

From East

THE STAR OF THE NORTH

R. W. Weaver Proprietor.

Truth and Right—God and our Country.

Two Dollars per Annum.

VOLUME 3.

BLOOMSBURG, COLUMBIA COUNTY, PA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1851.

NUMBER 46.

THE STAR OF THE NORTH

It is published every Thursday Morning, by
R. W. WEAVER.

OFFICE—Up stairs in the New Brick Building
on the south side of Main street, third
square below Market.

TERMS:—Two Dollars per annum, if paid
within six months from the time of subscrib-
ing; two dollars and fifty cents if not paid
within the year. No subscription received
for a less period than six months; no discon-
tinuance permitted until all arrears are
paid, unless at the option of the editors.

ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding one square
will be inserted three times for one dollar;
and twenty cents for each additional inser-
tion. A liberal discount will be made to those
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MESSAGE OF THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate
and of the House of Representatives:

I congratulate you and our common con-
stituency upon the favorable auspices under
which you meet for your first session. Our
country is at peace with the world. The
agitation which, for a time, threaten-
ed to disturb the fraternal relations which
make us one people, is fast subsiding; and
a year of general prosperity and health
has crowned the nation with unusual bless-
ings. None can look back to the dangers
which are passed, or forward to the bright
prospect before us, without feeling a thrill
of gratification, at the same time that he
must be impressed with a grateful sense
of our profound obligations to a beneficent
Providence, whose paternal care is so mani-
fest in the happiness of this highly favor-
ed land.

Since the close of the last Congress, cer-
tain Cubans and other foreigners resident
in the United States, who were more or
less concerned in the previous invasion of
Cuba, instead of being discouraged by its
failure, have again abused the hospitality
of this country, by making it the scene
of the equipment of another military expedi-
tion against that possession of her Catho-
lic majesty, in which they were counten-
anced, aided and joined by citizens of the
United States. On receiving intelligence
that such designs were entertained, I lost
no time in issuing such instructions to
the proper officers of the United States
as seemed to be called for by the occasion.
By the proclamation, a copy of which is
herewith submitted, I also warned those
who might be in danger of being inveigled
into this scheme of its unlawful character,
and of the penalties which they would in-
cur. For some time there was reason to
hope that these measures had sufficed to
prevent any such attempt. This hope,
however, proved to be delusive. Very ear-
ly in the morning of the 13th of August,
a steamer called the Pampero departed
from New Orleans for Cuba, having on
board upwards of four hundred armed
men, with evident intention to make war
upon the authorities of the island. This
expedition was set on foot in palpable
violation of the laws of the United States.
Its leader was a Spaniard, and several of
the chief officers, and some others engaged
in it, were foreigners. The persons com-
posing it, however, were mostly citizens
of the United States.

Before the expedition set out, and prob-
ably before it was organized, a slight in-
surrectionary movement, which appears
to have been suppressed, had taken place
in the eastern quarter of Cuba. The im-
portance of this movement was unfortu-
nately so much exaggerated in the ac-
counts of it published in this country, that
these adventurers seem to have been led
to believe that the Creole population of
the island not only desired to throw off
the authority of the mother country, but
had resolved upon that step, and had begun
a well-concerted enterprise for effecting it.
The persons engaged in this expedition
were generally young and ill-informed.—
The steamer in which they embarked left
New Orleans stealthily and without a clear-
ance. After touching at Key West, she
proceeded to the coast of Cuba, and, on
the night between the 13th and 12th of
August, landed the persons on board at
Playtas, within about twenty leagues of
Havana.

The main body of them proceeded to,
and took possession of an island village,
six leagues distant, leaving others to fol-
low in charge of the baggage, as soon as
the means of transportation could be ob-
tained. The latter, having taken up their
line of march to connect themselves with
the main body, and having proceeded about
four leagues into the country, were at-
tacked on the morning of the 13th by a body
of Spanish troops, and a bloody conflict
ensued; after which they retreated to the
place of disembarkation, where about fifty
of them obtained boats and re-embarked
therein. They were however, intercept-
ed among the keys near the shore by a
Spanish steamer cruising on the coast,
captured and carried to Havana, and, af-
ter being examined before a military court
were sentenced to be publicly executed,
and the sentence was carried into effect
on the 16th of August.

On receiving information of what had
occurred, Commodore Foxhall A. Parker
was instructed to proceed in the steam-
frigate Saranee to Havana, and inquire
into the charges against the persons exe-
cuted, the circumstances under which they
were taken, and whatsoever referred to
their trial and sentence. Copies of the
instructions from the Department of State
to him, and of his letters to that Depart-
ment, are herewith submitted.

According to the record of the examina-
tion, the prisoners all admitted the offen-
ces charged against them, of being hostile
invaders of the island. At the time of
their trial and execution the main body
of the invaders were still in the field, making
war upon the Spanish authorities and Span-

ish subjects. After the lapse of some days
being overcome by the Spanish troops,
they dispersed on the 24th of August; Lopez,
their leader, was captured some days
after, and executed on the 1st of Septem-
ber. Many of his remaining followers
were killed, or died of hunger and fatigue
and the rest were made prisoners. Of
these, none appear to have been tried or
executed. Several of them were pardon-
ed upon application of their friends and
others, and the rest, about one hundred
and sixty in number, were sent to Spain.
Of the final disposition made of these we
have no official information.

Such is the melancholy result of this il-
legal and ill-fated expedition. Thus,
thoughtless young men have been induced,
by false and fraudulent representations,
to violate the law of their country, through
rash and unfounded expectations of as-
sisting to accomplish political revolutions
in other States, and have lost their lives
in the undertaking. Too severe a judg-
ment can hardly be passed, by the indig-
nant sense of the community, upon those
who, being better informed themselves,
have yet led away the ardent youth and
an ill directed love of political liberty.—
The correspondence between this Govern-
ment and that of Spain relating to this
transaction is herewith communicated.

Although these offenders against the
law have forfeited the protection of their
country, yet the government may, so far
as is consistent with its obligations to oth-
er countries, and its fixed purpose to main-
tain and enforce the laws, entertain sym-
pathy for their unoffending families and
friends, as well as a feeling of compassion
for themselves. Accordingly no proper
effort has been spared, and none will
be spared, to procure the release of such
citizens of the United States, engaged in
this unlawful enterprise, as are now in con-
finement in Spain; but it is to be hoped
that such interposition with the govern-
ment of that country may not be consid-
ered as affording any ground of expecta-
tion that the Government of the United
States will, hereafter, feel itself under any
obligation of duty to intercede for the lib-
eration or pardon of such persons as are
frank offenders against the law of nations
and the laws of the United States. These
laws must be executed. If we desire
to maintain our respectability among the
nations of the earth, it behoves us to
enforce steadily and sternly the neutral-
ity acts passed by Congress, and to follow
as far as may be the violation of these
acts with condign punishment.

But what gives a peculiar criminality to
this invasion of Cuba is that under the
lead of Spanish subjects and with the aid
of citizens of the U. States, it had its origin
with many, in motives of cupidity. Money
was advanced by individuals, probably in
considerable amounts, to purchase Cuban
bonds, as they have been called, issued
by Lopez, solely doubtless, as a very
great discount, and for the payment of
them the public lands and public property
of Cuba, of whatever kind, and the effi-
cial resources of the people and govern-
ment of that island, from whatever source
to be derived, were pledged, as well as the
good faith of the government expected to
be established. All these means of pay-
ment, it is evident, were only to be ob-
tained by a process of bloodshed, war, and
revolution. None will deny that those
who set on foot military expeditions against
foreign States by means like these, are
far more culpable than the ignorant and
the necessities whom they induce to go
forth as the ostensible parties in the
proceeding. These originators of the in-
vasion of Cuba seem to have determined,
with coolness and system, upon the un-
derstanding which should disgrace their
country, violate its laws, and put to hazard
the lives of ill-informed and deluded men.
You will consider whether further legisla-
tion is necessary to prevent the perpetra-
tion of such offences in future.

No individuals have a right to hazard
the peace of the country or to violate its
laws upon vague notions of altering or re-
forming governments in other States.—
This principle is not only reasonable in it-
self, and in accordance with public law,
but is engrained into the codes of other
nations as well as our own. But while
such are the sentiments of this Govern-
ment, may be added that every indepen-
dent nation must be presumed to be able
to defend its possessions against un-
authorized individuals banded together to
attack them. The government of the U. States,
at all times since its establishment,
has abstained and has sought to restrain
the citizens of the country, from entering
into controversies between other powers,
and to observe all the duties of neutral-
ity. At an early period of the Govern-
ment, in the administration of Washing-
ton, several laws were passed for this
purpose. The main provisions of these laws
were re-enacted by the act of April, 1818
by which, amongst other things, it was de-
clared that if any person shall, within
the territory or jurisdiction of the United
States, begin, or set on foot, or provide,
or prepare the means for any military ex-
pedition or enterprise to be carried on from
thence against the territory or dominion
of any foreign prince or State, or any col-
ony, district, or people with whom the U. States
are at peace, every person so offend-
ing shall be deemed guilty of a high mis-
demeanor, and shall be fined, not exceed-
ing three thousand dollars, and imprison-
ed not more than three years; and this
law has been executed and enforced, to
the full extent of the power of the gov-
ernment, from that day to this.

In proclaiming and adhering to the doc-
trine of neutrality and non-intervention,
the United States have not followed the
lead of other civilized nations; they have
taken the lead themselves, and have been
followed by others. This was admitted

by one of the most eminent of modern
British statesmen, who said in Parliament
while a minister of the crown, "that, if
he wished for a guide in a system of neu-
trality, he should take that laid down by
America in the days of Washington and
the Secretaryship of Jefferson," and we
see, in fact, that the act of Congress of 1818
was followed, the succeeding year, by an
act of the Parliament of England, sub-
stantially the same in its general provi-
sions. Up to that time there had been no
similar law in England, except certain
highly penal statutes passed in the reign
of George II., prohibiting English sub-
jects from enlisting in foreign service,
the avowed object of which statutes was,
that foreign armies, raised for the pur-
pose of restoring the house of Stuart to
the throne, should not be strengthened by
recruits from England herself.

All must see that difficulties may arise
in carrying the laws referred to into ex-
ecution in a country now having three or
four thousand miles of sea-coast, with an
infinite number of ports and harbors, and
small inlets, from some of which unlawful
expeditions may suddenly set forth, with-
out the knowledge of Government, against
the possessions of foreign States.

Friendly relations with all, but entan-
gling alliances with none, has long been
a maxim with us. Our true mission is not
to propagate our opinions, or impose upon
other countries our form of government,
by artifice or force; but to teach by ex-
ample, and show by our success, moderation
and justice, the blessings of self-govern-
ment, and the advantages of free institu-
tions. Let every people choose for itself,
and make and alter its political institu-
tions to suit its own condition and con-
venience. But, while we avow and main-
tain this neutral policy ourselves, we are
anxious to see the same forbearance on the
part of other nations, whose forms of gov-
ernment are different from our own. The
deep interest which we feel in the spread
of liberal principles and the establishment
of free governments, and the sympathy
with which we witness every struggle
against oppression, forbid that we should
be indifferent to a case in which the strong
arm of a foreign power is invoked to stifle
public sentiment and repress the spirit of
freedom in any country.

The governments of Great Britain and
France have issued orders to their naval
commanders on the West India station to
prevent by force, if necessary, the land-
ing of adventurers from any nation on the
Island of Cuba with hostile intent. The
copy of a memorandum of a conversation
on this subject between the Charge d' Af-
faires of her Britannic Majesty and the
acting Secretary of State, and of a subse-
quent note of the former to the Depart-
ment of State, are herewith submitted,
together with a copy of a note of the acting
Secretary of State to the Minister of the
French Republic, and of the reply of the
latter, on the same subject. These papers
will acquaint you with the grounds of this
interposition of the two leading commer-
cial powers of Europe, and with the ap-
prehensions, which this Government could
not fail to entertain, that such interposi-
tion, if carried into effect, might lead to
abuses in derogation of the maritime rights
of the United States. The maritime rights
of the U. States are founded on a firm,
secure, and well-defined basis; they stand
upon the ground of National Independ-
ence and public law, and will be main-
tained in all their full and just extent.

The principle which this government has
heretofore solemnly announced it still ad-
heres to, and will maintain under all cir-
cumstances and at all hazards. That prin-
ciple is, that in every regularly docu-
mented merchant vessel, the crew who nav-
igate it, and those on board of it, will find
their protection in the flag which is over
them. No American ship can be allow-
ed to be visited or searched for the pur-
pose of ascertaining the character of in-
dividuals on board, nor can there be any
watch by the vessels of any foreign nation
upon American vessels on the coast of the
United States or the seas adjacent thereto.
It will be seen by the last communication
from the British Charge d' Affaires to the
Department of State, that he is authorized
to assure the Secretary of State that ev-
ery care will be taken, in executing the
preventive measures against the expedi-
tions, which the United States Govern-
ment itself has denounced as not being
entitled to the protection of any govern-
ment, no interference shall take place with
the lawful commerce of any nation.

In addition to the correspondence on
this subject, herewith submitted, official
information has been received at the De-
partment of State, of assurances by the
French government that, in the orders
given to the French naval forces, they
were expressly instructed, in any opera-
tions they might engage in, to respect the
flag of the United States wherever it might
appear, and to commit no act of hostility
upon any vessel or armament under its
protection.

Ministers and consuls of foreign na-
tions are the means and agents of commu-
nication between us and those nations, and
it is of the utmost importance that, while
residing in the country, they should feel
a perfect security so long as they faithfully
discharge their respective duties and
are guilty of no violation of our laws.—
This is the admitted law of nations, and
no country has a deeper interest in main-
taining it than the United States. Our
commerce spreads over every sea and vis-
its every clime, and our ministers and
consuls are appointed to protect the in-
terests of that commerce, as well as to
guard the peace of the country and main-
tain the honor of its flag. But how can
they discharge these duties unless they be
themselves protected; and, if protected,
it must be by the laws of the country in

which they reside. And what is due to
our own public functionaries residing in
foreign nations is exactly the measure of
what is due to the functionaries of other
governments residing here. As in war,
the bearers of flags of truce are sacred,
or else wars would be interminable, so in
peace, ambassadors, public ministers, and
consuls, charged with friendly national
intercourse, are objects of especial respect
and protection, each according to the
rights belonging to his rank and station.
In view of these important principles, it is
with deep mortification and regret I an-
nounce to you that, during the excitement
growing out of the executions at Havana,
the office of her Catholic majesty's consul
at New Orleans was assailed by a mob,
his property destroyed, the Spanish flag
found in the office carried off and torn in
pieces, and he himself induced to flee for
his personal safety, which he supposed to
be in danger. On receiving intelligence
of these events, I forthwith directed the
attorney of the United States residing at
New Orleans to enquire into the facts and
the extent of the pecuniary loss sustained
by the consul, with the intention of laying
them before you, that you might make
provision for such indemnity to him as a
just regard for the honor of the nation
and the respect which is due to a friendly
power might, in your judgement, seem to
require. The correspondence upon this
subject between the Secretary of State
and her Catholic majesty's minister plen-
ipotentiary is herewith transmitted.

The occurrence at New Orleans has led
me to give my attention to the state of our
laws in regard to foreign ambassadors,
ministers, and consuls. I think the leg-
islation of the country is deficient in pro-
viding sufficiently either for the protection
or punishment of consuls. I therefore
recommend the subject to the consid-
eration of Congress.

Your attention is again invited to the
question of reciprocal trade between the
United States and Canada, and other
British possessions near our frontier.—
Overtures for a convention upon this sub-
ject have been received from her Britan-
ic Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary, but
it seems to be in many respects preferable
that the matter should be regulated by
reciprocal legislation. Documents are
laid before you showing the terms, which
the British government is willing to offer,
and the measures which it may adopt, if
some arrangement upon this subject shall
not be made.

From the accompanying copy of a note
from the British Legation at Washington,
and the reply of the Department of State
thereto, it will appear that her Britan-
ic Majesty's government is desirous that a
part of the boundary line between Oregon
and the British possessions should be au-
thoritatively marked out, and that an in-
tent was expressed to apply to Congress
for an appropriation to defray the expense
thereof on the part of the United States.
Your attention to this subject is accord-
ingly invited, and a proper appropriation
recommended.

A convention for the adjustment of
claims of citizens of the United States
against Portugal has been concluded, and
the ratifications have been exchanged.—
The first instalment of the amount to be
paid by Portugal fell due on the 30th of
September last, and has been paid.

The President of the French republic,
according to the provisions of the conven-
tion, has been selected as arbitrator in the
case of the General Armstrong; and has
signified that he accepts the trust and the
high satisfaction that he feels in acting
as the common friend of two nations,
with which France is united by sentiments
of sincere and lasting amity.

The Turkish government has expressed
its thanks for the kind reception given to
the Sultan's agent, Amin Bey, on the oc-
casion of his recent visit to the United
States. On the 28th of February last a
despatch was addressed by the Secretary
of State to Mr. Marsh, the American Min-
ister at Constantinople, instructing him to
ask of the Turkish government permission
for the Hungarians, then imprisoned with-
in the dominions of the Sublime Porte, to
remove to this country. On the 3d of
March last both Houses of Congress pas-
sed a resolution requesting the President
to authorize the employment of a public
vessel to convey to this country Louis
Kossuth and his associates in captivity.

The instruction above referred to was
complied with, and the Turkish Govern-
ment having released Governor Kossuth
and his companions from prison, on the
10th of September last they embarked on
board the United States steam frigate
Mississippi, which was selected to carry
into effect the resolution of Congress.—
Gov. Kossuth left the Mississippi at Gib-
ralter, for the purpose of making a visit to
England, and may shortly be expected in
New York. By communications to the
Department of State he has expressed his
grateful acknowledgements for the inter-
position of this Government in behalf of
himself and his associates. This country
has justly been regarded as a safe asylum
for those whose political enemies have ex-
iled from their own homes in Europe; and
it is recommended to Congress to consider
in what manner Governor Kossuth and
his companions, brought hither by its au-
thority, shall be received and treated.

It is earnestly to be hoped that the dif-
ferences which have for some time past
been pending between the Government
of the French Republic and that of the
Sandwich Islands, may be peaceably and
durable adjusted, so as to secure the inde-
pendence of those Islands. Long before
the events which have of late imparted so
much importance to the possessions of the
United States on the Pacific, we acknowl-
edged the independence of the Hawaiian
Government. This Government was the

first in taking that step, and several of the
leading powers of Europe immediately
followed. We were influenced in this
measure by the existing and prospective
importance of the Islands as a place of refu-
ge and refreshment for our vessels en-
gaged in the whale fishery, and by the
consideration that they lie in the course
of the great trade which must, at no dis-
tant day, be carried on between the West-
ern Coast of North America and Eastern
Asia.

We were also influenced by a desire
that those islands should not pass under
the control of any other great maritime
State, but should remain in an indepen-
dent condition, and so be accessible and
useful to the commerce of all nations. I
need not say that the importance of these
considerations has been greatly enhanced
by the sudden and vast development which
the interest of the United States have at-
tained in California and Oregon; and the
policy heretofore adopted in regard to
those islands will be steadily pursued.

It is gratifying not only to those who
consider the commercial interests of na-
tions, but also to all who favor the pro-
gress of knowledge and the diffusion of
religion, to see a community emerge from
a savage state and attain such a degree of
civilization in those distant seas.

It is much to be deplored that the inter-
national tranquility of the Mexican republic
should again be seriously disturbed; for,
since the peace between that republic and
the United States, it had enjoyed such
comparative repose that the most favor-
able anticipations for the future might,
with a degree of confidence, have been in-
dulged. These, however, have been
thwarted by the recent outbreak in the
State of Tamaulipas on the right bank of
the Rio Bravo. Having received infor-
mation that persons from the United States
had taken part in the insurrection, and
apprehending that their example might
be followed by others, I caused orders to
be issued for the purpose of preventing
any hostile expeditions against Mexico from
being set on foot in violation of the laws
of the United States. I likewise issued
a proclamation upon the subject, a copy of
which is herewith laid before you. This
appeared to be rendered imperative by the
obligations of treaties and the general du-
ties of good neighborhood.

In my last annual message, I informed
Congress that citizens of the United States
had undertaken the connexion of the two
oceans by means of railroad across the
Isthmus of Tehuantepec, under a grant of
the Mexican government to a citizen of
that republic; and that this enterprise
would probably be prosecuted with ener-
gy whenever Mexico should consent to
such stipulations with the Government
of the United States as should impart a
feeling of security to those who should
invest their property in the enterprise.
A convention between the two govern-
ments for the accomplishment of that en-
dowment, has been ratified by this Govern-
ment, and only awaits the decisions of the
Congress and the Executive of that Republic.

Some unexpected difficulties and delays
have arisen in the ratification of that con-
vention by Mexico, but it is to be pre-
sented to her decision will be governed by
just and enlightened views, as well of the
importance of the object, as of her
own interests and obligations.

In negotiating upon this important sub-
ject, this Government has had in view one,
and only one, object. That object has been,
and is, the construction or attainment of
a passage from ocean to ocean, the short-
est and the best for travellers and mer-
chandise, and equally open to all the
world. It has sought to obtain no terri-
torial acquisition, nor any advantages pecu-
liar to itself; and it would see, with the
greatest regret, that Mexico should oppose
any obstacle to the accomplishment of an
enterprise which promises so much conve-
nience to the whole commercial world,
and such eminent advantages to Mexico
herself. Impressed with these sentiments
and these convictions, the Government will
continue to exert all proper efforts to bring
about the necessary arrangement with the
republic of Mexico for the speedy com-
pletion of the work.

For some months past the republic of
Nicaragua has been the theatre of one of
those civil convulsions, from which the
cause of free institutions, and the general
prosperity and social progress of the States
of Central America, have so often and so
severely suffered. Until quiet shall have
been restored, and a government appar-
ently stable shall have been organized, no
advance can prudently be made in dispo-
sing of the question pending between the
two countries.

I am happy to announce that an inter oceanic
communication from the mouth of the St. John
to the Pacific has been so far accomplished as
that passenger laws have recently traversed it and
merchandise has been transported over it; and
when the canal shall have been completed, ac-
cording to the original plan, the means of com-
munication will be further improved. A
part of the railroad across the Isthmus of Panama
has been completed, and that the mail and pass-
enger will in future be conveyed thereon.

Whether the several routes between the
two oceans may ultimately prove most eligible
for travellers to and from the different States
of the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico and our coast
is a matter of some importance, and one that
all of them will be useful to the public, and will
liberally reward that individual enterprise,
by which alone they have been or are expected to
be carried into effect.

Peace has been concluded between the contend-
ing parties in the Island of St. Domingo, and
it is hoped upon a durable basis. Such is the
extent of our commercial relations with that Is-
land, that the United States cannot fail to feel
a strong interest in its tranquility.
The office of Commissioner to China remains
unfilled; several persons have been applica-
nt, and the place has been offered to others, all
of whom have declined its acceptance, on the ground
of the inadequacy of the compensation. The
annual allowance by law is six thousand dollars,
and there is no provision for any outlay. I ear-
nestly recommend the consideration of this sub-

ject to Congress. Our commerce with China is
highly important, and is becoming more and
more so, in consequence of the increasing inter-
course between our ports on the Pacific coast
and Eastern Asia. China is understood to be a
country in which living is very expensive, and I
know of no reason why the American Com-
missioner sent thither should not be placed, in
reward to compensation, on an equal footing
with ministers who represent this country at the
courts of Europe.

By reference to the report of the Sec-
retary of the Treasury, it will be seen
that the aggregate receipts for the last fis-
cal year amounted to \$63,312,970 87;
which, with the balance in the Treasury on
the 1st July, 1850, gave, as the avail-
able means for the year, the sum of \$58,-
917,524 36.

The total expenditures for the same period were \$45,005,676 87. Of which there were in specie, \$14,725,005 90. The exports for the same period were, \$217,537,120 Of which were domestic products, \$172,548,555 Foreign goods re-exported, \$7,908,563 Specie, \$37,078,002

Since the 1st of December last the pay-
ments in cash on account of the public debt
exclusive of interest, have amounted to
\$7,801,456 56; which, however, includes
the sum of \$3,242,400, paid under the
12th article of the treaty with Mexico, for
which the issue of stock was authorized,
but which was paid in cash from the
Treasury.

The public debt on the 20th ultimo, ex-
clusive of the stock authorized to be issued
to Texas by the act of 9th September
1850, was \$82,560,305 26.

The receipts for the next fiscal year are
estimated at \$61,800,000, which, with the
probable unappropriated balance in the
Treasury, on the 30th June next, will give
as the probable available means for that
year, the sum of \$63,258,743 09.

It has been deemed proper, in view of
the large expenditures consequent upon
the acquisition of territory from Mexico,
that the estimates for the next fiscal year
should be laid before Congress in such
manner as to distinguish the expenditures
so required from the otherwise ordinary
demands upon the Treasury.

The total expenditures for the next fis-
cal year are estimated at \$42,892,299 19,
of which there is required for the ordi-
nary purposes of the Government, other than
those consequent upon the acquisition of
our new Territories, and deducting the
payments on account of the public debt,
the sum of \$33,343,198 08; and for the
purposes connected directly or indirectly
with those Territories, and in the fulfil-
ment of the obligations of the Government
contracted in consequence of their acqui-
sition, the sum of \$9,549,101 11.

If the views of the Secretary of the
Treasury in reference to the expenditures
required for these Territories shall be met
by corresponding action on the part of
Congress, and appropriations made in ac-
cordance therewith, there will be an esti-
mated unappropriated balance in the
Treasury on the 30th of June, 1853, of
\$20,366,443 90, wherewith to meet about
percent of the public debt due on the first
July following, amounting to \$6,237,931
35, as well as any appropriations which
may be made beyond the estimates.

In thus referring to the estimated ex-
penditures on account of our newly-ac-
quired Territories, I may express the
hope that Congress will concur with me
in the desire that a liberal course of policy
may be pursued towards them, and that
every obligation, expressed or implied,
entered into in consequence of their ac-
quisition, shall be fulfilled by the most lib-
eral appropriations for that purpose.

The values of our domestic exports for
the last fiscal year, as compared with those
of the previous year, exhibit an increase
of \$43,946,322. At first view this con-
dition of our trade with foreign nations
would seem to present the most flattering
hopes of its future prosperity. An exam-
ination of the details of our exports, how-
ever, will show that the increased value of
our exports for the last fiscal year is to be
found in the high price of cotton which
prevailed during the first half of that year
which price has since declined about one-
half.

The value of our exports of breadstuffs
and provisions, which it was supposed the
incentive of a low tariff and large impor-
tations from abroad would have greatly
augmented, has fallen from \$68,701,921,
in 1847, to \$26,051,378, in 1850, and to
\$21,948,653 in 1851, with a strong prob-
ability, amounting almost to a certainty
of a still further reduction in the current
year.

The aggregate value of rice exported
during the last fiscal year, as compared
with the previous year, also exhibit a de-
crease amounting to \$460,917, which, with
a decline in the values of the exports of
tobacco for the same period, make an ag-
gregate decrease in these two articles of
\$1,156,751.

The policy which dictated a low rate of
duties on foreign merchandise, it was
thought by those who promoted and estab-
lished it, would tend to benefit the farm-
ing population of this country, by increas-
ing the demand and raising the price of
agricultural products in foreign markets.
The foregoing facts, however, seem to
show inconspicuously that no such result has
followed the adoption of this policy. On
the contrary, notwithstanding the repeal
of the restrictive corn laws in England,
the foreign demand for the products of
the American farmer has steadily declined
since the short crops and consequent fam-
ine in a portion of Europe have been hap-
pily replaced by full crops and compar-
ative abundance of food.

It will be seen, by recurring to the com-
mercial statistics for the past year, that
the value of our domestic exports has been
increased in the single item of raw cotton
by \$40,000,000 over the value of that ex-
port for the year preceding. This is not

due to any increased general demand for
that article, but to the short crop of the
preceding year which created an increased
demand and an augmented price for the
crop of last year. Should the cotton
crop now going forward to market be only
equal in quantity to that of the year pre-
ceding, and be sold at the present prices
then there would be a falling off in the
value of our exports for the present fiscal
year of at least \$40,000,000, compared
with the amount exported for the year en-
ding 30th June, 1851.

The production of gold in California
for the past year seems to promise a large
supply of that metal from that quarter for
some time to come. This large annual in-
crease of the currency of the world must
be attended with its usual results. There
have been already partially disclosed in
the enhancement of prices and a rising
spirit of speculation and adventure, tend-
ing to overtrading, as well as home as
abroad. Unless some salutary check shall
be given to these tendencies, it is to be
feared that importations of foreign goods
beyond a healthy demand in this country
will lead to a sudden drain of the precious
metals from us, bringing with it, as it has
done in former times, the most disastrous
consequences to the business and capital
of the American people.

The exports of specie to liquidate our
foreign debt during the past fiscal year have
been \$24,269,079, over the amount of specie
imported. The exports of specie during
the first quarter of the present fiscal
year have been \$14,055,927. Should
specie continue to be exported at this rate
for the remaining three quarters of this
year, it will drain from our metallic cur-
rency during the year ending 30th June
1852, the enormous sum of \$58,607,-
308.

In the prosperous condition of the na-
tional finances, it will become the duty
of Congress to consider the best mode of pay-
ing off the public debt. The present and
anticipated surplus in the Treasury should