

more than half our peace establishment, was drawn together on an emergency, so sudden, reflects great credit on the officers who were entrusted with the execution of these orders, as well as upon the discipline of the army itself.

To be in strength to protect and defend the people and territory of Texas in the event Mexico should commence hostilities, or invade her territories with a large army which she threatened, I authorized the general assigned to the command of the army of occupation to make requisitions for additional forces from several of the States nearest the Texas territory, and which could most expeditiously furnish them, if, in his opinion, a larger force than that under his command, and the auxiliary aid which, under like circumstances, he was authorized to receive from Texas should be required.

The contingency upon which the exercise of this authority depended, has not occurred.—The circumstances under which two companies of State artillery from the city of New Orleans were sent into Texas, and mustered into the service of the United States, are fully stated in the report of the Secretary of War. I recommend to Congress that provision be made for the payment of these troops, as well as a small number of Texan volunteers, whom the commanding general thought it necessary to receive or muster into our service.

During the last summer, the first regiment of dragoons made extensive excursions through the Indian country on our borders, a part of them advancing nearly to the possessions of the Hudson's Bay Company in the north, and a part as far as the South Pass of the Rocky mountains, and the head waters of the tributary streams of the Colorado of the West. The exhibition of this military force among the Indian tribes in those distant regions, and the councils held with them by the commanders of the expeditions, it is believed, will have a salutary influence in restraining them from hostilities among themselves, and maintaining friendly relations between them and the United States. An interesting account of one of these excursions accompanies the report of the Secretary of War. Under the directions of the War Department, Brevet Captain Fremont, of the corps of topographical engineers has been employed since 1842 in exploring the country west of the Mississippi, and beyond the Rocky mountains. Two expeditions have already been brought to a close, and the reports of that scientific and enterprising officer have furnished much interesting and valuable information. He is now engaged in a third expedition; but it is not expected that his arduous service will be completed in season to enable me to communicate the result to Congress at the present session.

Our relations with the Indian tribes are of a favorable character. The policy of removing them to a country designed for their permanent residence, west of the Mississippi and without the limits of the organized States and Territories, is better appreciated by them than it was a few years ago, while education is now attended to, and the habits of civilized life are gaining ground among them.

Serious difficulties of long standing continue to distract the several parties into which the Cherokees are unhappily divided. The efforts of the government to adjust the difficulties between them have heretofore proved unsuccessful, and there remains no probability that this desirable object can be accomplished without the aid of further legislation by Congress. I will, at an early period of your session, present the subject for your consideration, accompanied with an exposition of the complaints and claims of the several parties into which the nation is divided, with a view to adoption of such measures by Congress as may enable the Executive to do justice to them respectively, and to put an end, if possible, to the dissensions which have long prevailed, and still prevail among them.

I refer you to the report of the Secretary of the Navy for the present condition of that branch of the national defence, and for grave suggestions, having for their object the increase of its efficiency and a greater economy in its management. During the past year the officers and men have performed their duty in a satisfactory manner. The orders which have been given, have been executed with promptness and fidelity. A larger force than has often formed one squadron under our flag was readily concentrated in the Gulf of Mexico, and, apparently, without unusual effort, that especially to be observed, that, notwithstanding the union of so considerable a force, no act was committed that even jealousy of an invited power could construe as an act of aggression, and that the commander of the squadron, and his officers, in strict conformity with their instructions, holding themselves ever ready for the most active duty, have achieved the will power glory of contributing to the preservation of peace. It is believed that at all our

foreign stations the honor of our flag has been maintained, and that, generally our ships of war have been distinguished for their good discipline and order, a happy addition to the display of maritime force which was required by the events of the summer, has been made wholly within the usual appropriations for the service of the year so that no additional appropriations are required.

The commerce of the United States and with it the navigating interest, have steadily and rapidly increased since the organization of our government, until, it is believed, we are now second to but one Power in the world and at no distant day we shall probably be inferior to none. Exposed as they must be, it has been a wise policy to afford to these important interests protection with our ships of war, distributed in the great highways of trade throughout the world. For more than thirty years appropriations have been made and annually expended, for the gradual increase of our naval forces. In peace our navy performs the important duty of protecting our commerce; and in the event of war will be, as it has been, a most efficient means of defence.

The successful use of steam navigation on the ocean has been followed by the introduction of war-steamer in great and increasing numbers into the navies of the principal Powers of the world.—A due regard to our own safety and to an efficient protection to our large and increasing commerce demands a corresponding increase on our part. No country has greater facilities for the construction of vessels of this description than ours, or can promise itself greater advantages from their employment. They are admirably adapted to the protection of our commerce, to the rapid transmission of intelligence and to the coast defence. In pursuance of a wise policy of a gradual increase of our navy large supplies of live oak timber, and other material for ship building, have been collected, and are now under shelter in a state of good preservation, while iron steamers can be built with great facility in various parts of the Union. The use of iron as a material especially in the construction of steamers, which enter with safety many of the harbors along our coast now inaccessible to vessels of greater draught, and the practicability of constructing them in the interior, strongly recommends that liberal appropriation should be made for this important object.

Whatever may have been our policy in the earliest stages of the government when the nation was in its infancy, our shipping interests and commerce comparatively small, our resources limited, our population sparse and scarcely extending beyond the limits of the original thirteen States, that policy must be essentially different now that we have grown from three to more than twenty millions of people,—that our commerce carried in our own ships, is found in every sea, and that our territorial boundaries and settlements have been so greatly expanded. Neither our commerce, nor our long line of coasts on ocean, and on the lakes, can be successfully defended against foreign aggression by means of fortifications alone. These are essential at important commercial and military points, but chief reliance for this object must be on a well organized, efficient navy. The benefits resulting from such a navy are not confined to the Atlantic States. The productions of the interior which seek a market abroad, are directly dependent on the safety and freedom of our commerce. The occupation of the Balize below New Orleans, by a hostile force would embarrass, if not stagnate, the whole export trade of the Mississippi, and affect the value of the agricultural products of the entire valley of that mighty river and its tributaries.

It has never been our policy to maintain large standing armies in time of peace. They are contrary to the genius of our free institutions, would impose heavy burdens on the people, and be dangerous to public liberty. Our reliance for protection and defence on the land must be mainly on our citizen soldiers, who will ever be ready, as they ever have been ready in times past, to rush with alacrity, at the call of their country, to her defence. This discipline of peace however, cannot defend our coast, harbors and inland seas, nor protect our commerce on the ocean or the lakes.—These must be protected by our navy.

Considering our increased naval force, and especially our steam vessels, corresponding with our growth and importance as a nation, and proportioned to the increased and increasing naval power of other nations, of vast importance as regards our safety, and the great growing interests to be protected by it, I recommend the subject, to the favorable consideration of Congress.

The report of the Postmaster general herewith communicated, contains a detailed statement of the operations of his department during the past year. It will be seen that the income from pos-

tages will fall short of the expenditures for the year between one and two millions of dollars.—This deficiency has been caused by the reduction of the rate of postage which was made by the act of the third of March last. No provision has been more generally acquiesced in by the people than that this department should sustain itself by limiting its expenditures to its income. Congress has never sought to make it a source of revenue for general purposes, except for a short period during the last war with Great Britain, nor should it ever become a charge on the general treasury.

If Congress shall adhere to this principle I think they ought, it will be necessary either to curtail the present mail services, or to reduce the expenditures, or so to modify the act of the third of March last as to improve its revenue.—The extension of the mail service, and the additional facilities which will be demanded by the rapid extension and increase of population on our western frontiers, will not admit of such curtailment as will materially reduce the present expenditures. In the adjustment of the tariff of postage the interests of the people demand, that the lowest rates be adopted which will produce the necessary revenue to meet the expenditures of the department. I invite the attention of Congress to the suggestions of the Postmaster General on this subject, under the belief that such a modification of the late law may be made as will yield sufficient revenue without further calls on the treasury, and with very little change in the present rates of postage.

Proper measures have been taken, in pursuance of the act of the third of March last, for the establishment of lines of mail steamers between this and foreign countries. The importance of this service commands itself strongly to favorable consideration. With the growth of our country the public business which devolves on the heads of the several Executive Departments has greatly increased. In some respects, the distribution of duties among them seems to be incongruous, and many of these might be transferred from one to another with advantage to the public interests. A more auspicious time for the consideration of this subject by Congress, with a view to system in the organization of the several departments, and a more appropriate division of the public business, will not probably occur.

The most important duty of the State Department relate to our foreign affairs. By the great enlargement of the family of nations, the increase of our consular system, the business of this department, has been greatly increased. In its present organization, many duties of a domestic nature and consisting of details, are devolved on the Secretary of State, which do not appropriately belong to the foreign department of the government, and may properly be transferred to some other department. One of these grows out of the present state of the law concerning the Patent Office, which a few years since, was a subordinate clerks' shop, but has become a distinct bureau of great importance. With an excellent internal organization, it is still connected with the State department. In the transaction of its business, questions of much importance to inventors, and to the community, frequently arise, which, by existing laws, are referred for decision to a board, of which the Secretary of State is a member. These questions are legal, and the connection which now exists between the State Department and the Patent Office, may, with great propriety and advantage, be transferred to the Attorney General.

In his last annual message to Congress Mr. Madison invited attention to a proper provision for the Attorney General as an important improvement of the Executive establishment. This recommendation, was repeated by some of his successors. The official duties of Attorney General have been much increased within a few years, and his office has become of great importance. His duties may be still further increased with advantage, to the public interests. As an executive officer his residence and constant attention at the seat of government are required. Legal questions involving important principles, and large amounts of public money, are constantly referred to him by the President and Executive Department for his examination and decision. The public business under his official management before the judiciary has been so augmented by the extension of our territory, and the acts of Congress authorizing suits against the United States on large bodies of valuable public lands, as greatly to increase his labors and responsibilities. I therefore recommend that the Attorney General be placed on the same footing with the heads of the other executive departments with such subordinate officers, provided by law, for his department, as may be required to discharge the additional duties which have been or may be devolved upon him.

Congress possess the power of exclusive legislation over the District of Columbia, and I commend the interests of its inhabitants to your favorable consideration. The people of this District have no legislative body of their own, and must confer their local as well as their general interests to representatives in whose election they have no voice, and over whose official conduct they have no control. Each member of the national Legislature should consider himself as their immediate representative, and should be the more ready to give attention to their interests and wants, because he is not responsible to them. I recommend that a liberal and generous spirit may characterize your measures in relation to them.

I shall be ever disposed to show a proper regard to their wishes; and within constitutional limits, shall at all times cheerfully co-operate with you for the advancement of their welfare.

I trust it may not be deemed inappropriate to the occasion for me to dwell for a moment on the memory of the most eminent citizen of our country, who during the summer that is gone by, has descended to the tomb. The enjoyment of contemplating, at the advanced age near four score years, the happy condition of his country, cheered the last hours of Andrew Jackson, who departed this life in the tranquil hope of a blessed immortality. His death was happy, as his life had been eminently useful. He had an unflinching confidence in the 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 affection 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 pays 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 whatever 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.

JAMES K. POLK  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 2, 1845.

DEMOCRAT.

"TRUTH WITHOUT FEAR"

BLOOMSBURG.

SAVED BY DECEMBER 20, 1845.

LOS.

A few days since, a FLAG SILK POCKET HANDKERCHIEF, the finder will confer a favor by leaving it with the PRINTER.

THE YOUNG MEN

Of this town and vicinity are requested to meet at the Academy on Tuesday evening (Dec. 23d) for the purpose of organizing a Literary Society.

There will be a discussion on that evening on the subject of

MNEMONICS.

Commencing at half past six o'clock which the ladies and gentlemen are respectfully invited to attend.

Northern Tariff Convention.

Some weeks ago, we proposed a Tariff Convention of the Northern Counties to be held at Wilkesbarre. By holding such a Convention, we wished to strengthen our Representatives in an earnest opposition to the free trade doctrine of South Carolina, and in favor of Pennsylvania interests, as regards their protection. This, and this alone, was our intention, and we were satisfied it could have no other effect, although other Democratic papers of the North may appear to think otherwise. An expression of opinion from their constituents would be gladly received by our Representatives, and they could then say to the Pennsylvania Democracy are with us in this matter, and give us your votes the sanction of their wishes and their will. An advocacy of protection to Pennsylvania productions, does not place us in opposition to the President as the Whigs would try to make people believe. He recognizes in his message the principle of Protection, to the extent and capacity of a Revenue Tariff, and leaves the details and arrangement of the Tariff where it properly belongs, to the Representatives of the People. In arranging the details, Pennsylvania must not be sacrificed to the free trade theories of South Carolina, and we expect our Representatives to see to this faithfully. The President stands ready to sanction the laws enacted by the Representatives of the people in pursuance of their will, and it behooves the Representatives of the Keystone to see that our will is properly expressed by their action and their votes. And how better can they learn it, than by a Convention called together for that purpose? The West have had their's, and the North should not be lax in their duty to themselves. They let a Convention be held, and that too immediately; that our Representatives may know our wishes and our wants upon this subject, so that they may act understandingly.

The Speaker of the House of Congress Hon. John W. Davis, was born in the county of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and is now 45 years of age. He studied medicine under the celebrated Dr. Foulkes of Carlisle, and graduated with great credit at the University of Maryland, in 1821. The New York Globe says he emigrated to Indiana in 1824.

### The Message.

We conclude, this week, the publication of the President's message. We have given it in full—without abridgment, and its doctrines and sentiments are now fairly before our readers. The peculiarities of the message that first arrest attention, are the purity and perspicuity of the style, and the boldness and candor of the sentiments. More than this, and still better, upon its face we can discover, that the intellect dictated, and the hand that penned it, is truly American. Our foreign relations are touched upon with evident patriotism, and their difficulties met with an unyielding strength of purpose to maintain American interests and honor at all hazards.

In his first official communication to the Representatives of the People & of States, the President shows himself to be in favor of the very best kind of protection that government can afford, to wit, the protection of American settlers on American soil. The dwellers in the far-off Oregon are our fellow-citizens—our kindred, who have gone out from among us,—emigrants thitherward—and have, amid difficulty and danger, sated agriculture and civilization by the shores of the Pacific, and along the banks of the Columbia. And shall not the strong arm of our national power, be reached out beyond the mountains to protect them in their border homes, from the rifle of the Englishman and the tomahawk of the savage? The President says, it shall! and from the millions of our people, scattered along the lakes, on the Atlantic border, I over the savannas of the sunny South, there will go up an answering shout of: we will stand by the President to the death, in the protection and defence of our pioneer brethren and of our free American soil!

The evanescent, whose patriotism evaporates at the first approach of danger, and whose appreciation of national honor and interest is too dim to grapple with the stupendous questions now opened up by our foreign relations, may grumble, or may oppose. But the eagle's wing is already spreading over the Oregon—the ploughshare of freemen is civilizing her soil, and Republican protection, institutions and laws, will be given and guaranteed to her people, by the Union of which she was destined to become a part.

The interference of England and France to prevent the annexation of Texas is scathingly touched upon by the President, and the French minister Galignani's twaddle about a balance of power, gives an opportunity, which is improved, to inform the workers of monarchy in Europe, that the people of America consider themselves fully able to attend to their own affairs without foreign assistance, and that they will not permit European monarchs to extend the policy of their Holy Alliances upon this free continent.

The President's language in relation to our public lands as the settlers upon them, is worthy of being written in letters of gold, and studied by every freeman in the Union! He recommends that the lands be sold to the actual settlers upon them, and secured from the grasp of speculators. He asks that the poor settler be protected in his improvement, and secured in the investment of his industry and toil. Prompted as they are, by a patriotic, sagacious and humane spirit, we trust that the suggestions of the People's President will receive the hearty concurrence and endorsement of Congress.

The President's views upon the Tariff are given with the candor that was expected, and will suit neither the free-traders of South Carolina nor the rich manufacturers of Lowell. Neither the disciples of free trade on the one hand, nor the worshippers of ultra protection on the other, will find their selfishness or their prejudices consoling in the message. The doctrine of incidental protection and of discriminating duties to the extent and capacity of a Revenue Tariff is avowed, which the politicians of the Calhoun school will pronounce to be heterodox; while specific duties, minimums or fixed values, and prohibitory duties are condemned as unjust, which will be equally enormous in the eyes of the cotton lords of Massachusetts and Rhode-Island. But upon the principle of discriminating duties for protection up to the Revenue standard, the great body of the Democracy stand as upon a rock, and hold the dunce of nullification on the one hand, nor the land mounted rascals of monopoly on the other, will move them one jot from this just and correct position. The details of a Tariff upon this principle, are open to the discussion and adjustment of Congress, and in the language of the President, it is to be hoped that a spirit of compromise between conflicting interests will prevail in the deliberations of that body

upon this subject. Certain it is the President stands ready to sanction any arrangements of details made by the Representatives of the people.

The President's recommendation of a Constitutional Treasury, disconnected from Bank influence, speculation and fraud, will come home at this time, with peculiar force to the good sense of the people. The worshippers of paper money have had their arbor cooled under the bitter experience of recent years, and cannot summon up sufficient wind for a very powerful paroxysm upon the occasion. The day of panics and convulsions of the currency, we trust, are over; and the country can prosper freed from the artificial stimulants that expanded and bloated, and the reactions that crushed and prostrated the trade and business of the country.

The message closes with an eloquent and appropriate reference to the demise of General Jackson. Coming from a true and tried personal and political friend of the Hero, the allusion is doubly valuable and interesting. It is the genuine and heartfelt tribute of the President of the Republic, to the memory of the greatest man of the age, and will touch and move in sympathy the pulses of the popular heart. As a whole, the message is as admirable in style as it is sound and patriotic in sentiment. Although of considerable length, and necessarily treating upon a number of subjects, it is throughout well connected and tersely and elegantly expressed. The candidates of the Democracy in the tremendous campaign of 1844, never was a noisier or a flashier man; but he has a strength and intelligence of mind,—a firmness of character and a purity and patriotism of purpose, that render him a worthy successor of Thomas Jefferson and Andrew Jackson.

The Editor of the "Danville Democrat" says that the President's message is "treacherous." One of the most marked peculiarities of it, is the condensation and brevity of style. The President speaks to the point and uses no unnecessary language to convey his meaning. This is about the smallest piece of criticism we have seen for some time, and we can account for it in no other way, except that friend Cook wanted very badly to find fault with the style as well as with the matter of the message, and did not know what else to say, than to accuse it of being "barbarous."

The Congressional Globe.—We have received the first numbers of the "Congressional Globe" and the "Appendix," published by Blair and Rivers. It is expected that each of these works will make near 1,000 royal quarto pages this session. Price \$1.50 for one copy of either. After the first of January the price will be \$3 a copy each. These works are well printed and should be patronized by all who wish to possess a faithful record of the proceedings of Congress.

Masses, Ritchie and Heiss have transferred the subscription of the Congressional Union and Appendix, to Messrs. Blair and Rivers.

Indiana U. S. Senator.—We are happy to announce that the Hon. Jesse D. BURNETT, has been elected by the Legislature of Indiana, U. S. Senator for six years from the fourth of March last. Mr. Bright is an able man and a good Democrat. He succeeds Smith, Whig, and this makes the representation of that State in the Senate entirely Democratic.

Governor's Election.—On Wednesday last, the Legislature of Virginia, elected Wm. SMITH, Esq. Governor of that State, for three years, from the first of January, 1846. His majority over all others was 28. The Richmond Enquirer says:—His political faith is strictly Republican, and he has never faltered in his allegiance to the Jefferson standard!

Washington Grove.—A gentleman who has recently visited the grave of Washington at Mount Vernon, says:—

"It grieved me to the soul to witness the utter neglect which is visible around this consecrated spot. The rank and foul weeds are permitted to grow and flourish above and around it. A few and scattering cedars in all the wilderness of uncultivated nature, the only trees to be seen in every direction the eye rests upon dilapidated seats and scattered brush wood. The mounds leading to it are washed into impure tide rivings, covered with fish and frog-eating noxious that is greivable, but everything that is offensive to the eye and unbecoming to the hallowed spot!"

The Thermometer at Albany, N. Y., on Thursday, was at 11 degrees below zero, within one degree of the lowest point yet had place last winter.