PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow-citizens of the Senate and the House of Representatives:

Under the benignant Providence of Almighty God, the representatives of the States and of the people are again brought together to deliberate for the public good. The gratitude of the nation to the sovereign Arbiter of all human events, should be commensurate with the boundless blessings which we enjoy.

Peace, plenty, and contentment reign throughout our borders, and our beloved country presents a sublime moral spectacle to the world.

The troubled and unsettled condition of some of the principal European powers has had a necessary tendency to check and embarrass trade, and to depress prices throughout all commercial nations; but notwithstanding these causes, the United States, with their abundant products, have felt their effects less severely than any other country, and all our great interests are still prosperous and successful.

In reviewing the great events of the past year, and contrasting the agitated and disturbed state of other countries with our tranquil and happy condition, we may congratulate ourselves that we are the most favored people on the face of the earth.—While the people of other countries are struggling to establish free institutions, under which man may govern himself, we are in the actual enjoyment of them—a rich inheritance from our fathers. While enlightened nations of Europe are convulsed and distracted by civil war or intestine strife, we settle all our political controversies by the peaceful exercise of the rights of freemen at the ballot-box. The great republican maxim so deeply engraven on the hearts of our people, that the will of the majority, constitutionally expressed, shall prevail, is our sure safeguard against force and violence. It is a subject of just pride, that our fame and character as a nation continue rapidly to advance in the estimation of the civilized world. To our wise and free institutions it is to be attributed, that while other nations have achieved glory at the price of the suffering, distress, and impoverishment of their people, we have won our honorable position in the midst of an uninterrupted prosperity, and of an increasing individual comfort and happiness. I am happy to inform you that our relations with all nations are friendly and pacific. Advantageous treaties of commerce have been concluded within the last four years with New Grenada, Peru, the Two Sicilies, Belgium, Hanover, Oldenburg, and Mecklenburg-Schwerin. Pursuing our example, the restrictive system of Great Britain, our principal foreign customer, has been relaxed; a more liberal commercial policy has been adopted by other enlightened nations, and our trade greatly enlarged and extended. Our country stands higher in the respect of the world than at any former period. To continue to occupy this proud position, it is only necessary to preserve peace, and faithfully adhere to the great and fundamental principle of our foreign policy, of non-interference in the domestic concerns of other nations. We recognise in all nations the rights which we enjoy ourselves, to change and reform their political institutions, according to their own will and pleasure. Hence we do not look behind existing governments, capable of maintaining their own authority. We recognise all such actual governments, not only from the dictates of true policy, but from a sacred regard for the independence of nations.

While this is our settled policy, it does not follow that we can ever be indifferent spectators of the progress of liberal principles. The government and people of the United States hailed with enthusiasm and delight the establishment of the French republic, as we now hail the efforts in progress to unite the States of Germany in a confederation, similar in many respects to our own federal Union. If the great and enlightened German States, occupying, as they do, a central and commanding position in Europe, shall succeed in establishing such a confederated government, securing at the same time to the citizens of each State, local governments adapted to the peculiar condition of each, with unrestricted trade and intercourse with each other, it will be an important era in the history of human events. Whilst it will consolidate and strengthen the power of Germany, it must essentially promote the cause of peace, commerce, civilization, and constitutional liberty throughout the world.

With all the governments on this continent our relations, it is believed, are now on a more friendly and satisfactory footing than they have ever been at any former period.

Since the exchange of ratifications of the treaty of peace with Mexico, our intercourse with the government of that republic has been of the most friendly character. The Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to Mexico has been received and accredited; and a diplomatic representative from Mexico of a similar rank has been received and accredited by this government. The amicable relations between the two countries which had been suspended have been happily restored, and are destined, I trust, to be long preserved. The two republics, both situated on this continent, and with coterminous territories, have every motive of sympathy and of interest to bind them together in perpetual amity.

This gratifying condition of our foreign relations renders it unnecessary for me to call your attention more specifically to them.

It has been my constant aim and desire to cultivate peace and commerce with all nations. Tranquillity at home and peaceful relations abroad, constitute the true permanent policy of our country. War, the scourge of nations, sometimes becomes inevitable, but is always to be avoided when it can be done consistently with the rights and honor of the nation.

One of the most important results of the war into which we were recently forced with a neighboring nation, is the demonstration it has afforded of the military strength of our country. Before the late war with Mexico, European and other Powers entertained imperfect and erroneous views of our physical strength as a nation, and of our ability to prosecute a war, and especially a war waged out of our own country. They saw that our standing army on the peace establishment did not exceed ten thousand men. Accustomed themselves to maintain in peace large standing armies for the protection of thrones against their own subjects, as well as against foreign enemies, they had not conceived that it was possible for a nation without such an army, well disciplined and of long service, to wage war successfully. They held in low repute our militia, and were far from regarding them as effective troops, unless it might be for temporary defensive operations when invaded on our own soil. The events of the late war with Mexico have not only undeceived them, but have removed erroneous impressions which prevailed to some extent even among a portion of our own countrymen. That war has demonstrated, that upon the breaking out of hostilities not anticipated, and for which no previous preparation had been made, a volunteer army of citizen soldiers equal to veteran troops, and in numbers equal to any emergency, can in a short period be brought into the field. Unlike what would have occurred in any other country, we were under no necessity of resorting to draughts or conscriptions. On the contrary, such was the number of volunteers who patriotically tendered their services, that the chief difficulty was in making selections and determining who should be disappointed and compelled to remain at home. Our citizen-soldiers are unlike those drawn from the population of any other country.—They are composed indiscriminately of all professions and pursuits: of farmers, lawyers, physicians, merchants, manufacturers, mechanics and laborers; and this, not only among the officers, but the private soldiers in the ranks. Our citizen-soldiers are unlike those of any other country in other respects. They are armed, and have been accustomed from their youth up to handle and use fire-arms; and a large proportion of them, especially in the western and more newly-settled States, are expert marksmen. They are men who have a reputation to maintain at home by their good conduct in the field. They are intelligent, and there is an individuality of character which is found in the ranks of no other army. In battle, each private man, as well as every officer, fights not only for his country, but for glory and distinction among his fellow-citizens when he shall return to civil life.

The war with Mexico has demonstrated not only the ability of the government to organize a numerous army upon a sudden call, but also to provide it with all the munitions and necessary supplies with despatch, convenience, and ease, and to direct its operations with efficiency. The strength of our institutions has not only been displayed in the valor and skill of our troops engaged in active service in the field, but in the organization of those executive branches which were charged with the general direction and conduct of the war. While too great praise cannot be bestowed upon the officers and men who fought our battles, it would be unjust to withhold from those officers necessarily stationed at home, who were charged with the duty of furnishing the army, in proper time, and at proper places, with all the munitions of war and other supplies so necessary to make it efficient, the commendation to which they are entitled. The credit due to this class of our officers is the greater, when it is considered that no army in ancient or modern times was ever better appointed or provided than our army in Mexico. Operating in an enemy's country, removed two thousand miles from the seat of the federal government, its different corps spread over a territory, hundreds and even thousands of miles apart from each other, nothing short of the untiring vigilance and extraordinary energy of these officers could have enabled them to provide the army at all points, and in proper season, with all that was required for the most efficient service.

It is but an act of justice to declare, that the officers in charge of the several executive bureaus, all under the immediate eye and supervision of the Secretary of War, performed their respective duties with ability, energy, and efficiency. They have reaped less of the glory of the war, not having been personally exposed to its perils in battle, than their companions in arms; but without their forecast, efficient aid, and co-operation, those in the field would not have been provided with the ample means they possessed of achieving for themselves and their country the unfading honors which they have won for both.

When all these facts are considered, it may cease to be a matter of so much amazement abroad how it happened that our noble army in Mexico, regulars and volunteers, were victorious upon every battle-field, however fearful the odds against them.

The war with Mexico has thus fully developed the capacity of republican governments to prosecute successfully a just and necessary foreign war with all the vigor usually attributed to more arbitrary forms of government. It has been usual for writers on public law to impute to republics a want of that unity, concentration of purpose, and vigor of execution, which are generally admitted to belong to the monarchical and aristocratic forms; and this feature of popular government has been supposed to display itself more particularly in the conduct of a war carried on in an enemy's territory. The war with Great Britain, in 1812, was to a great extent confined within our own limits, and shed but little light on the subject. But the war which we have just closed by an honorable peace, evinces beyond all doubt that a popular representative government is equal to any emergency which is likely to arise in the affairs of a nation.

The war with Mexico has developed most strikingly and conspicuously another feature in our institutions. It is, that without cost to the government or danger to our liberties, we have in the bosom of our society of freemen, available in a just and necessary war, virtually a standing army of two millions of armed citizens-soldiers, such as fought the battles of Mexico. But our military strength does not consist alone in our capacity for extended and successful operations on land. The navy is an important arm of the national defence. If the services of the navy were not so brilliant as those of the army in the late war with Mexico, it was because they had no enemy to meet on their own element. While the army had opportunity of performing more conspicuous service, the navy largely participated in the conduct of the war. Both branches of the service performed their whole duty to the country. For the able and gallant services of the officers and men of the navy—acting independently as well as in co-operation with our troops—in the conquest of the Californias, the capture of Vera Cruz, and the seizure and occupation of other important positions on the Gulf and Pacific coasts, the highest praise is due. Their vigilance, energy, and skill rendered the most effective service in excluding munitions of war and other supplies from the enemy, while they secured a safe entrance for abundant supplies for our own army. Our extended commerce was no where interrupted; and for this immunity from the evils of war, the country is indebted to the navy.

High praise is due to the officers of the several executive bureaus, navy yards, and stations connected with the service, all under the immediate direction of the Secretary of the Navy, for the industry, foresight, and energy with which everything was directed and furnished to give efficiency to that branch of the service. The same vigilance existed in directing the operations of the navy, as of the army. There was concert of action and of purpose between the heads of the two arms of the service. By the orders which were from time to time issued, our vessels of war on the Pacific and the Gulf of Mexico were stationed in proper time and in proper positions to co-operate efficiently with the army.—By this means their combined power was brought to bear successfully on the enemy.

The great results which have been developed and brought to light by this war, will be of immeasurable importance in the future progress of our country. They will tend powerfully to preserve us from foreign collisions, and to enable us to pursue uninterruptedly our cherished policy of "peace with all nations, entangling alliances with none."

Occupying, as we do, a more commanding position among nations than at any former period, our duties and our responsibilities to ourselves and posterity are correspondingly increased. This will be the more obvious when we consider the vast additions which have been recently made to our territorial possessions, and their great importance and value.

Within less than four years the annexation of Texas to the Union has been consummated; all conflicting title to the Oregon Territory south of the forty-ninth degree of north latitude, being all that was insisted on by any of my predecessors, has been adjusted; and New Mexico and Upper California have been acquired by treaty. The area of these several territories, according to a report carefully prepared by the Commissioner of the General Land office from the most authentic information in his possession, and which is herewith transmitted, contains one million one hundred and ninety-three thousand and sixty-one square miles, or seven hundred and sixty-three million five hundred and fifty-nine thousand and forty acres; while the area of the remaining twenty-nine States, and the territory not yet organized into States east of the Rocky mountains, contains two million fifty-nine thousand five hundred and thirteen square miles, or thirteen hundred and eighteen million one hundred and twenty-six thousand and fifty-eight acres.

These estimates show that the territories recently acquired, and over which our exclusive jurisdiction and dominion have been extended, constitute a country more than half as large as all that which was held by the United States before their acquisition. If Oregon be excluded from the estimate, there will still remain within the limits of Texas, New Mexico, and California, eight hundred and fifty-one thousand five hundred and ninety-eight square miles, or five hundred and forty-five million twelve thousand seven hundred and twenty acres; being an addition equal to more than one-third of all the territory owned by the United States before their acquisition; and, including Oregon, nearly as great an extent of territory as the whole of Europe, Russia only excepted. The Mississippi, so lately the frontier of our country, is now only its centre.—With the addition of the late acquisitions, the United States are now estimated to be nearly as large as the whole of Europe.—It is estimated by the superintendent of the coast survey, in the accompanying report, that the extent of the seacoast of Texas, on the Gulf of Mexico is upwards of four hundred miles; of the coast of Upper California, on the Pacific, of nine hundred and seventy miles; and of Oregon, including the Straits of Fuca, of six hundred and fifty miles; making the whole extent of seacoast on the Pacific one thousand six hundred and twenty miles, and the whole extent on both the Pacific and the Gulf of Mexico two thousand and twenty miles. The length of the coast Atlantic from the northern limits of the United States, around the Capes of Florida to the Sabine, on the eastern boundary of Texas, is estimated to be three thousand one hundred miles; so that the addition of seacoast, including Oregon, is very nearly two-thirds as great as all we possessed before; and excluding Oregon, is an addition of one thousand three hundred and seventy miles; being nearly equal to one-half of the extent of coast which we possessed before these acquisitions. We have now three great maritime fronts—on the Atlantic, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Pacific—making in the whole extent of seacoast five thousand miles. This is the extent of seacoast of the United States, not including bays, sounds, and small irregularities of the main shore, and of the sea islands. If these be included, the length of the shore line of coast, as estimated by the superintendent of the coast survey, in his report, would be thirty-three thousand and sixty-three miles.

It would be difficult to calculate the value of these immense additions to our territorial possessions. Texas, lying contiguous to the Western boundary of Louisiana, embracing within its limits a part of the navigable tributary waters of the Mississippi, and an extensive seacoast, could not long have remained in the hands of a foreign power without endangering the peace of our southwestern frontier. Her products in the vicinity of the tributaries of the Mississippi must have sought a market through these streams, running into and through our territory; and the danger of irritation and collision of interests between Texas as a foreign State and ourselves would have been imminent, while the embarrassments in the commercial intercourse between them must have been constant and unavoidable. Had Texas fallen into the hands, or under the influence and control of a strong maritime or military foreign power, as she might have done, these dangers would have been greater. They have been avoided by her voluntary and peaceful annexation to the United States. Texas, from her position, was a natural and almost indispensable part of our territories. Fortunately, she has been restored to our country, and now constitutes one of the States of our confederacy, "upon an equal footing with the original States." The salubrity of climate, the fertility of soil, peculiarly adapted to the production of some of our most valuable staple commodities, and her commercial advantages, must soon make her one of our most populous States.

New Mexico, though situated in the interior, and without a sea coast, is known to contain much fertile land, to abound in rich mines of precious metals, and to be capable of sustaining a large population. From its position, it is the intermediate and connecting territory between our settlements and our possessions in Texas, and those on the Pacific coast.

Upper California, irrespective of the vast mineral wealth recently developed there, holds at this day, in point of value and importance to the rest of the Union, the same relation that Louisiana did when that fine territory was acquired from France forty-five years ago. Extending nearly ten degrees of latitude along the Pacific, and embracing the only safe and commodious harbors on that coast for many hundred miles, with a temperate climate, and an extensive interior of fertile lands, it is scarcely possible to estimate its wealth until it shall be brought under the government of our laws, and its resources fully developed. From its position, it must command the rich commerce of China, of Asia, of the islands of the Pacific, of Western Mexico, of Central America, the South American States, and of the Russian possessions bordering on that ocean. A great emporium will doubtless speedily arise on the Californian coast, which may be destined to rival in importance New Orleans itself. The depot of the vast commerce which must exist on the Pacific will probably be at some point on the bay of San Francisco, and will occupy the same relation to the whole western coast of that ocean, as New Orleans does to the valley of the Mississippi and the gulf of Mexico. To this depot our numerous whale ships will resort with their cargoes, to trade, refit, and obtain supplies. This of itself will largely contribute to build up a city, which would soon become the centre of a great and rapidly increasing commerce. Situated on a safe harbor, sufficiently capacious for all the navies as well as the marine of the world, and convenient to excellent timber for ship building, owned by the United States, it must become our great western naval depot.

It was known that mines of the precious metals existed to a considerable extent in California at the time of its acquisition. Recent discoveries render it probable that these mines are more extensive and valuable than was anticipated. The accounts of the abundance of gold in that territory are of such an extraordinary character as would scarcely command belief were they not corroborated by the authentic reports of officers in the public service, who have visited the mineral district, and derived all the facts which they detail from personal observation. Reluctant to credit the reports in general circulation as to the quantity of gold, the officer commanding our forces in California visited the mineral district in July last, for the purpose of obtaining accurate information on the subject. His report to the War Department of the result of his examination, and the facts obtained on the spot, is herewith laid before Congress. When he visited the country, there were about four thousand persons engaged in collecting gold. There is every reason to believe that the number of persons so employed has since been augmented. The explorations already made warrant the belief that the supply is very large, and that gold is found at various places in an extensive district of country.

Information received from our officers of the navy and other sources, though not so full and minute, confirms the accounts of the commander of our military force in California. It appears, also, from these reports, that mines of quicksilver are found in the vicinity of the gold region. One of them is now being worked, and is believed to be among the most productive in the world.

The effects produced by the discovery of these rich mineral deposites, and the success which has attended the labors of those who have resorted to them, have produced a surprising change in the state of affairs in California. Labor commands a most exorbitant price, and all other pursuits but that of searching for the precious metals are abandoned. Nearly the whole of the male population of the country have gone to the gold district.—Ships arriving on the coast are deserted by their crews, and their voyages suspended for want of sailors. Our commanding officer there entertains apprehensions that soldiers cannot be kept in the public service without a large increase of pay. Desertions in his command have become frequent, and he recommends that those who shall withstand the strong temptation, and remain faithful, should be rewarded.

This abundance of gold, and the all-engrossing pursuit of it, have already caused in California an unprecedented rise in the price of the necessaries of life.

That we may the more speedily and fully avail ourselves of the undeveloped wealth of these mines, it is deemed of vast importance that a branch of the mint of the United States be authorized to be established, at your present session, in California. Among other signal advantages which would result from such an establishment would be that of raising the gold to its par value in that Territory. A branch mint of the United States at the great commercial depot on the west coast, would convert into our own coin not only the gold derived from our own rich mines, but also the bullion and specie which our commerce may bring from the whole west coast of Central and South America. The west coast of America and the adjacent interior embrace the richest and best mines of Mexico, New Granada, Central America, Chili, and Peru. The bullion and specie drawn from these countries, and especially from those of Western Mexico and Peru, to an amount in value of many millions of dollars, are now annually diverted and carried by the ships of Great Britain to her own ports, to be recoined and used to sustain her National Bank, and thus contribute to increase her ability to command so much of the commerce of the world. If a branch mint be established at the great commercial point upon that coast, a vast amount of bullion and specie would flow thither to be recoined, and pass thence to New Orleans, New York, and other Atlantic cities. The amount of our constitutional currency at home would be increased, while its circulation abroad would be promoted. It is well known to our merchants trading to China and the west coast of America, that great inconvenience and loss are experienced from the fact that our coins are not current at their par value in those countries.

The powers of Europe, far removed from the west coast of America by the Atlantic ocean which intervenes, and by a tedious and dangerous navigation around the southern cape of the continent of America, can never successfully compete with the United States in the rich and extensive commerce which is opened to us at so much less cost by the acquisition of California.

The vast importance and commercial advantages of California have heretofore remained undeveloped by the government of the country of which it constituted a part. Now that this fine province is a part of our country, all the States of the Union, some more immediately and directly than others, are deeply interested in the speedy development of its wealth and resources. No section of our country is more interested, or will be more benefited, than the commercial, navigating, and manufacturing interests of the eastern States. Our planting and farming interests in every part of the Union will be greatly benefited by it. As our commerce and navigation are enlarged and extended, our exports of agricultural products and of manufactures will be increased; and in the new markets thus opened, they cannot fail to command remunerating and profitable prices.

The acquisition of California and New Mexico, the settlement of the Oregon boundary, and the annexation of Texas, extending to the Rio Grande, are results which, combined, are of greater consequence, and will add more to the strength and wealth of the nation, than any which have preceded them since the adoption of the constitution.

But to effect these great results, not only California, but New Mexico, must be brought under the control of regularly organized governments. The existing condition of California, and of that part of New Mexico lying west of the Rio Grande, and without the limits of Texas, imperiously demand that Congress should, at its present session, organize territorial governments over them.

Upon the exchange of ratifications of the treaty of peace with Mexico on the thirtieth of May last, the temporary governments which had been established over New Mexico and California by our military and naval commanders, by virtue of the rights of war, ceased to derive any obligatory force from that source of authority; and having been ceded to the United States, all government and control over them under the authority of Mexico had ceased to exist. Impressed with the necessity of establishing territorial governments over them, I recommended the subject to the favorable consideration of Congress in my message communicating the ratified treaty of peace, on the sixth of July last, and invoked their action at that session. Congress adjourned without making any provision for their government. The inhabitants by the transfer of their country had become entitled to the benefits of our laws and constitution, and yet were left without any regularly organized government. Since that time, the very limited power possessed by the Executive has been exercised to preserve and protect them from the inevitable consequences of a state of anarchy. The only government which remained was that established by the military authority during the war. Regarding this to be a *de facto* government, and that by the presumed consent of the inhabitants it might be continued temporarily, they were advised to conform and submit to it for the short intervening period before Congress would again assemble and could legislate on the subject. The views entertained by the Executive on this point are contained in a communication of the Secretary of State, dated the seventh of October last, which was forwarded for publication to California and New Mexico, a copy of which is herewith transmitted.

The small military force of the regular army, which was serving within the limits of the acquired territories at the close of the war, was retained in them, and additional forces have been ordered there for the protection of the inhabitants, and to preserve and secure the rights and interests of the United States.

No revenue has been or could be collected at the ports in California, because Congress failed to authorize the establishment of custom-houses, or the appointment of officers for that purpose.

The Secretary of the Treasury, by a circular letter addressed to collectors of the customs, on the seventh day of October last, a copy of which is herewith transmitted, exercised all the power with which he was invested by law.

In pursuance of an act of the fourteenth of August last, extending the benefit of our post office laws to the people of California, the Postmaster General has appointed two agents, who have proceeded, the one to California, and the other to Oregon, with authority to make the necessary arrangements for carrying its provisions into effect.

The monthly line of mail steamers from Panama to Astoria has been required to "stop and deliver and take mails at San Diego, Monterey, and San Francisco." These mail steamers, connected by the isthmus of Panama with the line of mail steamers on the Atlantic between New York and Chagres, will establish a regular mail communication with California.

It is our solemn duty to provide with the least practicable delay, for New Mexico and California, regularly organized territorial governments. The causes of the failure to do this at the last session of Congress are well known, and deeply to be regretted. With the opening prospects of increased prosperity and national greatness which the acquisition of these rich and extensive territorial possessions affords, how irrational it would be to forego or reject these advantages, by the agitation of a domestic question which is coeval with the existence of our government itself, and to endanger by internal strifes, geographical divisions, and heated contests for political power, or for any other cause, the harmony of the glorious Union of our confederated States; that Union which binds us together as one people, and which for 60 years has been our shield and our protection against every danger. In the eyes of the world and posterity, how trivial and insignificant will be all our internal divisions and struggles compared with the preservation of this Union of the States in all its vigor and with all its countless blessings! No patriot would foment and excite geographical and sectional divisions. No lover of his country would deliberately calculate the value of the Union. Future generations would look in amazement upon the folly of such a course. Other nations at the present day would look upon it with astonishment; and such of them as desire to maintain and perpetuate thrones and monarchical or aristocratical principles, will view it with exultation and delight, because in it they will see the elements of faction, which they hope must ultimately overturn our system. Ours is the great example of a prosperous and free self-governed republic, commanding the admiration and imitation of all the lovers of freedom throughout the world.—How solemn, therefore, is the duty, how impressive the call upon us and upon all parts of our country, to cultivate a patriotic spirit of harmony, of good fellowship, of compromise and mutual concession, in the administration of the incomparable system of government formed by our fathers in the midst of almost insuperable difficulties, and transmitted to us, with the injunction that we should enjoy its blessings and hand it down unimpaired to those who may come after us!

In view of the high and responsible duties which we owe to ourselves and to mankind, I trust you may be able, at your present session, to approach the adjustment of the only domestic question which seriously threatens, or probably ever can threaten, to disturb the harmony and successful operation of our system.

The immensely valuable possessions of New Mexico and California are already inhabited by a considerable population. Attracted by the great fertility, their mineral wealth, their commercial advantages and the salubrity of the climate, emigrants from the older States, in great numbers, are already preparing to seek new homes in these inviting regions.

Shall the dissimilarity of the domestic institutions in the different States prevent us from providing for them suitable governments? These institutions existed at the adoption of the constitution, but the obstacles which they interposed were overcome by that spirit of compromise which is now invoked. In a conflict of opinions or of interests, real or imaginary, between different sections of our country, neither can justly demand all that it might desire to obtain. Each, in the true spirit of our institutions, should concede something to the other.

Our gallant forces in the Mexican war, by whose patriotism and unparalleled deeds of arms we obtained these possessions as an indemnity for our just demands against Mexico, were composed of citizens who belonged to no one State or section of our Union. They were men from slaveholding and non-slaveholding States, from the North and the South, from the East and the West. They were all companions-in-arms and fellow-citizens of the same common country, engaged in the same common cause. When prosecuting that war, they were brethren and friends, and shared alike with each other common toils, dangers, and sufferings. Now, when their work is ended, when peace is restored, and they return again to their homes, put off the habiliments of war, take their places in society, and resume their pursuits in civil life, surely a spirit of harmony and concession, and of equal regard for the rights of all and of all sections of the Union ought to prevail in providing governments for the acquired territories—the fruits of their common service. The whole people of the United States and of every State contributed to defray the expenses of that war; and it would not be just for any one section to exclude another from all participation in the acquired territory.—This would not be in consonance with the just system of government which the framers of the constitution adopted.

The question is believed to be rather abstract than practical, whether slavery ever can or would exist in any portion of the acquired territory, even if it were left to the option of the slaveholding States themselves. From the nature of the climate and productions, in much the larger portion of it, it is certain it never could exist; and in the remainder, the probabilities are it would not. But however this may be, the question, involving, as it does, a principle of equality of rights of the separate and several States, as equal copartners in the confederacy, should not be disregarded.

In organizing governments over these Territories, no duty imposed on Congress by the constitution requires that they should legislate on the subject of slavery, while their power to do so is not only seriously questioned, but denied by many of the soundest expounders of that instrument.—Whether Congress shall legislate or not, the people of the acquired Territories, when assembled in convention to form State constitutions, will possess the sole and exclusive power to determine for themselves whether slavery shall or shall not exist within their limits. If Congress shall abstain from interfering with the question, the people of these Territories will be left free to adjust it as they may think proper when they apply for admission as States into the Union. No enactment of Congress could restrain the people of any of the sovereign States of the Union, old or new, north or south, slaveholding or non-slaveholding, from determining the character of their own domestic institutions as they may deem wise and proper.—Any and all the States possess this right, and Congress cannot deprive them of it. The people of Georgia might, if they chose, so alter their constitution as to abolish slavery within its limits; and the people of Vermont might so alter their constitution as to admit slavery within its limits. Both States would possess the right; though, as all know, it is not probable that either would exert it.

It is fortunate for the peace and harmony of the Union that this question is in its nature temporary, and can only continue for the brief period which will intervene before California and New Mexico may be admitted as States into the Union. From the tide of population now flowing into them, it is highly probable that this will soon occur.

Considering the several States and the citizens of them as equals, and entitled to equal rights under the constitution, if this were an original question, it might well be insisted on that the principle of non-interference is the true doctrine, and that Congress could not, in the absence of any express grant of power, interfere with their relative rights.

Upon an emergency, however, and under menacing dangers to the Union, the Missouri compromise line in respect to slavery was adopted. The same line was extended further west in the acquisition of Texas. After an acquiescence of nearly thirty years in the principle of compromise recognized and established by these acts, and to avoid the danger to the Union which might follow if it were now disregarded, I have heretofore expressed the opinion that that line of compromise should be extended on the parallel of thirty-six degrees thirty minutes from the western boundary of Texas, where it now terminates, to the Pacific ocean. This is the middle ground of compromise, upon which the different sections of the Union may meet, as they have heretofore met. If this be done, it is confidently believed a large majority of the people of every section of the country, however widely their abstract opinions on the subject of slavery may differ, would cheerfully and patriotically acquiesce in it, and peace and harmony would again fill our borders.

The restriction north of the line was only yielded to in the case of Missouri and Texas upon a principle of compromise, made necessary for the sake of preserving the harmony, and possibly the existence of the Union.

It was upon these considerations that at the close of your last session, I gave my sanction to the principle of the Missouri compromise line, by approving and signing the bill to establish "the Territorial government of Oregon." From a sincere desire to promote the harmony of the Union, and in deference to the acts of my predecessors, I felt constrained to yield my acquiescence to the extent to which they had gone in compromising this delicate and dangerous question. But if Congress shall now reverse the decision by which the Missouri compromise was effected, and shall propose to extend the restriction over the whole territory, south as well as north of the parallel of thirty-six degrees thirty minutes, it will cease to be a compromise, and must be regarded as an original question.

If Congress, instead of observing the course of non-interference, leaving the adoption of their own domestic institutions to the people who may inhabit these Territories; or if, instead of extending the Missouri compromise line to the Pacific, shall prefer to submit the legal and constitutional questions which may arise to the decision of the judicial tribunals, as was proposed in a bill which passed the Senate at your last session, an adjustment may be effected in this mode. If the whole subject be referred to the judiciary, all parts of the Union should cheerfully acquiesce in the final decision of the tribunal created by the constitution for the settlement of all questions which may arise under the constitution, treaties, and laws of the United States.

Congress is earnestly invoked, for the sake of the Union, its harmony, and our continued prosperity as a nation, to adjust at its present session this, the only dangerous question which lies in our path—if not in some one of the modes suggested, in some other which may be satisfactory.

In anticipation of the establishment of regular governments over the acquired territories, a joint commission of officers of the army and navy has been ordered to proceed to the coast of California and Oregon, for the purpose of making reconnoissances and a report as to the proper sites for the erection of fortifications or other defensive works on land, and of suitable situations for naval stations. The information which may be expected from a scientific and skillful examination of the whole face of the coast will be eminently useful to Congress, when they come to consider the propriety of making appropriations for these great national objects. Proper defences on land will be necessary for the security and protection of our possessions; and the establishment of navy-yards, and a dock for the repair and construction of vessels, will be important to our navy and commercial marine. Without such establishments, every vessel, whether of the navy or of the merchant service, requiring repair, must, at great expense, come round Cape Horn to one of our Atlantic yards for that purpose. With such establishments, vessels, it is believed, may be built or repaired as cheaply in California as upon the Atlantic coast. They would give employment to many of our enterprising ship-builders and mechanics, and greatly facilitate and enlarge our commerce on the Pacific.

As it is ascertained that mines of gold, silver, copper, and quicksilver, exist in New Mexico and California, and that nearly all the lands where they are found belong the United States, it is deemed important to the public interests that provision be made for a geological and mineralogical examination of these regions. Measures should be adopted to preserve the mineral lands, especially such as contain the precious metals, for the use of the United States; or if brought into market, to separate them from the farming lands, and dispose of them in such manner as to secure a large return of money to the treasury, and at the same time lead to the development of their wealth by individual proprietors and purchasers. To do this, it will be necessary to provide for an immediate survey and location of the lots. If Congress should deem it proper to dispose of the mineral lands, they should be sold in small quantities, and at a fixed minimum price.

I recommend that surveyor generals' offices be authorized to be established in New Mexico and California, and provision made for surveying and bringing the public lands into market at the earliest practicable period. In disposing of these lands, I recommend that the right of pre-emption be secured, and liberal grants made to the early emigrants who have settled or may settle upon them.

It will be important to extend our revenue laws over these territories, and especially over California, at an early period. There is already a considerable commerce with California, and until ports of entry shall be established and collectors appointed, no revenue can be collected.

If these and other necessary and proper measures be adopted for the development of the wealth and resources of New Mexico and California, and regular Territorial governments be established over them, such will probably be the rapid enlargement of our commerce and navigation, and such the addition to the national wealth, that the present generation may live to witness the controling commercial and monetary power of the world transferred from London and other European emporiums to the city of New York.

The apprehensions which were entertained by some of our statesmen, in the earlier periods of the government, that our system was incapable of operating with sufficient energy and success over largely extended territorial limits, and that if this were attempted, it would fall to pieces by its own weakness, have been dissipated by our experience. By the division of power between the States and federal government, the latter is found to operate with as much energy in the extremes as in the centre. It is as efficient in the remotest of the thirty States which now compose the Union, as it was in the thirteen States which formed our constitution.—Indeed, it may well be doubted, whether, if our present population had been confined within the limits of the original thirteen States, the tendencies to centralization and consolidation would not have been such as to have encroached upon the essential reserved rights of the States, and thus to have made the federal government a widely different one, practically, from what it is in theory, and was intended to be by its framers. So far from entertaining apprehensions of the safety of our system by the extension of our territory, the belief is confidently entertained that each new State gives strength and an additional guaranty for the preservation of the Union itself.

In pursuance of the provisions of the thirteenth article of the treaty of peace, friendship, limits, and settlement, with the republic of Mexico, and of the act of July the twenty-ninth, 1848, claims of our citizens which had been "already liquidated and decided against the Mexican republic," amounting with the interest thereon, to two million twenty-three thousand eight hundred and thirty-two dollars and fifty-one cents, have been liquidated and paid. There remain to be paid of these claims, seventy four thousand one hundred and ninety two dollars and twenty seven cents.

Congress at its last session having made no provision for executing the fifteenth article of the treaty, by which the United States assume to make satisfaction for the "unliquidated claims" of our citizens against Mexico, to "an amount not exceeding three and a quarter millions of dollars," the subject is again recommended to your favorable consideration.

The exchange of ratifications of the treaty with Mexico took place on the thirtieth of May, 1848. Within one year after that time, the commissioner and surveyor which government stipulates to appoint, are required to meet "at the port of San Diego, and proceed to run and mark the said boundary in its whole course to the mouth of the Rio Bravo del Norte." It will be seen from this provision, that the period within which a commissioner and surveyor of the respective governments are to meet at San Diego, will expire on the thirtieth of May, 1819, Congress, at the close of its last session, made an appropriation for "the expenses of running and marking the boundary line" between the two countries, but did not fix the amount of salary which should be paid to the commissioner and surveyor to be appointed on the part of the United States. It is desirable that the amount of compensation which they shall receive should be prescribed by law, and not left, as at present, to Executive discretion.

Measures were adopted at the earliest practicable period to organize the "Territorial government of Oregon," as authorized by the act of the fourteenth of August last. The governor and marshal of the territory, accompanied by a small military escort, left the frontier of Missouri in September last, and took the southern route, by the way of Santa Fe and the river Gila, to California, with the intention of proceeding thence in one of our vessels of war to their destination. The governor was fully advised of the great importance of his early arrival in the country, and it is confidently believed he may reach Oregon in the latter part of the present month, or early in the next. The other officers for the Territory have proceeded by sea.

In the month of May last, a communication was made to Congress that an Indian war had broken out in Oregon, and recommended that authority be given to raise an adequate number of volunteers to proceed without delay to the assistance of our fellow-citizens in that Territory. The authority to raise such a force not having been granted by Congress, as soon as their services could be dispensed with in Mexico, orders were issued to the regiment of mounted riflemen to proceed to Jefferson Barracks, in Missouri, and to prepare to march to Oregon as soon as the necessary provision could be made. Shortly before it was ready to march, it was arrested by the provision of the act passed by Congress on the last day of the last session, which directed that all the non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates of that regiment, who had been in service in Mexico, should, upon their application, be entitled to be discharged. The effect of this provision was to disband the rank and file of the regiment; and before their places could be filled by recruits, the season had so far advanced that it was impracticable for it to proceed until the opening of the next spring.

In the month of October last, the accompanying communication was received from the governor of the temporary government of Oregon, giving information of the continuance of the Indian disturbances, and of the destitution and defenceless condition of the inhabitants. Orders were immediately transmitted to the commander of our squadron in the Pacific, to despatch to their assistance a part of the naval forces on that station, to furnish them with arms and ammunition, and to continue to give them such aid and protection as the navy could afford, until the army could reach the country.

It is the policy of humanity, and one which has always been pursued by the United States, to cultivate the good will of the aboriginal tribes of this continent, and to restrain them from making war, and indulging in excesses, by mild means, rather than by force. That this could have been done with the tribes in Oregon, had that Territory been brought under the government of our laws at an earlier period, and had suitable measures been adopted by Congress, such as now exist in our intercourse with the other Indian tribes within our limits, cannot be doubted. Indeed, the immediate and only cause of the existing hostility of the Indians of Oregon, is represented to have been, the long delay of the United States in making to them some trifling compensation, in such articles as they wanted, for the country now occupied by our emigrants, which the Indians claimed, and over which they formerly roamed. This compensation had been promised to them by the temporary government established in Oregon, but its fulfilment had been postponed from time to time, for nearly two years, whilst those who made it had been anxiously waiting for Congress to establish a territorial government over the country. The Indians became at length distrustful of their good faith, and sought redress by plunder and massacre, which finally led to the present difficulties. A few thousand dollars in suitable presents, as compensation for the country which had been taken possession of by our citizens, would have satisfied the Indians, and have prevented the war. A small amount, properly distributed, it is confidently believed, would soon restore quiet. In this Indian war our fellow-citizens of Oregon have been compelled to take the field in their own defence, have performed valuable military services, and been subjected to expenses which have fallen heavily upon them. Justice demands that provision should be made by Congress to compensate them for their services, and to refund to them the necessary expenses which they have incurred.

I repeat the recommendation heretofore made to Congress, that provision be made for the appointment of a suitable number of Indian agents to reside among the tribes of Oregon, and that a small sum be appropriated to enable these agents to cultivate friendly relations with them. If this be done, the presence of a small military force will be all that is necessary to keep them in check, and preserve peace.

I recommend that similar provision be made as regards the tribes inhabiting northern Texas, New Mexico, California, and the extensive region lying between our settlements in Missouri and these possessions, as the most effective means of preserving peace upon our borders, and within the recently acquired territories.

The Secretary of the Treasury will present in his annual report a highly satisfactory statement of the condition of the finances.

The imports for the fiscal year ending on the thirtieth of June last were of the value of one hundred and fifty-four million nine hundred and seventy-seven thousand eight hundred and seventy-six dollars; of which the amount exported was twenty-one million one hundred and twenty-eight thousand and ten dollars, leaving one hundred and thirty-three million eight hundred and forty-nine thousand eight hundred and sixty-six dollars in the country for domestic use.

The value of the exports for the same period was one hundred and fifty-four million thirty-two thousand one hundred and thirty-one dollars, consisting of domestic productions amounting to one hundred and thirty-two million nine hundred and four thousand one hundred and twenty-one dollars, and twenty-one million one hundred and twenty-eight thousand and ten dollars of foreign articles.

The receipts into the treasury, for the same period, exclusive of loans, amounted to thirty-five million four hundred and thirty-six thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars and fifty-nine cents; of which there was derived from customs thirty-one million seven hundred and fifty-seven thousand and seventy dollars and ninety-six cents; from sales of public lands, three million three hundred and twenty-eight thousand six hundred and forty-two dollars and fifty-six cents; and from miscellaneous and incidental sources, three hundred and fifty-one thousand and thirty-seven dollars and seven cents.

It will be perceived that the revenue from customs for the last fiscal year exceeded by seven hundred and fifty-seven thousand and seventy dollars and ninety-six cents, the estimate of the Secretary of the Treasury in his last annual report; and that the aggregate receipts during the same period from customs, lands, and miscellaneous sources, also exceeded by the sum of five hundred and thirty-six thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars and fifty-nine cents—indicating, however, a very near approach in the estimate to the actual result.

The expenditures during the fiscal year ending on the thirtieth of June last, including those for the war and exclusive of payment of principle and interest for the public debt, were forty-two million eight hundred and eleven thousand nine hundred and seventy dollars and three cents.

It is estimated that the receipts into the treasury for the fiscal year ending on the thirtieth of June, 1819, including the balance in the treasury on the first of July last, will amount to the sum of fifty-seven million forty-eight thousand nine hundred and sixty-nine dollars and ninety cents; of which thirty-two million of dollars, it is estimated, will be derived from customs; three millions of dollars from the sales of the public lands; and one million two hundred thousand dollars from miscellaneous and incidental sources, including the premium upon the loan, and the amount paid and to be paid into the treasury on account of military contributions in Mexico, and the sales of arms and vessels and other public property rendered unnecessary for the use of the government by the termination of the war; and twenty million six hundred and ninety-five thousand four hundred and thirty-five dollars and thirty cents from loans already negotiated, including treasury notes funded, which, together with balance in the treasury on the first of July last, make the sum estimated.

The expenditures for the same period, including the necessary payment on account of the principle and interest of the public debt, and the principal and interest of the first instalment due to Mexico on the 30th of May next, and other expenditures growing out of the war, to be paid during the present year, will amount, including the reimbursement of treasury notes, to the sum of fifty-four million one hundred and ninety-five thousand two hundred and seventy-five dollars and six cents; leaving an estimated balance in the treasury on the first of July, 1849, of two million eight hundred and fifty-three thousand six hundred and ninety-four dollars and eighty-four cents.

The Secretary of the Treasury will present, as required by law, the estimate of the receipts and expenditures for the next fiscal year. The expenditures as estimated for the year are 33,213,152 73, including 3,799,102 18 for the interest on the public debt, and 3,540,000 dollars for the principal and interest due to Mexico on the 30th of May, 1850; leaving the sum of $25,874,050 35; which, it is believed, will be ample for the ordinary peace expenditures.

The operations of the tariff act of 1846 have been such during the past year as fully to meet the public expectation, and to confirm the opinion heretofore expressed of the wisdom of the change in our revenue system which was effected by it. The receipts under it into the treasury for the first fiscal year after its enactment exceeded by the sum of five million forty-four thousand four hundred and three dollars and nine cents the amount collected during the last fiscal year under the tariff act of 1842, ending the 30th of June, 1846. The total revenue realized from the commencement of its operation, on the first of December, 1846, until the close of the last quarter, on the 30th of September last, being twenty-two months, was fifty-six million six hundred and fifty-four thousand five hundred and sixty three dollars and seventy-nine cents—being a much larger sum than was ever before received from duties during equal period under the tariff acts of 1824, 1828, 1832, and 1842. Whilst by the repeal of highly protective and prohibitory duties the revenue has been increased, the taxes on the people have been diminished. They have been relieved from the heavy amounts with which they were burthened under former laws in the form of increased prices or bounties paid to favored classes and pursuits.

The predictions which were made, that the tariff act of 1846 would reduce the amount of revenue below that collected under the act of 1842, and would prostrate the business and destroy the prosperity of the country, have not been verified. With an increased and increasing revenue, the finances are in a highly flourishing condition. Agriculture, commerce, and navigation, are prosperous; the prices of manufactured fabrics, and of other products, are much less injuriously effected than was to have been anticipated, from the unprecedented revulsions, which, during the last and the present year, have overwhelmed the industry and paralyzed the credit and commerce of so many great and enlightened nations of Europe.

Severe commercial revulsions abroad have always heretofore operated to depress, and often to affect disastrously, almost every branch of American industry. The temporary depression of a portion of our manufacturing interests is the effect of foreign causes, and is far less severe than has prevailed on all former similar occasions.

It is believed that, looking to the great aggregate of all our interests, the whole country was never more prosperous than at the present period and never more rapidly advancing in wealth and population. Neither the foreign war in which we have been involved, nor the loans which have absorbed so large a portion of our capital, nor the commercial revulsion in Great Britain in 1847, nor the paralysis of credit and commerce throughout Europe in 1848, have affected injuriously to any considerable extent, any of the great interests of the country, or arrested our onward march to greatness, wealth and power.

Had the disturbances in Europe not occurred, our commerce would undoubtedly have been still more extended, and would have added still more to the national wealth and public prosperity. But notwithstanding these disturbances, the operations of the revenue system established by the tariff act of 1846, have been so generally beneficial to the government and business of the country, that no change in its provisions is demanded by a wise public policy, and none is recommended.

The operations of the constitutional treasury established by the act of the sixth of August, 1846, in the receipt, custody, and disbursement of the public money, have continued to be successful. Under this system the public finances have been carried through a foreign war, involving the necessity of loans and extraordinary expenditures, and requiring distant transfers and disbursements, without embarrassment, and no loss has occurred of any of the public money deposited under its provisions. Whilst it has proved to be safe and useful to the government, its effects have been most beneficial upon the business of the country.

It has tended powerfully to secure an exemption from that inflation and fluctuation of the paper currency, so injurious to domestic industry, and rendering so uncertain the rewards of labor, and it is believed has largely contributed to preserve the whole country from a serious commercial revulsion, such as often occurred under the bank deposite system. In the year 1847 there was a revulsion in the business of Great Britain of great extent and intensity, which was followed by failures in the kingdom unprecedented in number and amount of losses. This is believed to be the first instance when such disastrous bankruptcies, occurring in a country with which we have such extensive commerce, produced little or no injurious effect upon our trade or currency. We remained but little affected in our money market, and our business and industry were still prosperous and progressive.

During the present year, nearly the whole continent of Europe has been convulsed by civil war and revolutions, attended by numerous bankruptcies, by an unprecedented fall in their public securities, and an almost universal paralysis of commerce and industry; and yet, although our trade and the prices of our products must have been somewhat unfavorably affected by these causes, we have escaped a revulsion; our money market is comparatively easy, and public and private credit have advanced and improved.

It is confidently believed that we have been saved from their effect by the salutary operation of the constitutional treasury. It is certain that if the twenty-four millions of specie imported into the country during the fiscal year ending on the thirtieth of June, 1847, had gone into the banks, as to a great extent it must have done, it would, in the absence of this system, have been made the basis of augmented bank paper issues, probably to an amount not less than sixty or seventy millions of dollars, producing, as an inevitable consequence of an inflated currency, extravagant prices for a time, and wild speculation, which must have been followed, on the reflux to Europe, the succeeding year, of so much of that specie, by the prostration of the business of the country, the suspension of the banks, and most extensive bankruptcies. Occurring, as this would have done, at a period when the country was engaged in a foreign war, when considerable loans of specie were required, for distant disbursements, and when the banks, the fiscal agents of the government, and the depositories of its money, were suspended, the public credit must have sunk, and many millions of dollars, as was the case during the war of 1812, must have been sacrificed in discounts upon loans, and upon the depreciated paper currency which the government would have been compelled to use.

Under the operations of the constitutional treasury, not a dollar has been lost by the depreciation of the currency. The loans required to prosecute the war with Mexico were negotiated by the Secretary of the Treasury above par, realizing a handsome premium to the government. The restraining effect of the system upon the tendencies to excessive paper issues by banks has saved the government from heavy losses, and thousands of our business men from bankruptcy and ruin. The wisdom of the system has been tested by the experience of the last two years; and it is the dictate of sound policy that it should remain undisturbed. The modifications in some of the details of this measure, involving none of its essential principles, heretofore recommended, are again presented for your favorable consideration.

In my message of the sixth of July last, transmitting to Congress the ratified treaty of peace with Mexico, I recommended the adoption of measures for the speedy payment of the public debt. In reiterating that recommendation, I refer you to the consideration presented in that message in its support. The public debt, including that authorized to be negotiated in pursuance of existing laws, and including treasury notes, amounted at that time to sixty-five million seven hundred and seventy-eight thousand four hundred and fifty dollars and forty-one cents.

Funded stock of the United States amounting to about half a million of dollars, has been purchased, as authorized by law, since that period, and the public debt has thus been reduced; the details of which will be presented in the annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury.

The estimates of the expenditures for the next fiscal year, submitted by the Secretary of the Treasury, it is believed will be ample for all necessary purposes. If the appropriations made by Congress shall not exceed the amount estimated, the means in the treasury will be sufficient to defray all the expenses of the government; to pay off the next instalment of three millions of dollars to Mexico, which will fall due on the 30th of May next; and still a considerable surplus will remain, which should be applied to the further purchase of stock and reduction of the debt. Should enlarged appropriations be made, the necessary consequence will be to postpone the payment of the debt.—Though our debt, as compared with most other nations, is small, it is our true policy, and in harmony with the genius of our institutions, that we should present to the world the rare spectacle of a great republic, possessing vast resources and wealth, wholly exempt from public indebtedness. This would add still more to our strength, and give us a still more commanding position among the nations of the earth.

The public expenditures should be economical, and be confined to such necessary objects as are clearly within the powers of Congress. All such as are not absolutely demanded should be postponed, and the payment of the public debt at the earliest practicable period, should be a cardinal principle of public policy.

For the reason assigned in my last annual message, I repeat the recommendation that a branch mint of the United States be established at the city of New York. The importance of this measure is greatly increased by the acquisition of the rich gold mines of the precious metals in New Mexico and California, and especially the latter.

I repeat the recommendation, heretofore made, in favor of the graduation and reduction of the price of the public lands which have been long offered in the market, and have remained unsold, and in favor of extending the rights of pre-emption to actual settlers on the unsurveyed as well as the surveyed lands.

The condition and operations of the army, and the state of the other branches of the public service under the supervision of the War Department, are satisfactorily presented in the accompanying report of the Secretary of War.

On the return of peace, our forces were withdrawn from Mexico, and the volunteers and that portion of the regular army engaged for the war were disbanded. Orders have been issued for stationing the forces of our permanent establishment at various positions in our extended country, where troops may be required. Owing to the remoteness of some of these positions, the detachments have not yet reached their destination. Notwithstanding the extension of the limits of our country and the forces required in the new territories, it is confidently believed that our present military establishment is sufficient for all exigencies, so long as our peaceful relations remain undisturbed.

Of the amount of military contributions collected in Mexico, the sum of seven hundred and sixty-nine thousand six hundred and fifty dollars was applied towards the payment of the first instalment due under the treaty with Mexico. The further sum of three hundred and forty-six thousand three hundred and sixty nine dollars and thirty cents has been paid into the treasury, and unexpended balances still remain in the hands of disbursing officers and those who were engaged in the collection of the moneys. After the proclamation of peace, no further disbursements were made of any unexpended moneys arising from this source. The balances on hand were directed to be paid into the treasury, and individual claims on the fund will remain unadjusted until Congress shall authorize their settlement and payment. These claims are not considerable in number or amount.

I recommend to your favorable consideration the suggestion of the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy, in regard to legislation on this subject.

Our indian relations are presented in a most favorable view in the report from the War Department. The wisdom of our policy in regard to the tribes within our limits, is clearly manifested by their improved and rapidly improving condition.

A most important treaty with the Menomonies has been recently negotiated by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in person, by which all their lands in the State of Wisconsin—being about four millions of acres, has been ceded to the United States. This treaty will be submitted to the Senate for ratification at an early period of your present session.

Within the last four years, eight important treaties have been negotiated with different Indian tribes, and at a cost of one million eight hundred and forty-two thousand dollars; Indian lands to the amount of more than fifteen million five hundred thousand acres, have been ceded to the United States; and provision has been made for settling in the country west of the Mississippi the tribes which occupied this large extent of the public domain. The title to all the Indian lands within the several States of our Union, with the exception of a few small reservations, is now extinguished, and a vast region opened for settlement and cultivation.

The accompanying report of the Secretary of the Navy gives a satisfactory exhibit of the operations and condition of that branch of the public service.

A number for small vessels suitable for entering the mouths of rivers were judiciously purchased during the war, and gave great efficiency to the squadron in the Gulf of Mexico. On the return of peace, when no longer valuable for naval purposes and liable to constant deterioration, they were sold, and the money placed in the treasury.

The number of men in the naval service authorized by law during the war, has been reduced by discharges below the maximum fixed for the peace establishment. Adequate squadrons are maintained in the several quarters of the globe where experience has shown their services may be most usefully employed; and the naval service was never in a condition of higher discipline or greater efficiency.

I invite attention to the recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy on the subject of the marine corps. The reduction of the corps at the end of the war required that four officers of each of the three lower grades should be dropped from the rolls. A board of officers made the selection; and those designated were necessarily dismissed, but without any alleged fault. I concur in opinion with the Secretary, that the service would be improved by reducing the number of landsmen, and increasing the marines. Such a measure would justify an increase of the number of officers to the extent of the reduction by dismissal, and still the corps would have fewer officers than a corresponding number of men in the army.

The contracts for the transportation of the mail in steamships convertible into war steamers promise to realize all the benefits to our commerce and to the navy which were anticipated. The first steamer thus secured to the government was launched in January, 1847. There are now seven, and in another year there will, probably, be not less than seventeen afloat. While this great national advantage is secured, our social and commercial intercourse is greatly increased and promoted with Germany, Great Britain, and other parts of Europe, with all the countries on the West Coast of our continent, especially with Oregon and California, and between the northern and southern sections of the United States.

Considerable revenue may be expected from postages; but the connected line from New York to Chagres and thence across the isthmus to Oregon, cannot fail to exert a beneficial influence, not now to be estimated, on the manufactures, to commerce, navigation, and currency of the United States. As an important part of the system, I recommend to your favorable consideration the establishment of the proposed line of steamers between New Orleans and Vera Cruz. It promises the most happy results in cementing friendship between the two republics, and in extending reciprocal benefits to the trade and manufactures of both.

The report of the Postmaster General will make known to you the operations of that department for the past year.

It is gratifying to find the revenues of the department, under the rates of postage now established by law, so rapidly increasing. The gross amount of postage during the last fiscal year amounted to four million three hundred and seventy-one thousand and seventy-seven dollars, exceeding the annual average received for the nine years immediately preceding the passage of the act of 3d of March, 1845, by the sum of $9,453, and exceeding the amount received for the year ending 30th June, 1847, the sum $425,184.

The expenditures, for the year, excluding the sum of ninety-four thousand six hundred and seventy-two dollars, allowed by Congress at its last session to individual claimants, and including the sum of one hundred thousand five hundred dollars paid for the services of the line of steamers between Bremen and N. York, amounted to four million one hundred and ninety-eight thousand eight hundred and forty-five dollars; which is less than the annual average for the nine years previous to the act of 1845, by three hundred thousand seven hundred and forty-eight dollars.

The mail routes, on the thirteenth day of June last, were one hundred and sixty-three thousand two hundred and eight miles in extent—being an increase during the last year of nine thousand three hundred and ninety miles. The mails were transported over them, during the same time, forty-one million twelve thousand five hundred and seventy-nine miles; making an increase of transportion for the year of two million one hundred and twenty-four thousand six hundred and eightly miles, whilst the expense was less than that of the previous year by four thousand two hundred and thirty-five dollars.

The increase in the mail transportation within the last three years has been five million three hundred and seventy-eight thousand three hundred and ten miles, whilst the expenses were reduced four hundred and fifty-six thousand seven hundred and thirty-eight dollars—making an increase of service at the rate of fifteen per cent., and a reduction in the expenses of more than fifteen per cent.

During the past year there have been employed, under contract with the Post Office Department, two ocean steamers in conveying the mails monthly between N. York and Bremen, and one, since October last, performing semi-monthly service between Charleston and Havana; and a contract has been made for the transportation of the Pacific mails across the isthmus from Chagres to Panama.

Under the authority given to the Secretary of the Navy, three ocean steamers have been constructed and sent to the Pacific, and are expected to enter upon the mail service between Panama and Oregon, and the intermediate ports, on the first of January next, and a fourth has been engaged by him for the service between Havana and Chagres; so that a regular monthly mail line will be kept up after that time between the United States and our territories on the Pacific.

Notwithstanding this great increase in the mail service, should the revenue continue to increase the present year as it did in the last, there will be received near four hundred and fifty thousand dollars more than the expenditures.

These considerations have satisfied the Postmaster General that, with certain modifications of the act of 1846, revenue may be still further increased, and a reduction of postages made to a uniform rate of five cents, without an interference with the principle, which has been constantly and properly enforced, of making that department sustain itself.

A well-digested cheap postage system is the best means for diffusing intelligence among the people, and is of so much importance in a country so extensive as that of the United States, that I recommend to your favorable consideration the suggestions of the Postmaster General for its improvement.

(Concluded next week.)

THE STAR & BANNER.

GETTYSBURG.

Friday Evening, December 8, 1848.

CITY AGENCIES.—V. B. Palmer, Esq. corner of Chesnut & Third streets, and E. W. Carr, Esq. Sun Building, N. E. Corner Third & Dock streets, *Philadelphia*; and Wm. Thompson, Esq. South-east corner of Baltimore & South sts. *Baltimore*—are our authorized Agents for receiving Advertisements and Subscriptions for "The Star and Banner," and collecting and receipting for the same.

☞The Annual Message of the President was transmitted to Congress on Tuesday. We had hoped to present it to our readers in full to-day; but its extraordinary length renders this impracticable. And as most of our readers no doubt will prefer the Message entire to a mere abstract, we give them the benefit of the greater part of it in to-day's paper. The remainder, consisting of an elaborate discussion of the Bank and Tariff questions, and a vindication of the Veto power, will be given next week.

There is nothing of striking importance in the message—it being mainly devoted to a defence of the policy of the Administration. The President argues the beneficial results of the Mexican War—alludes to the discovery of the large Gold mines in California, and recommends the establishment of a Mint on the spot—recommends the establishment of Territorial Governments for the conquered territories, and thinks that the Slavery question should be settled by the adoption of the principles of the Missouri compromise. In discussing the financial condition of the country, the workings of the Subtreasury and the Tariff of '46 are warmly lauded—the message winding up with a zealous defence of the Veto power.

☞Accounts from Columbus, (Ohio,) to Dec. 5, state that the Legislature had thus far failed to organize. In the Senate parties are a tie; six ballots for Speaker had been tried without effecting a choice. In the House the Whigs have a real bona fide majority; but the Locofocos claim the seats for Hamilton county under authority of fraudulent certificates. An attempt to organize the House on the 4th failed and resulted in much confusion. All attempts at compromise had proved wholly unavailing.

P. S.—The two branches of the Ohio Legislature have been organized. Whig officers have been chosen in one house, Democratic in the other.

☞The Electoral College met at Harrisburg on Wednesday. Hon. T. M. T. M'Kennan was chosen President, and the vote of the College cast for Taylor and Fillmore. Gen. Joseph Markle was selected to convey the vote to the President of the Senate.

CONGRESSIONAL.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4, 1848.

At 12 o'clock, a quorum appearing in both Houses of Congress, the Officers took their seats. Nothing of importance beyond the usual formal motions incident to organization transpired.

In the Senate, Mr. Douglass gave notice of his intention to introduce bills at an early day, to organize the territories of Minesota and Nebraska; for the admission of California into the Union as a State, and to provide a territorial government for New Mexico.

Mr. Cameron gave notice of his intention to introduce a Bill to provide for the taking of the census of the United States in 1850.

In the House most of the day was consumed in choosing seats. Horace Greely made his appearance as a representative from New York City, elected to fill the vacancy growing out of a contested seat last winter.

TUESDAY, Dec. 5.

The Annual Message of the President was transmitted to both Houses at 12 o'clock. Its reading occupied better than two hours. In the Senate 5000 extra copies were ordered to be printed, and in the House 15,000.

In the House Mr. Goggin gave notice of a motion for leave to introduce a bill to "reduce the rates of postage on newspapers and letters, to establish uniform postage charges, and to correct abuses of the franking privilege."

Mr. McClelland gave notice of intention to introduce bills for certain improvements in the western lake harbors, &c.

The Senate adjourned after the reading of the Message.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 6.

Nothing of importance transpired in Congress—both Houses having adjourned at early hour.

Rev. Mr. GURLEY was re-elected Chaplain of the House—having received 150 out of 183 votes.

☞The CHOLERA has already reached our shores. The disease was brought over by the packet ship "New York," which reached the New York Quarantine on Friday last, with 328 steerage and 17 cabin passengers, from Havre. On the 14th day out a case of cholera appeared among the steerage passengers, and at the time of the vessel's arrival there had been 19 cases, 6 of which proved fatal. Several have also since died at the Quarantine hospital. The New York papers say that the cases under treatment at the hospital have thus far been of a mild form. There was no Cholera at Havre when the vessel left.

☞Four new cases of cholera have occurred among the inhabitants of the public stores on Staten Island, and three deaths are recorded, making nineteen cases, since the arrival of the vessel, and ten deaths.

A WEEK LATER FROM EUROPE.
Startling Intelligence.

☞The steamer Britania arrived at Boston on Wednesday, having sailed from Liverpool on the 18th ultimo. The news she brings is of a startling character. It is to be hoped that a portion of it at least may prove to be greatly exaggerated. It is stated that the Emperor of Austria signalized his success in Vienna by the most atrocious murders and other crimes, in shooting defenceless citizens in the streets, rifling their houses, and massacreing women and children. The students of the University were hunted down like brutes, and executed when captured. This cruel conduct was raising a flame throughout his dominions which, it is said, cannot be subdued. Gen. Windischgratz was marching against the Hungarians, who defeated Gen. Simonick at Turnay, and compelled him to retreat. The Emperor was still residing at Prague. The Poet Kaisir is to be hung. Robert Bleim, deputy to Frankfort, was secretly tried and shot. Intense gloom prevailed.

From Berlin we learn that the king and Assembly are still quarreling. On the 9th ult., Brandenburg arrived at the Assembly with the decree, transferring the sessions of the Assembly from Berlin to Brandenburg. The Assembly declared that it would not remove, and declared itself *en permanence*. Large detachments of burgher guards occupied the building to protect the members. The President of the Ministry informed the Assembly that such proceedings were illegal, and the police ordered the burgher guards to prevent the sittings of the Assembly by allowing no one to pass except out of the hall. This the guard refused, as dangerous to the people's liberty. Finally fifteen thousand infantry and Germans, under Wrangel, were posted near the Assembly, and required the hall to be closed. The Assembly then complied under protest, but reassembled in a private house.—The King issued a proclamation dissolving the burgher guards, and allowing until the 13th to disarm them. The burghers having refused compliance, the gates were closed, and the streets occupied by Wrangel, but there had been no collision at the latest accounts.

A Foolish Move.

We observe that a number of broken-down politicians in Philadelphia, who for the last ten years have been floating around the outskirts of almost every party that has in turn succeeded to power, are endeavoring to avail themselves of the late political victory achieved by the friends of Gen. Taylor, by proposing an abandonment of the present Whig and other political organizations, and a merging of them all into one to be termed the "Taylor Republican Party." We are sorry to see that some few leading, active Whigs in the city, are disposed to countenance the movement—a movement which, we feel assured, will meet with but little favor in the interior.—The "Whig" platform is broad enough for us, and we think we can speak for the Whigs of Adams—we want no other. If there be those who are tired of the time-honored name by which the party is now known—one around which cluster the glorious associations of the period that ushered our Republic into existence, and under which we have again and again gone forth to battle and to victory—if there be any who are now tired or ashamed of this cherished name, or who think the "Whig platform" not sufficiently broad, why let them leave it, and "peace go with them,"—there will be plenty of others to take their places. But it won't do to talk to the Whig masses about disbanding their organization, in this, the hour of their most decisive triumph, to enable a few demagogues to pave their way to power!

The County Officers.

On Friday last, Messrs. PICKING, HAMERSLY, and DINWIDDIE, the Prothonotary, Register and Clerk of the Courts, elect, entered upon the duties of their respective offices. The retiring officers, Messrs. KURTZ, COBEAN, & HAMILTON, having discharged their official duties to the entire satisfaction of the public, will bear with them the kind recollections of all who have had occasion to transact business with them.

THE COLUMBIAN CALCULATOR.—We are indebted to the publishers for a copy of a new Arithmetic bearing the above title, designed for the use of Schools in the U. States. It is accompanied by excellent recommendations, among which we notice the following from Mr. Burrowes, formerly Superintendent of Common Schools in this State:

"I feel pleasure in expressing the opinion, that the Columbian Calculator, by Almon Ticknor, is a most valuable School Book. The adherence to our own beautiful and simple decimal system of money, and the exclusion of the British currency of Pounds, Shillings and Pence, which forms one of its chief differences from other Arithmetics, I consider a decided and valuable improvement. It always appears to me useless, if not worse, to puzzle beginner in Arithmetic with questions in any other money than our own, at a time too, when the unavoidable intricacies of the science are sufficiently numerous and difficult to task all his patience, and when the Teacher's chief object should be to excite and sustain his interest in the study. After he has become well versed in the principles of Arithmetic, and completely conversant with calculations in our own coin, it is only proper to give him a knowledge of those of other lands, but it will be found practicable to do so in one-tenth of the time requisite for that purpose at an earlier period. In many respects, also, the Columbian Calculator is a superior work, and I therefore cordially recommend it.

THO. H. BURROWES.

Lancaster, Nov. 26, 1847."

U. S. SENATOR.—The *Waynesburg Democrat* mentions the name of the Hon. T. M. T. McKennan, in connection with the post of U. S. Senator, and says, "if our cotemporaries have an abler or better man to present for this most responsible station, we knock under, of course. The *Democrat* in alluding to Mr. Cooper, says he "is a man of fine talents—a thorough Whig—well travelled, and well versed in home affairs. He deserves the station, and would make a good Senator."

☞Dr. Nes, the representative of this district, was in his seat at Washington on the first day of the session.

☞The N. Orleans Picayune (semi-official) says that Gen. Taylor will select all his Cabinet *from the Whig ranks*—moderate but decided men—all "believers in the same faith," but "avoiding fanatics of all creeds." This done, he will wisely leave "the business of making laws, and shaping the domestic policy of the country," principally to Congress.

☞Gen. Taylor has sent in his resignation as Major General, commanding the Western Division of our Army, to take effect after the 1st of February.

APOPLEXY.—This dreadful complaint is generally preceded by pain in the head, giddiness, especially on turning round, dimness of sight, stupor, loss of memory, and other unpleasant symtoms, which indicate a loaded and corrupt state of the blood.

Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills are a certain preventative of apoplexy, because they expel from the body those stagnant and corrupt humors, which are the cause of this and every other malady incident to man.

Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills also aid and improve digestion, as well as purify the blood, and therefore drive disease of every name from the body.

☞Beware of counterfeits! Purchase from the agents only, one or more of whom will be found in each village and town in the United States.

The genuine is for sale by J. M. STEVENSON, Sole agent for Gettysburg; and Wholesale at Dr. Wright's Principal Office, 169 Race Street, Philadelphia.

EAST BOSTON, May 23d, 1847.

MR. S. W. FOWLE.—Sir, I have seen so much of the virtue of "Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry" that I feel it my duty to add my testimony in its praise. My son about 14 years of age, has for the last ten months been afflicted with a severe cough, pains in the side and body, and a gradual wasting, until he was but a mere living skeleton. I had the advice of three Physicians, but none of them could give him any relief, and gradually yet surely he seemed to be sinking into the tomb. Happening accidentally to see some of your "Free Almanacs" we felt as though the Balsam would help *him*, as there were some cases that had been cured when they were as bad as he was. I therefore procured a bottle of Dr. Kidder, the Agent in this place, and before he had used all of it he began to grow better, and by using three bottles his cough was all gone, and he is now enjoying *good health*, for which he is solely indebted, through the blessing of God, to *Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry*.

WM. DIXON.

Dr. Kidder says the article has given universal satisfaction to his customers.

None genuine, unless signed I. BUTTS on the wrapper.

☞For sale by SAMUEL H. BUEHLER, only agent for Gettysburg.

ENERGY.

One of the most remarkable instances of the success which attends well applied energy and perseverance, is exhibited in the case of Dr. DAVID JAYNE, of Philadelphia, with whose advertisements the readers of the Register are familiar. The doctor, after spending many years of his life in practice, and a careful investigation of the origin and character of diseases, applied himself to the preparation of remedies, and the excellence of his compounds is attested by the grateful thanks of thousands, who have proved the benefit of his skill and scientific knowledge. His are not mere quack nostrums, but preparations resulting from long and careful study, and as they serve, in an eminent degree, the good purposes for which they were intended, success has followed the proprietor's enterprise and labors. His establishment is now one of the largest in the United States, and besides furnishing every city, town and township in the country with his invaluable medicines, he ships, annually, immense quantities to foreign lands.

In the prosecution of his plans for bringing his specifics to the whole people, Dr. Jayne has issued a Family Almanac, containing certificates and testimonials of the highest character. We see it stated in the Germantown Telegraph, that "last year one million of the Almanacs were published for 1848, and all distributed. This year, the demand for 1849 is so great, that the power presses, driven by steam, are running day and night, with a double set of hands, and unable to meet the demands of the public for the Almanacs. Indeed Messrs. STAVELY & M'CALLA, who do the press work, have found it necessary, to meet the wants of the publisher, to obtain a *third power press! Two millions and a half* copies will be required for 1849, consuming from twelve to fifteen thousand reams of paper, and incurring an expense at the very small rate of two cents each copy, and we do not see how they can be furnished at so low a price—of *fifty thousand dollars!*—This is wonderful, exhibiting, as it does, one of the most remarkable instances of enterprise on record.

But it must be remembered that this large sum, which is a fortune of itself, is entirely given away—the whole two millions and a half of Almanacs are gratuitously given to merchants, storekeepers, families and individuals, with a view to their general gratuitous distribution throughout the United States.

The position of Dr. JAYNE is an enviable one—achieved by his own unaided energy, industry and enterprise—drawing largely from an extensive knowledge of medical jurisprudence—and he now stands at the head of discoverers of medicines for "the million," which have not only been pronounced to be unequalled as remedies, for the diseases severally set apart by the proprietor, &c., but destined to confer upon the human family incalculable benefits, in the form of restored health and prolonged existence.—*Norristown Register.*

BALTIMORE MARKET.

FROM THE BALTIMORE SUN OF WEDNESDAY.

BEEF CATTLE.—There were offered at the scales on Monday, 1000 head of Beeves, 840 of which were sold to city butchers at prices ranging from $2 25 to $3 per 100 lbs. on the hoof, equal to $4 50 and $5 75 per 100 lbs. net.

FLOUR.—The flour market is less active; sales of 500 bbls. Howard st brands at $5 00. City Mills is held at the same. Sales of Corn meal at $3 00. Rye flour $3 25.

GRAIN.—Supply of all kinds of Grain fair, prices unchanged; sales good to prime red wheat at $1 03 to $1 08; and white at $1 10 to $1 15; white family flour, $1 15 a $1 20. White Corn 50 cts.; yellow 54. Oats 26 a 30. Rye 58 a 60.

PROVISIONS.—Mess Pork $12 25, and Prime $8 87 a $9. Bacon—Sides 4¼ a 5¼ cents; Hams 7 a 10 cents. Lard 8¼ in bbls., and 9½ a 9¾ in kegs.

MARRIED.

On the 28th ult. by the Rev. John Wallace, Mr. S. LEWIS PENNINGTON, of London Grove, Chester county, and Miss MARY E. COWAN, of Salisbury, Lancaster county.

On the 29th ult. by the Rev. J. Fohl, Mr. PETER MORITZ, and Miss PRISCILLA JONES, all of this county.

On the 5th ult, by Rev. C. A. Hay, Mr. WM. HELLSWAES and Miss CATHARINE HOLLEBAUGH—both of Union township, Adams county.

On the 30th ult., by the same, Mr. WM. UNGER, and Miss LOUISA WILLEY, both of Germany township, Adams county.

On the 30th ult, by the Rev J. Sechler, Mr. DANIEL BOWER, and Miss MARGARET CARBAUGH—both of Adams county.

On the 30th ult., at Conowago Chapel, by the Rev. Mr. Enders, Mr. SYLVESTER FINK, and Miss ROSINNA M'SHERRY—both of Littlestown.

On the 28th ult. by the Rev. J. Ulrich, Mr. JOSEPH SMITH and Miss SUSANNA SLAYBAUGH, both of this county.

On the 30th ult, by the same, Mr. JOHN LENHART and Miss ELIZABETH BUSHEY, all of York county.

On the 7th inst. by the Rev. B. Keller, Mr. JACOB EICHOLS to Miss MARIA ROSE, both of Menallen Township, this county.

DIED.

At Naples, (Ill.) on the 10th of November, Mrs. FRANCIS LEE, wife of Dr. Warren Lee, and daughter of C. F. Keener, Esq. late of Adams county.

On the 16th ult, MARGARETTA, consort of Mr. Jacob Smith, sen., of Menallen township, aged 77 years.

NOTICE.

TAKE Notice that I have applied to the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Adams County for the benefit of the Insolvent laws of this Commonwealth—and that they have appointed Monday, the 15th day of January next, at the Court House in Gettysburg, at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the hearing of me, and my creditors—when and where you may attend if you see fit.

JACOB COMFORT.

Dec. 8, 1848.—3t

NEW GOODS
At the Old Stand.

GEORGE ARNOLD

HAS just returned from Philadelphia with a large stock of fresh goods, among which are

Cloths, Cassinetts, Jeans, Cords and Flannels, Plaids, striped and plain, Alpaccas, Cashmeres, M. de laines, Plaids, striped & plain, Cloths, Cashmeres, &c. for Ladies Cloaks; English and French Merinoes, Paramatta Cloths, &c.

Lots of CALICOES & GINGHAMS, the best yet offered for the price.

A large lot of DOMESTIC GOODS and CARPETING, very cheap; also a large stock of

FRESH GROCERIES,

all of which will be sold as cheap as they can be obtained at any other establishment.

We do not throw out a few leading articles at cost, as a bait, calculating to make up on something else. But our prices are uniform, and we make no misrepresentations knowingly, in reference to the kind or quality of the goods we sell. Please call, examine, and judge for yourselves.

P. S.—A few STOVES remaining on hand—very cheap.

Gettysburg, Dec. 8, 1848.—tf

PAY UP!

IN consequence of the loss sustained by recent Fire, in connection with other demands against the subscriber, he is compelled to call upon those indebted to him for assistance. All persons, therefore, knowing themselves to be indebted to me by note or book account, will be expected to call and settle the same without delay; otherwise they will be placed in the hands of a proper officer for collection.

☞Those who have engaged to furnish WOOD on account, are desired to do so immediately. If not delivered soon, the Cash will be required.

THOMAS WARREN.

Dec. 1, 1848.

Almanacs! Almanacs!!

DOCTOR D. JAYNE would respectfully inform the public that he annually publishes for gratuitous distribution, by himself and all his Agents, an Almanac, called

Jayne's Medical Almanac,
AND GUIDE TO HEALTH.

The calculations for this almanac are made with great care and accuracy, and for five different Latitudes and Longitudes, so as to make them equally useful as a Calender in every part of the United States and British North America. They are printed on good paper, with handsome new type, and are neatly bound, and besides being the neatest and most accurate calender printed in the United States, they contain a large amount of valuable information, suited to the wants of all, and of that kind too, which cannot be obtained in books.

HIS CATALOGUE OF DISEASES, with remarks and directions for their removal, is really invaluable, and make them welcome visitors in every house they enter. Every family should possess at least one of these annuals. His Almanacs for 1849 are now ready for distribution, of which he designs to publish at least TWO MILLIONS, and in order that every family in the United States and British America, may be furnished with a copy, he hereby invites MERCHANTS AND STOREKEEPERS to forward their orders to him as early as possible, and they shall be supplied GRATUITOUSLY with as many copies as they deem necessary to supply their various customers. They are invited at the same time, to send a copy of their "BUSINESS CARD," which will be printed and placed on the cover of the Almanacs sent them, also without charge.

They are also requested to give all necessary directions how the almanacs should be forwarded to them. By law they cannot be sent by mail unless the postage is first paid on them here.

Orders (post paid) directed to DR. D. JAYNE, Philadelphia, will meet with prompt attention.

☞FAMILIES can obtain these Almanacs gratis of SAMUEL H. BUEHLER. Agent for the sale of Dr. Jayne's Family Medicines.

Dec. 8, 1848.—3t

JACONETS, and CAMBRIC and MULL MUSLINS, of the Tip-Top kinds, for sale by J. L. SCHICK.

Columbian Series of Arithmetics
THE PUPIL'S FRIEND AND TEACHER'S COMFORT.

THE COLUMBIAN CALCULATOR—This work is already introduced into some of the best Academies and a large number of Schools, where its use has given decided and universal satisfaction, both to teacher and pupil. It is purely American in its character, based upon our own beautiful *decimal system of currency*. It contains more, the arrangements are better, and it is the easiest and cheapest work of the kind now in use; and it is so considered by hundreds of the most competent teachers and men of science in the Union, who have recommended it. It is the book, and the only book, particularly and expressly prepared for our *American Scholars*:—*By Almon Ticknor.*

THE YOUTH'S COLUMBIAN CALCULATOR.—This volume contains 91 pages, with about 900 examples for solution on the slate. It embraces the Fundamental Rules, Compound Rules, Simple and Compound Reduction, Single Rule of Three, Proportion, &c.

TICKNOR'S ARITHMETICAL TABLES, is destined for the use of younger classes in the Schools of the U. States. A beautiful little book and pleasing to children, and the only one of the kind of any value.

There are keys to both Arithmetics, bound single or double, for the convenience of teachers, in which the solutions of the questions are given, and much extra matter for the black board. These Keys are the most complete works of the kind ever published, and contain, in addition, about two hundred examples in Mensuration, &c. for the use of the Teacher. All that is wanted is to have the above books examined, and no teacher who is acquainted with the science of Arithmetic, will hesitate to pronounce them the best works that have ever been published in this or any other country.

Although issued but a few months, they have already been introduced into the Night Public Schools of New York City—in all the Shools, public and private, except two, in the City of Reading. Also, in about twenty Academies in the State of Pennsylvania—in a large portion of the Schools in the City of Wilmington, in the City of Lancaster, and in the Boroughs of Harrisburg, York, Lebanon, Doylestown, Pottsville, Orwigsburg, &c., &c.

☞For Sale by S. H. BUEHLER, Agent for Adams County.

Collectors, Take Notice.

THE Collectors of Taxes in the different townships of Adams county, are hereby notified that they will be required to settle up their duplicates on or before *Saturday the 30th day of December next*, on which day the Commissioners will meet at their office to give the necessary exonerations.

☞As funds are required to meet the immediate demands against the county, the Collectors will be expected to use all possible diligence towards an *immediate* collection of their assessments, and to pay the amount realized into the Treasury, *on or before the November Court.*

A. HEINTZELMAN,
JACOB KING,
J. G. MORNINGSTAR,
Commissioners.

Attest—J. AUGHINBAUGH, Clerk.

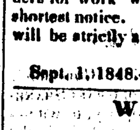
Nov. 17, 1848.—td

☞A meeting of the Heidlersburg Total Abstinence Society will be held at the Union Seminary, Tyrone tp., on *Friday Evening the 15th of December next*, at 6 o'clock, which the friends of Temperance are invited to attend. An Address will be delivered by Rev. L. J. ETCHISON.

OZIAS FERREE, Sec'y.

WANTED,

5000 FEET of POPLAR PLANK such as will answer for Chair Seats, for which the highest price will be given by the subscriber. He has also on hand, at his old stand in West Chambersburg street, a very large assortment of



Common and Fancy
CHAIRS,

and a full assortment of CABINET WARE, which I am selling at unusual low prices for Cash and Produce. Orders for work will be attended to on the shortest notice. All orders for COFFINS will be strictly attended to as usual.

DAVID HEAGY.

Sept. 1, 1848.—tf

WANTED.

Eleven Cents per Pound,

WILL be paid for WALNUT KERNELS, at C. WEAVER'S Confectionary, in Gettysburg, Pa., if delivered dry and in good order. Persons disposed to attend to the matter, can realize good pay for their trouble, by securing the Walnuts immediately, before the season has passed.

Gettysburg, Oct. 20, 1848.—tf

INK! INK! INK!

THE subscriber has just received a large supply of HARRISON'S

Columbian Inks,

to which he invites the attention of purchasers. They are put up in 1 ounce, 2 ounce, 4 oz., 8 oz., and 1 pint bottles, each containing the *full quantity* indicated by the label. They are warranted not to mould under any circumstances in any climate.

BLACK INK.
This Ink flows freely, and has a fine gloss.

BLUE INK.
This ink possesses the properties of great brilliancy and beauty, of color and fluidity, and, unlike other blue inks, is not liable to deposit its color.

RED INK.
This ink has a brilliant crimson Red, and improves in brightness on the paper.

For permanence of color, these inks fully equal if not surpass all others; for which the color is once set on the paper, it will remain unchanged for ages. For sale, wholesale and retail, by

KELLER KURTZ.

Also by Jacob Martin, Oxford, Wm. Bittinger, Abbott-town, Dr. Kauffman, Petersburg, J. Bikerhoff, Millerstown, Henry Schriver, Littlestown, John Burkholder, Bendersville.

Dec. 1, 1848.

We are requested to mention that, at the request of the Union Temperance Society of Gettysburg, a Sermon will be preached by Rev. Dr. Baugher, in the Presbyterian Church, on Sabbath evening next, the 10th inst.