" WE JOIN OURSELVES TO NO PARTY THAT DOES NOT CARRY THE PLAC AND KEEP STEP TO THE MUSIC OF THE UNION."

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Representatives :

Our deep an I heartfelt gratitude is due to that Almighty Power which has bestowed spoin as such variet and numerous blessings throughout the past year. The general health of the country has been excellent; our harveste have been unusually plentiful, and prosperity smiles throughout the land. Indeel, not withstan ling our demerits, we have much reason to believe from the past events in our history, that we have enjoyed the special protection of Divina Providedus ever since our origin as a nation. We have been exposed to many threatening and alarming difficulties in our progress; but on each successive occasion the impending cloud has been dissipated at the moment it appeared ready to burst upon our head, and the danger to our institutions has passed away. May weever he under the divine guidance and pro-

Whilst it is the duty of the President "fron time, to time to gige tir Congress in form tion of the state of the Union," I shall not refer in de ail to the recent and and bloody occurrences at Harper's Ferry. Still, it is prope. to observe that these events however bad and cruel in themselves, derive their chief importance from the apprehension that they are but evenpons of an incurable disease in the public mind, which may brack out in s'ill more dangerous outrages and terminate at last in an open war by the North to abolish slavery in the South. Whilst, for myself. I entertain no such approbancion, they ought to affind a solemn warning to us all to beware of the approach of danger. Our Union is a stake of such inestimable value as to demand our constant and watchful rigilance for its preservation. In this view let me implore my countrymen, North and Smith, to cultivate the ancient feelings of mutual for bearance and good will toward each other, and strive to allay the demon spirit of sectional hatred and strife now alive in the land. This advice proceeds from the bear. of an old functionary wh se suvices commended in the last generation, among the wise and conservative streams of that day, now nearly all passed away, and whose first, and dearest earthly with is to leave his country tranquil, pro-perous, united and power-

We aught to reflect that in this age, and especially in this country, there is an incasant flux and reflux of public opinion. Questhreatening aspect have now nearly gone from the memory of man. They are "voica noes burnt out, and on the lava and ashes and squalled spring of old scuptions grow the praceful olive, the cheering vine, and the sastaining corn. Such, in my opinim, will prove to be the five of the present sign innel excitement about those who wisely seek to apply the remedy, continue always to confide their eff ats within the pule of the Constitution. If this course bet po sted, the existing like everthing him in, will have its day and traversies. Public coinion in this country is fall-p worful, and when it reaches a dangerous expass upon any quistion, the good sense of the people will furnish the corrective and bring it bick within safe limit. Bull, to but on this auspicious result, at the present crisis, we ought to remander that every retional greature must be pre-uned to infend the natural consequences of his own teachings. Those who announce alistract doctrines subversive of the Constitution and the Union. must not be surprised should their heare ! partizins a lvance one step firther, an l'attempt by violence to carry those doctrines into prairtical effact: In this view of the subject it ought never to be forgotten that, however great man have been the political advanta ges resulting from the Uni in to ever portion of our common country, these would all prove to be as nothing should the time ever asrive when they cannot be enjoyel without serious danger to the personal safety of the people of fitten mambers of the Confederacy. If the passe of the dome-ti fireside through out these States should ever be invaled -if the mothers of families within this extensive region should not be able to ratire to rest at night without suffering draudful, apprehen sions of what muy he their own fate and that of their children before the morning -it would be vain to recount to such a people the prlitical benefit: which result to them from the Union. Self-preservation is the first instinct of nature; and therefore any state of society in which the sword is all the time suspended over the heads of the people must at last he come intolerable. But I indulge in no eno's gloomy fo abolings. On the contrary, I firm-Ir believe that the events at Herper's Ferre. by causing the people to pau e and reflect upon the possible peril to their cherished ins'i'u ions will, be the mean, under Providenne, of allaving the existing excitament and preventing future outbreaks of a similar character. They will resolve that the Constitution and the Union shall not be en lan gered by rash counsels, knowing that, should "the silver chord be lossed or the golden bowl be broken " at the fountain." human nawer could never requite the scattered and has ile fragments.

I confielly congretulate you upon the final settlement by the Suprema. Court of the United States of the question of slavery in the Territories, which had presented an aspect so truly for midable at the commence property of any kind, including slaves, into bad arrived. the common Territories belonging equally to all the States of the Confederacy, and to have Constitution had expended much labor in a distinguished citizen of Georgia, was duly and ascertained by the Spanish Government all the States of the Confederacy, and to have to insutution mad expequed much in protected there are the Rederal Constitution. Neither Congress nor a Territorial Legislature nor any human nower has any legislature nor any leg authority to annul or impair this vested right. have taken so much care to protect the States na ion on the 5th of February, 1858, bearing ment for the purpose of distribution among The angreme judicial tribunal of the country, against the exercise of this power before that with him the ratified copy of this treaty, and the claimants in the Amistad case." In comwhich is a co-ordinate branch of the Govern- period. Nays more, they would not have arrived at Shanghai on the 28th of May. mon with two of my predecessors, I entertain ment, has a unclosed and affirmed these print attached such wast importance to this pro- From thence he proceeded to Peking on the no doubt that this is required by our Treaty in themselves, and so well calculated to pro- bility of future repeal or amendment, to until the 27th of July. According to the failure to discharge this obligation has been in the measures, and an well calculated to propointy of inverse repeat or amountains, to until the 27th of stage, According to the failure to discharge this configuration terms of the treaty the ratifications were exthis a air king proof of the sense of justice were exposed. It would then, have been changed on or before the 18 b of June, 1859. Even throughout the late tryibles in Kaness viso, "that my amendment which may be thorities at Shanghai to state that they al. My opinions on that measure remain unthere has not been any attempt, at I am credit made prior to the very one thousand eight ways assured him no advantage should be changed. It therefore, again invite the seritaken of the delay, and this pledge has been one attention of Congress to this important. ibly informed to interfere in a single-instance, bundled au eight such the right of the mister. Had any such feet" the provision in the Constitution secur- faithfully redeemed.

Subject. Without a recognition of this poliattempt heen made, the indiciary would ing to States the right to a limit the imporon the arrival of Mr. Ward at Peking he cy on their part, it will be almost impossible

the several States. Thus has the status of a Territory, during

the intermediate period from its first settlement until it abell become a S'ate, been irrevocably fixed by the final delision of the the properity of the Territories as well as the the coast. Such a force no State can employ tranquility of the States. Now, emigrants in time of peace without the consent of Conform the North and the South, the East and grees. the West, will meet in the Territories on a common platform, having brought with them. that species of property best adapted, in their own opinion, to promote their wellfare. From

us ural causes the slavery question will in each cass soon wirtually settle itself; and before the Territory is prepared for admission as a State into the Union, this decision, one way or the other, will have been a foregone conclusion. Meanwhile the settlement of the new Territory will proceed without serious interruption, and its progress and prosperity will not be endangered or retarded by violent political struggles.

When in the progress of events the inhabitants of any Territory shall have reached the number required to form a State, they will the exercise of the rights of popular soreeignty, to form a Constitution preparatory to admission into the Union. After this has been done, to employ the language of the Kenses and Nebrasks act, they "shall be re ceived into the Union with or without slaverv. as their Constitution may prescribe at the time of their almission." This sound princiboth houses of the last Congress.

All lawful means at my command have been employed, and shall continue to be embeen imported into the United States except the cargo by the Wanderer, numbering between three and four hundred. Those engagai in this unlawful enterprise have been igo only projecusel; but not with as much success as their crimes deserved. A number of them are still under prosecution.

Our history prives that the Eathers of the Rapublic, in advance of other nations, condemied the African slave trade. It was notsignification on the subject of domestic slavery ers of the Constitution to deprive Congress of the power to prohibit "the migration or importlation of such persons as any of the Status now existing shall think proper to admit". prior to the year one thousand eight hun dred and eight.",
It will be seen that this restriction on the

wher S ares or to the trade carried on abroad Accordingly, we find that so early as the 221 of March, 1794, Congress passed an act imposing severe penalties and punishments spon citizens and residents of the United States who should engage in this trade between to eign nations. The provisions of this act were extended and enforced by the act of 10 b M iy, 1850. 😁

Again: Tue States themselves had a clear ight to waive the constitutional privilege insteaded for their benefit, and to prohibit, by their own laws, this trade at any time they thought proper previous to 1808. Several of them exercised this right before that period. and mong them some containing the greatest number of slaves. This gave to Congress the immediate power to act in regard to all such States, because they themselves had removed the constitutional barrier. | Congress accordingly passed an act on the 28th Feb. 1803, "to prevent the importation of certain persons into certain States where, by the laws thereof, their admission is prohibited." In this manner the importation of African slaves into the United States was, to a great extent,

prob bite I some years in advance of 1808. As the year 1808 approudied, Congress determined not to suffer this trade to exist even for a single day after they had the power to ab lish it. On the 2d of March, 1807. they pased an sot to take effect "from and after the 1st day of January, 1808," probibit ing the importation of African slaves into the United States. This was followed by subsequent acts of a similar character, to which I need not specially refer. Such were the principles and such the practice of our ancestors more than fifty years ago in regard to the African slave trade.

It did not occur to the revered patriots who had been Delegates to the Convention. and afterwards became members of Congress that in passing these laws they had violated the Constitution which ther had framed with so much dare and deliberation. They up losed that to prohibit Congress, in express terms, from exerci-ing a specified power bement of my administration. The right has fore an appointed day, necessarily involved been established of every nitizen to take his the right to exercise this power after that day

If this was not the case, the framers of the property in slaves has never been disturbed, ticle of the Constitution, prescribing the to my knowledge, in any of the Territories, in ide of its own future amendment, the pro-

and its baneful influence would keep alive a when once brought within the limits of any dangerous excitament among the people of one State, in accordance with its laws, cannot where slavery exists. And even if all the States had separately passed laws prohibiting the importation of slaves, these laws before its p would have failed of effect for want of a natithe Senate. Supreme Court. Fortunate has this been for val force to capture the slavers and to guard the coast. Such a force no State can employ

These acts of Congress, it is believed, have, domestic slaves. During this period their that of any other portion of the African race. The light and ble-sings of Christianity have been extended to them, and both their moral and physical condition has been greatly im proved. Re-open the trade, and it would be difficult to determine whether the effect would be more deleterious on the interests of the master or on those of the na ive born slaves. Of the evils to the master, the one most to be dreaded would be the introducthen proceed, in a regular manner, and in tion of wild, heathen, and ignorant barbariana Minister. These conventions bear date at among the sober, orderly, and quiet slave, Shanghai on the 8th November, 1858. Havwhose ancestors have been on the soil for ing been considered in the light, of binding several generations. This might tend to bar- agreements subsidiary to the principal treaty, barize, demoralize, and exasperate the whole and to be carried into execution without de

quences. The effect upon the exi-ting slave would, if possible be still more deplurable. At pres-ent he is treated with kindness and humani-proceeding in good faith to satisfy the claims ple has happily been renggaized, in some for n ent he is treated with kindness and humanior other, by an almost unanimous vote of ty. He is well fed, well clothed, and not overworked. His condition is incomparably the other provisions of the conventions. Still better than that of the coolies which modern I thought it was proper to submit them to nations of high civilization have employed the Senate, by which they were ratified on ployed, to execute the laws against the Af. as a substitute for African slaves. Both the the 3d of March, 1859. The ratified copies, rican slave-trade. After a most careful and phitanth ophy and the self-interest of the however, did not reach Shanghai until after rigorous examination of our coasts and a master have combined to produce this hu- the departure of our minister to Peking, and thorough investigation of the subject, we have mane result. But let this trade be re-opened, these conventions could not, therefore, be exnot been able to discover that any slaves have and what will be the effect! The same, to a changed at the same time with the principal considerable extent, as on a neighboring is treaty. No doubt is entertained that they land—the only spot on earth where the African slave trade is openly tolerated; and Government, should this be thought advisable; this in defiance of solemn treaties wi h a pow- but, under the circum-tances presented, er abundantly able at any moment to enforce shall consider them binding engagements their execution. There the master intent up- upon both parties, and cause them to be pub on present gain; extorts from the slave as li-liel as such for the information and guidmuch labor as his physical powers are capa | ance of our merchants trading with the Chinese ble of enduring-knowing that, when death empire. comes to his relief, his place can be supplied at a price reduced to the lowest point by the vou that all our difficulties with the Republic compettion of rival African slave-traders, of Paraguay have been satisfactorily adjusted. Should this ever be the case in our country -which I do not deem possible-the pres- ploy the force for this purpose which Conent useful character of the dome-tic institu | gress had placed at my command, under their tion, where those too old and too young to joint resolution of 3il June, 1858. On the Is'and in the British sloop of war Satelite, whole of Mexico, a resort to hostilities against work are provided for with care and human contrary, the President of that Republic, in and threatened to take "this American (Mr. it would have been quite justifiable and inity, and those capable of labor are not over a friendly spirit, acceded promptly to the just power of Congress was confined to such States ta ked, would undergo an unfortunate change. and reasonable demand of the Government of only as might think proper to admit the im. The feeling of reciprocal dependence and at- the United States. Our Commi sioner arrivportation of slaves. It did not extend to tachment which now exists between unster ed at Assumption, the capital of the Republic,

> distrust and hos liity. al nation to consider what would be the ef- objects of his mission. The treaties which he fect upon unhappy Africa itself if we should has concluded will be immediately submitted te open the slave-trade. This would give the to the Senate.
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> trade an impulse and extension which it has In the view that the employment of other

this trade, we may then indulge a reasonable hope for the gradual improvement of Aftribes will cease whenever there is no longer commerce. In this manuer Christianity and service. civilization may gradually penetrate the ex-

Government toward China has been vindit ble conduct of the officers and men employcated by the event. Whilst we sustained a ed in it, have had a happy effect in favor of neatral position in the war waged by Great our country throughout all that remote por-Britain and France against the Chinese em- tion of the world. pire, our late minister in obedience to his instructions, judiciously co-operated with the France and Russia, as well as with all other ministers of these powers in all peaceful governments on the continent of Europe, un-measures to secure by treaty the just conces-less we may except that of Spain, happily and commerce," with that empire, was con- the 'Cuban claims," the payment of which cluded at Tientsin on the 18th of June, 1858, has been ably urged by our Ministers, and in

This was rendered impossible by reasons and . I need not repeat the arguments which events beyond his control, not necessary to urged in my last anual Message in favor of

then be time enough to strengthen their clause itself on which so much care and dis- obtain, in consequence of his very proper re-Filling citizine of the Senate and House of hands by futher legislation. Had it been cussion had been employed by the members fusal to submit to the humiliating ceremonies decided that either Congress or the Terri orial of the Convention, was an absolute nullity required by the eliquette of this atrange peodecided that either Congress or the Terri orial of the Convention, was an absolute nutity required by the enqueue of the arrange property in slaves the evil been done under it a mere usurpation. pair the right to property in slaves, the evil been done under it a mere usurpation.

It was well and wise to confer this power would be intolerable. In the latter event, there would be a struggle for a majority of the States, its efficient exercise would have the members of the Legislature at each success.

It was well and wise to confer this power conducted in the most friendly spirit and upon Congress; because, had it been left to the States, its efficient exercise would have the honor of his country. When a presentative description of the Legislature at each success. sive election, and the sacred rights of proper- been impossible. In that event any one State tion to his Majesty was found to be impossity held under the Federal Constitution would could have effectually continued the trade ble, the letter of credence from the Pre-ident depend for the time being on the result, not only for itself but for all the other slave was received with peculiar honora by Kweil-The agitation would thus be rendered inces. States, though never so much against their sant whilst the Territorial condition remained, will. And why t Because African slaves, second man in the empire to the Emperor ments. It is, nevertheless, confidently expec-

second man in the empire to the Emperor ments. It is, nevertheless, confidently expec-himself." The ratifications of the treaty were ted that this good work will ere long be acafterwards, on the 16th of August, exchanged practically be excluded from any other State in proper form at Poi-tsang. As the exchange did not take place until after the day prescribed by the treaty, it is deemed proper, before its publication, again to submit it to

It is but simple justice to the Chinese authorities to observe, that throughout the whole transaction, they appear to have acted in good faith and in a friendly spirit towards the United States. It is true this has been with very rare and insignificant exceptions, done after their own peculial fashion; but we accomplished their purpose. For a period of ought to regard with a lenient eye the an-more than half a century there has been no cient customs of an empire dating back for cient customs of an empire dating back for perceptible addition to the number of our thousands of year, so far as this may be con sistent with our own national honor. The advancement in civilization has far surpassed conduct of our minister on the occasion has received my entire approbation.

In order to carry out the spirit of this trea-ty, and to give it full effect, it becomes nece sary to conclude two supplemental conventions-the one for the adjustment and sati-faction of the claims of our citizens, and the other to fix the tariff on imports and exports, and to regulate the transit duties and rade of our merchants with China. This duty was satisfactorily performed by our late mass, and produce most deplorable conse- lay, they do not provide for any formal ratification or exchange of ratifications by the contracting parties. This was not deemed of our citizens, and, it is hoped, to carry out will be ratified and exchanged by the Chinese

It affords me much satisfaction to inform and slave would be converted into mutual on the 25th of January, 1859, and left it on But we are obliged as a Christian and mor- ably and successfully accomplished all the

never had even in its palmiest days. The than peaceful means might become necessary numerous viotims required to supply it to obtain "just satisfaction" from Paraguay, would convert the whole slave coast into a a strong naval force was concentrated in the perfect Pandemonium, for which this coun- waters of the La Plata to await contingencies, try would be held responsible in the eyes whilst our commissioner ascended the river both of God and man. . Its petty tribes would to Assumption. The Navy Department is enthen be constantly engaged in predatory war | titled to great credit for the promptness, effiagainst each other for the purpose of seizing | viency, and economy with which this expedislaves to supply the American market. All tion was fitted out and conducted. It conhopes of African civilization would thus be sisted of nineteen armed vessels, great and on the other hand, when a market for Afsmall, carrying 200 guns and 2,500 men, all rican slaves shall no longer be furnished in lant Shubrick. The jentire expenses of the Caba, and thus all the world be closed against expedition have, been defrayed out of the ordinary appropriations for the naval service, except the sum of \$289,000 applied to the rica. The chief motive of war among the purchase of seven of the steamers, constituting a part of it, under the authority of the naval any demand for slaves. The resources of that appropriation act of the 3d March last. It fertile but miserable country might then be is believed that these steamers are worth developed by the hand of industry and afford more than their cost, and they are all now subjects for legitimate foreign and domestic usefully and actively employed in the naval

The appearance of so large a force, fitted isting gloom.

Out in such a prompt manner, in the far dis-

sions demanded by the interests of foreign continue to be of the most friendly character. commerce. The tesuit is that satisfactory. In my last annual Message I presented a reative have been concluded with China by statement of the unsatisfactory conditions of the respective ministers of the United States, our relations with Spain; and I regret to say Great Britian, France, and Russia. Our that this has not materially improved. Withtreaty or general convention of peace, amity out special reference to other claims, even and was ratified by the President, by and which more than a hundred of our citizens with the advice and consent of the Senate, are directly interested, remain unsatisfied, on the 21-t December following.

On the 15th Dember, 1858, John E. Ward, amount (\$128,635,54) had been recognized

Should they fail to do this heresfier it will According to the adverse construction, the sent his letter of aredence. This he did not prospect of success.

Until a recent period there was good reason necessary to leave much to his discretion, and taken away and has been himself banished. treaty arrangements with the republics of Honduras and Nicaragua, in pursuance of ted that this good work will ere long be accomplished. Whilst indulging the hope that no other subject remained which could disturb the

good understanding between the two countries, the question arising out of the adverse claims of the parties to the Island of San Ju-June, 1846, suddenly assumed a threatening prominence. In order to prevent unfortunate vent this, the Governor was instructed "that military rebellion had assigned the supreme the officers of the Territory should abstain power of the rapublic to General Zulonga,from all acts on the disputed grounds which are calculated to provoke any conflicts, so far as it can be done without implying the concession to the authorities of Great Britain of tle ought to be settled before either party should attempt to exclude the other by force.

or exercise complete and exclusive sovereign rights within the fairly-disputed limits." In acknowledging the receipt on the next day of Mr. Marcy's note, the British Minister. instructions to that officer," and stating that British North America," and had "carnestly recommended to his Excellency to take such measures as to him may appear best calculaauthorities and the inhabitants of the neigh borhood of the line in question, the exercise of the same spirit of forbearance which is inculcated by you [Mr. Marcy] on the authorities and citizens of the United States."

Thus matters remained upon the faith of when Gen Harney paid a visit to the Island. | party. He found upon it twenty-five American residents with their families, and also an estabthe spot. The affair then ended."

pany on Bellevue, or San Juan Island, on promptly obeyed, and a military post was established at the place designated. The force was afterwards increased, so that by the last return the whole number of troops then on the island amounted in aggregate to 691 men. Whilst I do not deem it proper on the present occasion to go further into the subject. and discuss the weight which ought to be attached to the statements of the Bitish Colonial authorities, contesting the accuracy of present his own reasons for issuing the order to Captain Pickett. From these it was quite clear his object was to prevent the British authorities on Vancouver's Lland from exerciing juris liction over American residents on

hem against the incursions of the Indians. throughout that region, and serious danger the vicinity, and it is but an act of simple ernment. ustice to the admiral on that station to state instructions.

been a great calamity for both nations had rears. We have been nominally at peace they been precipitated into acts of hostility. not on the question of title to the island, but merely concerning what should be its condi- have visited the country as merchants, ship- eats of all commercial countries fequire that tion during the intervening period whilst the masters, or in other capacities are concerned, two governments might be employed in set- we might as well have been at war." Life to render not only by virtue of our neighbortling the question to which of them it belongs, has been in-course, property unprotested, and hood to Mexico, along whose territory was For this reason, Lientenant General Scott was trade impossible except at the risk of loss have a continuous frontier of nearly a thousdespatched on the 17th of September last to which prudent men cannot be expected to and miles, but by virtue also of our establish-Washington territory to take immediate com- incur. mand of the United States forces on the Pacific coast should he deem this necessary .- ditures enterered into by the central governthe main object of his mission was to carry ment, have been set at defiance by the local out the spirit of the precautionary arrange- governments. Peaceful American residents, Maxico are before the world, and must deeply ment, between the late Secretary of State occupying their lawful possessions, have been and the British Minister, and thus to preserve suddenly expelled the country, in defiance of ment which is either unwilling or unable to the passe and prevent collision between the treaties, and by the mere force of arbitrary redress such wrongs, is described to its, highest British and American authorities pending the power. Even the course of justice has not duties. The difficulty con-ists in asserting negotiations between the two governments,—been safe from control, and a recent decree and enforcing the remady. We may in vain Entertaining no doubt of the validity of our of Miramon permits the intervention of government at title. I need scarcely add that, in any event, ernment in all suits where either party is a Vera Cruz, although it is well disposed to do American citizens were to be placed on a foot-preigner. Vessels of the United States have ing at least as favorable as that of British been seized without law, and a consular offi-nuthority is acknowledged in all the import-Rickett's company should ramain on the isbeen fined and imprisoned for distance from the same of action and in the authorities. Military contributions bare the distance from the seene of action, and in been levied in violation of every principle of civity, where nearly all the recent outrages

to believe that I should be able to announce I am happy to state the event has proven that From a conflict of authority in different parts to you on the present occasion that our difficulties with Great Britain, arising out of the to more competent hands. General Scott has paid in one place have been exacted over recently returned from his mission, having again in another place. Large numbers of adjusted in a manner slike honorable and successfully accomplished its objects, and there our citizens have been arrested and imprison-

gotiations

At the same election a new Congress was cho-The Constitution provided that in the absence his office should devolve upon the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and General Comonfort having left the country, this functions enajuato a constitutional government. Before this was officially known, however, at the capital, the government of Zuloaga had been reexpressed his entire concurrence in the pro- stitutional President, nevertheless, maintainpriety of the course recommended to the Gov | ed his position with firmness, and was soon ernor of Washington by your [Mr. Marcy's] established with his cabinet at Vera. Cruz .-Meanwhile the government of Zuloaga was he had "lost no time in transmitting a copy earnestly resisted in many parts of the Repub-of that document to the Governor-Gene al of lic, and even in the capital, a portion of the army having pronounced against it its functions were declared terminated, and an amoun bly of crizens were invited for the choice of a ted to secure, on the part of the British local new President. This assembly elected General Miramon, but that officer repudiated the plan under which he waselected, and Zuloaga was thus restored to his previous position. He assumed it however, only to withdraw from it, and Miramon, having become by his appointment, " President Substitute," continues this arrangement until the 9th of July last, with that title, at the head of the insurgent

In my last annual message I communicate ed the circumstances under which the late lishment of the Hudson's Bay Company for Minister of the United States suspended his the purpose of raising sheep. A short time official relations with the Central Government before his arrival one of these residents had and withdrew from the country. It was imwhilst trespassing upon his premises, for which a Government like that at the capital, under however, he off red to pay twice is value; whose usurped authority wrong, were conwas refused. Soon after "the chief stantly committed, but never redressed. Had factor of the company at Victoria, Mr. Dalles, this been an established government, with son-in-law of Governor Douglas, came to the us power extending by the consent of the Cutler) by force to Victoria, to answer for the deed necessary. But the country was a prey trespass he had committed. The American to civil war; and it was hoped that the sucseized his rifle and told Mr. Dalles if any cess of the constitutional President might such attempt was made he would kill him on lead to a condition of things less injurious to the United S.z.es.

Under these circumstances, the American | This success became so probable, that in settlers presented a petition to the General, January last I employed a reliable agent-to "through the Buited States Inspector of Cua- visit Mexico, to report to me the actual contoms, Mr. Hubbs, to place a force upon the dition and prospects of the contending par island to protect them from the Indians as ties. In consequence of his report, and from well as the oppressive interference of the au- information that reached me from other sourthorities of the Hudson Bay Company at ces, favorable to the prospects of the consti-Victoria with their rights as American citi tional cause, I felt justifiable in appointing a zens." The General immediately: responded new Minister to Mexico, who might embrace to this petition, and ordered Captain George the earliest suitable opportunity of restoring E. Pickett, 9th Infantry, to establish his com- our diplomatic relations with that Republic, For this purpose a distinguished citizen of ome suitable position near the Harbor at the Maryland was selected, who proceeded on his southeastern extremity." This order was mission on the 8th of March last, with discretionary authority to recognize the government of l'resident Juniez, if on his arrivalt in Mexico he should find it entitled to such recognition, according to the established prac-

tice of the United States.
On the 17th of April, following, Mr. Mu-Lune presented his credentials to President Justez, having no hesitation "in pronouncing the government of Justez to be the only existing government in the Republic." He was the information on which the gallant General | cordially received by the authorities at Vera acted, it was due to him that I should thus Cruz, and they have ever since manifested the most friendly disposition towards the United States. Unhappily, however, the con- ought to be a rich and prosperous and powerstitutional government has not been able to ful republic. She possesses an extensive terestablish its power over the whole Republic, ritory, a fertile soil, and an incalculable store It is supported by a large majority of the peo- of mineral wealth. She occupies an import the Island of San Juan, as well as to protect ple and the States, but there are important and position between the Gulf and the Ocean parts of the country where it can enforce no for transit routes and for commerce. Is it pos-Much excitement prevailed for some time obedience. General Miramon maintains him, sible that such a country is this can be given proughout that region, and serious danger self at the capital, and in many of the distant up to anarchy and rain without an effort of collision between the parties was apprehen , provinces there are military governors, who from any quarter for its rescue and its safety? ded. The British had a large naval force in pay little respect to the decrees of either gov-

In the meantime the excesses that always that he wisely and discreetly forbore to com- attend upon civil war, especially in Mexico, Should the United States especially, which mit any hostile act, but determined to refer the are constantly recurring. Outrages of the whole affair to his government and await their worst description are committed both upon intercourse, allow their immediate neighbor persons and property. There is scarcely any thus to destroy itself and injure them? Yet, This aspect of the matter, in my opinion, form of injury that has not been suffered by demanded serious attention. It would have our citizen in Mexico, during the last few with that republic, but, "so far as the intere-ts of our commerce or of our citizens who aid which she requires, and which the inter-

Important contracts involving large expan-

is no longer any good reason to apprehend a ed without any form of examination or any however, which the British Government had collision between the forces of the two count opportunity for a hearing, and even when renot anticipated, they have not yet completed tries, during the pendency of the existing ne- leased have only obtained their liberty after much suffering and injury and without any . I regret to inform you that there has been lope of redress. The wholesale massacre of no improvement in the affairs of Mexico since | Crabbe and his associates without trial in Somy last annual message, and I am again oh- nora, as well as the seizure and murder of liged to ask the earnest attention of Congress four sick Americans who hald taken shelter the unbappy condition of that Republio the house of an American, upon the soil. of the United States, was communicated to The constituent Congress of Mexico, which Congress at its last session: Murders of a adjourned on the 17th of February, 1857, adopted a constitution and provided for a popu- mitted in the very heart of Mexico, under the lar election. This took place in the following authority of Miramon's government, during an, under the Oregon treaty on the 15th of July, [1857.] and General Comonfort was the present year. Some of these were only June, 1846, suddenly assumed a threatening chosen President, almost without opposition, worthy of a barbarous age, and if they had collisions on that remote frontier, the late sen, whose first session commenced on the 16th lost in a country which claims to be civilized of the constitution of this description was the brutal massacre tish Minister at Washington communication of the constitution o tish Minister at Washington, communicating on the 1st of December, [1857.] and continue three American physicians, who were seized to him a copy of the instructions which he, for four years. On that day General Comming in the ho-pital at Tacubaya while, attending (Mr. Marcy) had given, on the 14th July, to fort appeared before the assembled. Congress upon the sick and the dying of both parties, Gov. Stevens, of Washington Territory, hav- in the city of Mexico, took the oath to support and without trial, as without crime, were huring a special reference to an "apprehended conflict between our citizens and the British subjects on the Island of San Juan." To prehe had been driven from the capital, and a who was the recent fate of Ormond Chase, who was shot in Tepic on the 7th of August by order of the same Mexican general, not only without a trial, but without any conjecture by his friends of the cause of his arrest. He, is represented as a young man of good character and intelligence, who had made numercession to the authorities of Great Britain of onfort having left the country, this functional ous friends in Tepic by the courage and humanity which he had displayed on several legislation of the courage and humanity which he had displayed on several trying occasions, and his death was as unexpected as it was shocking to the whole community. Other outrages might be enumeratcognized by the entire diplomatic corps, in ed, but these are sufficient to illustrate the cluding the Minister of the United States, as wretched state of the country and the unprethe de facto government of Mexico. The con- tected condition of the persons and propertyof our citizens in Mexico.

In all those cases our ininisters have been constant and faithful in their demands for re-

dress but both they and this government, which they have successively represented, have been wholly powerless to make their de-mands effective. Their testimony in this respect, and in reference, to the only remedy which, in their judgments, would meet the exigency, has been both uniform and emphatic. Nothing but a manifestation of the power of the Government of the United States (wrote our late minister in 1856,) and of its purpose to punish these wrongs will avail. I na ure you that the universal belief here is that there is nothing to be apprehended from the Gor-eroment of the United States, and that local Mexican officials can commit these outrages upon citizens of the United States with absolute impunity." "I hope the President," (wrote our present minister in August 1st.) will feel authorized to ask from Congress shot an animal belonging to the company, possible to maintain friendly intercourse with forces of the United States, at the call of the the power to enter Mexico with the military constitutional authorities, in order to protect the citizens and the treaty in ed States. Unless such a power is conferred upon him, neither the one or the other will be re-pacted in the existing state of anarchy and disorder, and the outrages already perpatraged will never be chastised; and, as I assured you in my No. 23, all these evils must increase. until every vestige of order and giverament disappears from the country." I have been, reluctantly, led to the same opinion, and in justice to my countrymen who have suffered wrong from Mexico, and may still suffer them. I feel bound to announce this conclusion to

> Congress. The case presented, however, is not merely case of individual claims, although our juste claims against Mexico have reached a very large amount. Nor is it morely the case of protection to the lives and properly of the few Americans who may's ill remain in Mex. ico, although the life and property of every American vitizen ought to be sacredly protected in every quarter of the world. But it is a question that relates to the future as well as to the present and the past, and which involves, indirectly, at least, the whole subject of our duty to Mexico as a neighboring State. The exercise of the power of the United States in that country to redress the wrongs and protect the rights of our own citizens, is none the less to be desired because efficient and necessary aid may thus be rendered at the same time to restors peace and order to Mexico itself.

In the accomplishment of this result, the people of the Unite I States must necessarily feel a deep; and earnest interest; Mexico Will the commercial nations of the world which have so many interests connected with it, remain wholly indifferent to such a result? ought to share most largely in its commercial without support from some quarter, it is impossible to perceive how Maxico and resume her position among nations, and upon a carest which promises any good results. The she should have, it belongs to this government ed policy, which is inconsistent with the intervention of any European power in the domestic concerns of that republic.

The wrongs which we have suffered from impress every American citizen. A governignorance of what might have transpired on right, and the American who resisted the have been committed on American citizens. the spot before the General's arrival, it was lawless demand has had his property forcibly Wa must penetrate into the interior before