

STURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1845.

Collector's Office, Berwick, Dec. 1, 1845. Col. H. WEBB,

Dear Sir—The following show the collections at this office during the present season, up to, and including the 30th of November. As also the amount tonnage of Coal shipped.

Table with 2 columns: Amount collected in Nov. 7,133 42; do. per last report, 60,800 40

Whole Amount \$87,933 82

TONNAGE OF COAL

Table with 2 columns: Number of tons in November 18,573; do. per last report 159,828

Whole amount shipped up to and including 30th November 178,401 Tons, &c.

JOHN McRLYNOLDS, Col.

CONGRESS.

The first session of the 26th Congress convened at Washington City on Monday last. Forty-three members of the Senate, and 212 members of the House were present.

Mr. Davis, of Indiana, was elected Speaker by the following vote:— Mr. Davis, (Dem.) 120; Mr. Vinton, (Whig.) 72; Mr. W. S. Miller, (Native,) 5

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

We received the President's Message on Thursday, but its extreme length prevents its publication this week. We shall, however, publish it entire in our next. It is an able and interesting document, and shows the present position of our Government in its relations with Texas, Mexico and Great Britain, and the progress of the negotiations which have been opened with the latter governments with respect to the territory of Texas and that of Oregon.

The President commences his message by saying—

"It is to me a source of unaffected satisfaction to meet the Representatives of the States and the people in Congress assembled, as it will be to receive the aid of their combined wisdom in the administration of public affairs. In performing, for the first time, the duty imposed on me by the Constitution, of giving to you information of the State of the Union, and recommending to your consideration such measures as in my judgment are necessary and expedient, I am happy that I can congratulate you on the continued prosperity of our country. Under the blessings of Divine Providence and the benign influence of our free institutions, it stands before the world a spectacle of national happiness.

"With our unexampled advancement in all the elements of national greatness the affection of the people is confirmed for the Union of the States, and for the doctrines of popular liberty, which lie at the foundation of our government.

"It becomes us, in humility, to make our devout acknowledgments to the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, for the inestimable civil and religious blessings with which we are favored.

"In calling the attention of Congress to our relations with foreign Powers, I am gratified to be able to state, that, though with some of them there have existed since your last sessions serious causes of irritation and misunderstanding, yet no actual hostilities have taken place. Adopting the maxim in the conduct of our foreign affairs, to 'ask nothing that is not right, and submit to nothing that is wrong,' it has been my anxious desire to preserve peace with all nations; but, at the same time, to be prepared to resist aggression, and to maintain all our rights.

"In pursuance of the joint resolution of Congress, for annexing Texas to the United States, my predecessor, on the third day of March, 1845, elected to submit the first and second sections, of that resolution to the republic of Texas as an overture, on the part of the United States, for her admission as a State into our Union. This election I approved, and accordingly the Charge d'Affaires of the United States in Texas, under instructions of the tenth of March, 1845, presented these sections of the resolution for the acceptance of that republic. The Executive government, the Congress and the people of Texas in convention have successively complied with all the terms and conditions of the joint resolution. A constitution for the government of the State of Texas formed by a convention of deputies, is herewith laid before Congress. It is well known, also, that the people of Texas at the polls have accepted the terms of annexation and ratified the constitution.

"This accession to our territory has been a bloodless achievement. No arm of force has been raised to produce the result. The sword has had no part in the victory. We have not sought to extend our territorial possessions by conquest, or our republican institutions over a reluctant people. It was the deliberate homage of each people to the great principle of our federative union.

"If we consider the extent of territory involved in the annexation—its prospective influence on America—the means by which it has been accomplished, springing purely from the choice of the people themselves to share the blessings of our union—the history of the world may be challenged to furnish a parallel.

"The jurisdiction of the United States, which at the formation of the constitution was bounded by the St. Mary's of the Atlantic, has passed the Capes of Florida, and been peacefully extended to the Del Norte. In contemplating the grandeur of this event it is not to be forgotten that the result was achieved in despite of the diplomatic interference of European monarchies. Even France—the country which had been our ancient ally—the country which has a common interest with us in maintaining the freedom of the seas—the country which, by the cession of Louisiana, first opened to us access to the Gulf of Mexico—the country with which we have been every year drawing more and more closely the bonds of successful commerce—most unexpectedly, and to our unfeigned regret took part in an effort to prevent annexation, and to impose on Texas, as a condition of the recognition of her independence by Mexico, that she would never join herself to the United States.

"We may rejoice that the tranquil and parading influence of the American principle of self-government was sufficient to defeat the purposes of British and French interference, and that the almost unanimous voice of the people of Texas has given to that interference a peaceful and effective rebuke. From this example, European governments may learn how vain diplomatic arts and intrigues must ever prove upon this continent, against that system of self-government which seems natural to our soil, and which will ever resist foreign interference.

"We have from the message a confirmation of the report that diplomatic intercourse has been renewed between our Government and that of Mexico, and that a distinguished citizen of Louisiana has been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to the latter government to settle existing differences. This gentleman has probably reached Mexico by this time.

"It also appears from the message that all attempts at compromise on the Oregon question have failed. The present administration has been disposed to a moderate conciliatory course in respect to the Oregon dispute, and it has endeavored to bring the matter to a successful issue by repeating the offer of the parallel of 49 degrees as a dividing line, which had been made by two preceding administrations, with the difference that the free navigation of the Columbia was not surrendered to Great Britain as in the former instances. This offer was rejected by the British Minister. It was then withdrawn, and our title to the whole territory asserted, as it was evident no compromise which the United States ought to accept could be effected. In this state of affairs the President submits the question to Congress to consider what measures are necessary to be adopted for the security and protection of our citizens in that territory and the maintenance of our just title. The proposition referred to, he says, was made in deference to what had been done by his predecessors; had it been a new question, coming under discussion for the first time, it would not have been made, and thus eloquently speaks upon the subject.

"Oregon is a part of the North American continent, to which, it is confidently affirmed, the title of the United States is the best now in existence. For the grounds on which that title rests, I refer you to the correspondence of the late and present Secretary of State, with the British plenipotentiary during the negotiation. The British proposition of compromise, which would make the Columbia the line south of forty nine degrees, with a trifling addition of detached territory to the United States north of that river, and would leave on the British side two thirds of the whole Oregon territory, including the free navigation of the Columbia and all the valuable harbors on the Pacific, can never, for a moment, be entertained by the United States, without an abandonment of their just and clear territorial rights, their own self-respect and the national honor. For the information of Congress, I communicate herewith the correspondence which took place between the two governments during the late negotiation.

"The rapid extension of our settlements over our territories heretofore unoccupied, the addition of new States to our confederacy; the expansion of free principles, and

our rising greatness as a nation, are attracting the attention of the Powers of Europe and lately the doctrine has been broached in some of them, of a 'balance of power' on this continent, to check our advancement. The United States, sincerely desirous of preserving relations of good understanding with all nations cannot in silence permit any European interference on the North American continent; and should any such interference be attempted, will be ready to resist it at any and all hazards.

"It is well known to the American people and to all nations, that this government has never interfered with the relations subsisting between other governments. We have never made ourselves parties to their wars or their alliances; we have not sought their territories by conquest; we have not mingled with parties in their domestic struggles; and believing our own form of government to be the best, we have never attempted to propagate it by diplomacy, or by force. We may claim on this continent a like exemption from European interference. The nations of America are equally sovereign and independent with those of Europe. They possess the same rights, of independent of all foreign interposition, to make war, to conclude peace, and to regulate their internal affairs.

"The people of the United States cannot therefore, view with indifference attempts of European powers to interfere with the independent action of the nations on this continent. The American system of government is entirely different from that of Europe. Jealousy among the different sovereigns of Europe, lest any one of them might become too powerful for the rest has caused them anxiously to desire the establishment of what they term the 'balance of power.' It cannot be permitted to have any application on the North American continent, and especially to the United States. We must ever maintain the principles, that the people of this continent alone have the right to decide their own destiny. Should any portion of them constitute an independent state, propose to unite themselves with our confederacy, this will be a question for them and us to determine, without any foreign interposition.

"We can never consent that European Powers shall interfere to prevent such a union because it might disturb the 'balance of power' which they may desire to maintain upon this continent. Near a quarter of a century ago, the principle was distinctly announced to the world in the annual message of one of my predecessors, that 'The American continent, by the free and independent condition which they have assumed and maintain, are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European Power.' This principle will apply with greatly increased force, should any European Power attempt to establish any new colony in North America in existing circumstances of the world, the present is deemed a proper occasion to reiterate and reaffirm the principle avowed by Mr. Monroe, and to state my cordial concurrence in its wisdom and sound policy. The reassertion of this principle, especially a reference to North America, is at this day but the promulgation of a policy which no European Power should cherish the disposition to resist.

"Existing rights of every European nation should be respected; but it is due alike to our safety and our interests, that the efficient protection of our own laws should be extended over our whole territorial limits, and that it should be distinctly announced to the world as our settled policy, that no future European colony or dominion shall, with our consent, be planted or established on any part of the North American continent.

"In regard to the Tariff, he closes his remarks as follows:—

"A system of ad valorem revenue duties, with proper discriminations and proper guards against frauds in collecting them, it is not doubted, will afford ample incidental advantages to the manufacturers, and enable them to derive as great profits as can be derived from any other regular business. It is believed that such a system, strictly within the revenue standard, will place the manufacturing interests on a stable footing, and insure to their permanent advantage, while it will, as nearly as may be practicable, extend to all the great interests of the country the incidental protection which can be afforded by our revenue laws. Such a system, when once firmly established, would be permanent and not be subject to the constant complaints, agitations, and changes which must ever occur, when duties are not laid for revenue, but for the protection merely of a favored interest.

"In the deliberations of Congress on this subject, it is hoped that a spirit of mutual concession and compromise between conflicting interests may prevail and that the result of their labors may be crowned with the happiest consequences.

"He also recommends the creation of a constitutional Treasury for the safe keeping of the public money.

"The President closes his message with the following eloquent passage in reference to the death of General Jackson— 'I trust that it may not be deemed inappropriate on the occasion for to dwell for a moment on the memory of the most eminent citizen of this country, who during the summer that is gone by, has descended to the tomb. The enjoyment of contemplating at the advanced age of near four score years, the happy condition of his country, cheered his last hours of Andrew Jackson, who departed this life in the hope of a blessed

immortality. His death was happy, as his life had been eminently useful. He had an unflinching confidence in virtue and capacity of the people, and in the permanence of that free government which he had largely contributed to establish and defend. His great deeds had secured to him the affections of his fellow citizens, and it was his happiness to witness the growth and glory of his country which he loved so well.

"He departed amidst the benedictions of millions of freemen. The nation paid its tribute to his memory at his tomb. Coming generation will learn from his example the love of country and the rights of man. In his language on a similar occasion to the present, 'I now commend you, fellow citizens, to the guidance of Almighty God, with a full reliance on His merciful providence for the maintenance of our free institutions; and with an earnest supplication, that what ever errors it may be my lot to commit in discharging the arduous duties which have devolved on me, will find a remedy in the harmony and wisdom of your counsels.

"Winter has now commenced in certain the North Branch Canal being closed for the season. Snow has fell, the last week to the depth of 20 inches, and the weather still remaining very cold.

"The West is literally pouring its products into the eastern markets. The arrivals at Albany are beyond computation. Flour continues to pour in by thousands of barrels; there is no room for it, the store houses are full to overflowing, and boat loads upon boat loads are turned upon the wharves. The weather is favorable. Scarce any ice has yet been formed in the canal to impede the running of the boats, although a large number have been laid up for the season. An *Aldis* paper of the 29th says

"As an instance of the immense business done in freights, we would state that it is impossible for the tow boats to carry all the flour, &c., now awaiting shipment, and that steamboats are now taking off large quantities. The magnificent Hendrick Hudson this morning took 100 bbls. of flour, independent of other freight.

"We counted in our harbor this morning one hundred and seventy canal boats loaded with flour. These carry, as we learn at the collector's office from 450 to 800 barrels each averaging at least 600 barrels. This would make a total of 102,000 barrels. Add to this amount 10 large tow boats loaded and several vessels loaded and loading, and it will make a total of about 150,000 barrels afloat. Many rods of dock are covered four tier deep with flour—at least 300 barrels. Besides these items, immense stores have left for New York for the last three days; and all our flour dealers have their warehouses packed. From these data, some idea may be formed of the immense amount of this all important article which has been poured into our city for the last eight or ten days.

"Speaking of the capabilities of the Western States, the Albany Argus has the following paragraph.

"The *Tremont West*:—This name has been frequently given to the West, but it has never been so fully realized as during this fall. The arrival of 1,000,000 barrels of flour at the Hudson river in two months is but an earnest of the future. It is hardly too much to say that the imagination can scarcely realize the fertility of the West. Michigan alone, under an active demand, could send 1,000,000 of barrels of flour to market, and yet that State not does comprise one-twentieth of the wheat land of west. The amount of production is absolutely illimitable. It is even now considered enormous when 2,800,000 barrels of flour came down by the Erie canal in the season of 1845, but the amount if a market could be obtained, would expand in five years to six millions of barrels, and then the western country would just begin to be cultivated.

"Hon J. M. Niles, of the U. S. Senate from Connecticut, has just married a lady of highly gifted mind, and personal attractions, in New York, and they are on their way to pass the winter in Washington. The lady's name was Miss Jane Pratt.

"A Change of Times.—Legislators in the present age see a little more value upon themselves and the dignity than they did in primitive ages. About the year 1694, the Legislature of Pennsylvania passed a resolution that 'no member thereof should come to the house barefoot or eat his bread and cheese on the steps.'

"A Valuable Oyster.—A gentleman was eating some oysters in New Orleans, when he found one particularly gritty. On examination of the cause, no less than twenty pearls were taken out of the oyster. Two of these pearls are large, and pronounced by judges to be valuable.

"Population of Michigan.—The census returns of the State, as far as heard from, state that the number of white males over 21 will be nearly equal to one fourth of the entire population—twenty five of the thirty counties have been returned. The whole State, when heard from will overrun 300,000—in 1840 it was 211,705, showing a gain of 90,000 in five years.

NO SECOND TERM.

The Union of Saturday, contains the following strong language relative to charges against President Polk, of paving the way for a second term, &c.

"We repeat, that Mr. Polk has 'no future' before his eyes. Having been elevated to the summit of honor and ambition to satisfy, except to prove himself worthy of the confidence of his country, by discharging his duties in good faith, in pursuance of his principles, and to the best of his abilities. It is thus that he will manifest his gratitude to the people—thus he will discharge the duties of a patriot—thus contribute to his own happiness whilst in office, and thus lay up stores of delicious reminiscences on which he may repose in the bosom of retirement. He will not, of course, commit the egregious error of mingling in the question of the succession. He will take no man's part—favor no man's aspiration—offer no man in the administration to participate in the struggle—favor no man himself, and oppose no man. Such is the course which becomes Mr. Polk, and such is the course which he will pursue. He will take no part with Col. Benton, or with any other man, in such an opposition to Mr. Calhoun, in, indeed, Col. Benton or any other man could be supposed to participate in such an intrigue. It becomes Mr. Polk to set upon more elevated principles—to look to his country and not to men—to recommend the measures which are best calculated to advance her prosperity and her glory and not to stoop to any of the intrigues of office. It becomes him especially, to carry out the great principles upon which he was elected—to keep the bundle of arrows as firmly united together as he possibly can, in order that he may preserve, four years hence the succession of his great principles, and not of men, firm and unbroken. For the purpose of preserving the unity of the republican party, he must attend to the two great elements of union: 1st. The carrying out of the principles, which constitute them as one party, and which are so admirable set forth in the resolutions of the Baltimore convention; and 2dly, that he must treat all portions of the party and all their distinguished men, with justice, equality, and impartiality. Whence, then, this idle gossip of favoring one man at the expense of another—of preferring a citizen of the South? And much more, of becoming a cats paw in the hands of 1, to 'check' and to crush another? Such is not the purpose nor the wish of Mr. Polk. We firmly believe that these are his high purposes; otherwise, we would say with all the respect, we would not at this time of day be found in Washington.

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MARRIAGE NOTICE EXTRAORDINARY.

The following most extraordinary marriage notice we copy from the Baltimore Convention, an organ of the Odd Fellows. Talsifer P. Snodder must be a tremendous man to maintain his perpendicularity under such a superincumbent mass of official dignities:

"MARRIED.—In Worcester, Massachusetts, on Thursday, October 9th, P. P. Shaffer Esq., Attorney and Counselor at Law, of Louisville, Ky., Past Grand H. Priest and Grand Patriarch of that State, a Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of the United States from the Grand Encampment of Kentucky, Junior Editor of the 'Covenant' of Baltimore, Ex-Editor of 'The Free-Mason,' of Louisville Corresponding and Recording Secretary and Librarian of the Kentucky Historical Society Recording Secretary of the Board of Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Captain of the 1st Company, 132d Regiment, 29th Brigade of Kentucky Militia, &c. to Miss Nancy R. Pratt, of the former place.

MISSISSIPPI ELECTION.

The result of the election in Mississippi is the election of the Democratic Governor by 8000 majority at least, the four Democratic members of Congress, and a Democratic Legislature.

JUVENILE PRECOCITY.

The St Louis Organ tells the story of a boy in that city who was caught by an old fellow swinging upon his gate. 'Clear out from there boy or I'll set the log on you,' shouted the old man at the top of his voice.

"Go to the d—l, old stick in-the-mud—you ain't got no dog!" responded the little shaver.

"A Native Delegate.—P. P. Pitchly, the celebrated Chief of the Choctaws, has arrived in Washington, and has taken lodgings at Fuller's Hotel. It is generally believed that he will take his seat in Congress as a delegate.

Every good wife and pretty girl should have a flower garden. Scraps of time can not more pleasantly or appropriately be occupied by them, than in attending to this department.

"Anecdote of the Twin Sisters.—We know of a Farmer in Connecticut who has a pair of twin daughters of whom a capital anecdote is told. They both attended the same school, and not long since one of them was called up to recite a lesson in geography, which she had learned very imperfectly, and in fact could not go on at all. The teacher, who was getting quite out of patience, was called to another part of the room, and just at that moment the twin sister sprang on the floor unobserved, and pushing the delinquent scholar to her seat took her place. The master proceeded with the questions, which were answered with a degree of promptness and accuracy which at the close drew from him a few words of commendation. The joke was not discovered by the teacher until some days after. Of course it was too good and successful to occasion any offence.

"Professional Evidence.—A worthy carpenter the other day, (says the Boston Star) in giving evidence in a case of fraud, said that he *plene-ly saw* the defendant's object was to *chisel* the plaintiff out of his property, &c. and for his part he liked 'fair play and no gugging.'

"The Moon Out-Generalled.—A lady of our acquaintance lately fairly out-generalled the moon. In making soap (over which the moon and the watches seem to have great power according to some) she was particularly unsuccessful, though her ley was strong, and every thing else apparently right. She was promptly informed by an experienced neighbor that she had undertaken the business exactly in the wrong time of the moon. A young chemist who happened to be present discovered that the ley effervesced strongly in acids and was therefore not caustic enough, applied quicklime in small quantities to the obstinate and hal made soap, when in a short time all lunar influence was withdrawn, the planet struck its colors (if it ever had any) and a fine lot of soap was produced.—Cultivator.

A THOUGHT.

We see an account, in the last Montgomery (Ala) Journal, of a tremendous eagle recently killed in that neighborhood. Geese, pigs, kids, and even snep, were his common prey, but it was not until he attempted to carry off a negro child that the effort was made to kill him which resulted successfully. So terrified, indeed were the neighbors that a reward of \$50 was offered to any one who would take him. The weight of the eagle is put down at sixty-seven pounds, and he is said to have measured eight feet three inches from one point of the wing to the other. The story is told with all seriousness.

The Legislature of South Carolina assembled at Columbia on the fourth Monday in November. The message of Gov. Aikin takes high ground against the tariff and policy, but proposes that the general administration should have time to develop its policy in relation to that subject; he urges that the most efficient measures be taken in relation to education, &c. &c.

The first General Assembly of Florida commenced its session on Monday, Nov. 17th. Mr. Ferguson of Gadsden, was elected Speaker, in place of Mr. Archer, of Leon, resigned.

INTERMENTAL.

"MARRIED.—At Jerseytown, on the 25th of Nov., by Elder W. S. Hall, Mr. ABNER McDOWELL of Light Street, to Miss ALMIRA GLASSBY, Orangeville.

In Catawissa, on the 21 inst., Mr. JESSE AMMERMAN, of Danville, to Miss CAROLINE STAGHM of Mahoning township Columbia county.

By the Rev. D. S. Tobias, on the 4th inst., Mr. JACOB BOYER, of Derry township to Miss MASSEE VANHORN Jersey town.

OBITUARY.

DIED.—On the 2d inst., Mr. JACOB BEAR of Maine township, aged 79 years.

In this town, on the 21 inst. Mrs. MARY PHILLIPS aged 58, widow of Mr. David Phillips.

At Princeton, N. J., Mr. BENJAMIN McCLURE, aged about 25, son of Col. James McClure, of Bloom.