure protection of the weak, and the only efficient restraint upon the strong. When impartially and faithfully administered, none is beneath its protection, and none above its control. You, gentlemen, and the country may be assured, that to the utmost of my ability I shall endeavor to see that the laws be faithfully executed. In the discharge of this duty, solemnly imposed upon me by the Constitution, and by my oath of office, I shall shrink from no responsibility, and shall endeavor to meet every case as it may arise, with firmness, as well as with moderation. The joint Committee, reported that the President would immediately send his Message to both Houses.

The Message was then handed by the Speaker to the Clerk, who proceeded to read it.
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.
 Fellow Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives:
 Being suddenly called, in the midst of the last session of Congress, to the painful dispensation of Divine Providence, to the responsible station which I now hold, I content myself with such communications to the Legislature as the exigency of the moment seemed to require. The year which is about to be closed in mourning for the loss of its venerated chief magistrate, and all hearts were penetrated with grief. Neither the time nor the occasion appeared to require or to justify, on my part, any general expression of political opinion, or any announcement of the principles which would govern me in the discharge of the duties to which I am now called. It may not be deemed inappropriate, if I avail myself of the opportunity of the re-assembling of Congress to make known my sentiments in a general manner, in regard to the policy which ought to be pursued by the government, both in its intercourse with foreign nations, and in its management and administration of internal affairs.

My opinion will be frankly expressed upon the leading subjects of legislation; and if, which I do not anticipate, any act should appear to me unwarranted or unjust, I should not shrink from the duty of remonstrating to you with my reasons, for your further consideration. Beyond the due performance of the constitutional obligations, both my respect for the legislature and my sense of propriety will restrain me from any attempt to control or influence your proceedings. With you is the power, the honor, and the responsibility of the legislation of the country.

The Government of the United States is a limited Government. It is confined to the exercise of powers expressly granted, and such others as may be necessary for carrying those powers into effect; and it is at all times an essential duty to guard against an infringement of the just rights of the States. Over the objects and subjects intrusted to Congress, its legislative authority is supreme. But here that authority ceases, and every citizen who truly loves the Constitution, and desires the continuance of its existence and its blessings, will zealously and firmly resist any interference in those domains intrusted to the States, and which are not unequivocally left to the exclusive authority of the States. And every such citizen will also deplore any interference with the powers of the Government of the Union, and all reproach and censure tending to alienate one portion of the country from another. The beauty of our system of government consists in the equality and equality of jurisdiction, in avoiding mutual collisions and encroachments, and in the regular separate action of all, while each is revolving in its own distinct orbit.

The Constitution has made it the duty of the President to take care that the laws be faithfully executed. In a Government like ours, in which all rights are vested in the people, and their representatives are chosen for such short periods, that any injurious or obnoxious law can very soon be repealed. It would appear unlikely that any great numbers should be found to resist the execution of the laws. But it must be borne in mind that the country is extensive, that there may be local interests or prejudices, and that the law is not so generally and uniformly popular. The law is the only sure protection of the weak, and the only efficient restraint upon the strong. When impartially and faithfully administered, none is beneath its protection, and none above its control. You, gentlemen, and the country may be assured, that to the utmost of my ability I shall endeavor to see that the laws be faithfully executed. In the discharge of this duty, solemnly imposed upon me by the Constitution, and by my oath of office, I shall shrink from no responsibility, and shall endeavor to meet every case as it may arise, with firmness, as well as with moderation. The joint Committee, reported that the President would immediately send his Message to both Houses.

The Message was then handed by the Speaker to the Clerk, who proceeded to read it.
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.
 Fellow Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives:
 Being suddenly called, in the midst of the last session of Congress, to the painful dispensation of Divine Providence, to the responsible station which I now hold, I content myself with such communications to the Legislature as the exigency of the moment seemed to require. The year which is about to be closed in mourning for the loss of its venerated chief magistrate, and all hearts were penetrated with grief. Neither the time nor the occasion appeared to require or to justify, on my part, any general expression of political opinion, or any announcement of the principles which would govern me in the discharge of the duties to which I am now called. It may not be deemed inappropriate, if I avail myself of the opportunity of the re-assembling of Congress to make known my sentiments in a general manner, in regard to the policy which ought to be pursued by the government, both in its intercourse with foreign nations, and in its management and administration of internal affairs.

Nations, like individuals, in a state of nature, are equal and independent, possessing certain rights, and owing certain duties to each other, arising from their necessary and inavoidable relations; which rights and duties they are not common to themselves, but which they owe to the rights and duties, binding in morals, in conscience, and in honor, although there is no tribunal to which an injured party can appeal but the disinterested judgment of mankind, and ultimately the arbitration of the sword.
 Among the acknowledged rights of nations is that which each possesses of establishing that form of government which it may deem most consistent with the happiness and prosperity of its own citizens; and of changing that form, as circumstances may require; and of managing its internal affairs, according to its own will. The people of the United States claim this right for themselves, and they readily concede it to others. Hence it becomes an important duty to interfere not in the government or internal policy of other nations; and although we may sympathize with the unfortunate or oppressed, everywhere, in their struggles for freedom, our principles forbid us from taking any part in such foreign contests.

My opinion will be frankly expressed upon the leading subjects of legislation; and if, which I do not anticipate, any act should appear to me unwarranted or unjust, I should not shrink from the duty of remonstrating to you with my reasons, for your further consideration. Beyond the due performance of the constitutional obligations, both my respect for the legislature and my sense of propriety will restrain me from any attempt to control or influence your proceedings. With you is the power, the honor, and the responsibility of the legislation of the country.

The Government of the United States is a limited Government. It is confined to the exercise of powers expressly granted, and such others as may be necessary for carrying those powers into effect; and it is at all times an essential duty to guard against an infringement of the just rights of the States. Over the objects and subjects intrusted to Congress, its legislative authority is supreme. But here that authority ceases, and every citizen who truly loves the Constitution, and desires the continuance of its existence and its blessings, will zealously and firmly resist any interference in those domains intrusted to the States, and which are not unequivocally left to the exclusive authority of the States. And every such citizen will also deplore any interference with the powers of the Government of the Union, and all reproach and censure tending to alienate one portion of the country from another. The beauty of our system of government consists in the equality and equality of jurisdiction, in avoiding mutual collisions and encroachments, and in the regular separate action of all, while each is revolving in its own distinct orbit.

The Constitution has made it the duty of the President to take care that the laws be faithfully executed. In a Government like ours, in which all rights are vested in the people, and their representatives are chosen for such short periods, that any injurious or obnoxious law can very soon be repealed. It would appear unlikely that any great numbers should be found to resist the execution of the laws. But it must be borne in mind that the country is extensive, that there may be local interests or prejudices, and that the law is not so generally and uniformly popular. The law is the only sure protection of the weak, and the only efficient restraint upon the strong. When impartially and faithfully administered, none is beneath its protection, and none above its control. You, gentlemen, and the country may be assured, that to the utmost of my ability I shall endeavor to see that the laws be faithfully executed. In the discharge of this duty, solemnly imposed upon me by the Constitution, and by my oath of office, I shall shrink from no responsibility, and shall endeavor to meet every case as it may arise, with firmness, as well as with moderation. The joint Committee, reported that the President would immediately send his Message to both Houses.

The Message was then handed by the Speaker to the Clerk, who proceeded to read it.
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.
 Fellow Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives:
 Being suddenly called, in the midst of the last session of Congress, to the painful dispensation of Divine Providence, to the responsible station which I now hold, I content myself with such communications to the Legislature as the exigency of the moment seemed to require. The year which is about to be closed in mourning for the loss of its venerated chief magistrate, and all hearts were penetrated with grief. Neither the time nor the occasion appeared to require or to justify, on my part, any general expression of political opinion, or any announcement of the principles which would govern me in the discharge of the duties to which I am now called. It may not be deemed inappropriate, if I avail myself of the opportunity of the re-assembling of Congress to make known my sentiments in a general manner, in regard to the policy which ought to be pursued by the government, both in its intercourse with foreign nations, and in its management and administration of internal affairs.