BY AUTHORITY.

PUBLIC ACTS

Passed at the First Session of the Thirty First Congress.

CHAP. 77.—AN ACT making appropriations for Light Houses, Light Boats, Buoys, &c., and providing for the erection and establishment of the same, and for other purposes.

[SEC. 1.] *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the following appropriations be, and the same are hereby made, and directed to be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, to enable the Secretary of the Treasury to carry the provisions of this act into effect: *Provided, however,* If a good title to any land which it may be necessary to use, cannot be obtained on reasonable terms, or the exclusive right to such land cannot be acquired by cession, when the interest of the United States demands it, before the appropriation would by law fall into the surplus fund, in any and all such cases, the appropriations shall be applicable to the objects for which they are made, at any time within two years after the first meeting of the Legislature, in any State wherein such land may be situated, subsequent to the passage of this act, to wit:

IN MAINE.

For a buoy or a ledge about one league east of Boon Island, one hundred and fifty dollars.

For dumb beacons on Drunken and Fuller's ledges, at the mouth of the thoroughfare between Northhaven and Vinalhaven, one thousand dollars.

For a light house on Black Saddleback Island, in the county of Hancock, four thousand dollars.

IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.

For a beacon and buoys at the mouth of Little Harbor, near Portsmouth, two thousand five hundred dollars.

For a beacon on Legg's ledge, in Piscataqua river, five hundred dollars.

IN MASSACHUSETTS.

For a dwelling house for the keeper of the beacon light at Hyannis, eight hundred dollars.

For a spar buoy on the middle ground of Chatham, one on the east end of Monomoy Rip; one on Schooner Bay; one at Powder Hole Harbor; and one on Stone Horse Shoal near Pollock Rip, four hundred dollars.

For one spar buoy at the north, and one at the south end, of a ledge called Mustapet Rocks, one on the north west end of the Horseshoe, one at Hyannis, one on the Sturgeon Flat, one off Stony Point, and one on Blackenship's rock, in the Edgartown district, five hundred and sixty dollars.

For a light house on Egg Rock, near Nahant, fifty thousand dollars.

For a fog signal, to be placed at the outer light house in Boston Bay, three thousand dollars.

For spar buoys at the entrance of Lynn Harbor, viz: one on the Dolphin Rock, one on the Libbey Rock, one on Sawyer's Rock, one on the north east and one on the southwest of Pig Rocks, one on Old Harry Rock, and one on Lobster Rock, five hundred and sixty dollars.

For the completion of the gateway from the shore to the light house at Edgartown, four thousand dollars.

For move or beacons at the Harbor of Newburyport, five hundred dollars.

For a light house on the break water at Bass river, four thousand dollars.

For a beacon on Bird Island, and one on the False Spit, and a buoy on Slate Ledge, near the lower middle in the harbor of Boston, two thousand nine hundred dollars.

For beacons on Hack Rock, Harbor Rock, and Five Pound Island Point, in the harbor of Gloucester, fifteen hundred dollars.

For the erection of a beacon and placing buoys at the mouth of and in Essex river, in Ipswich Bay, seven hundred and fifty dollars.

For a light house upon a reef of rocks called the Sow and Pigs, off the Island of Cuttyhunk, in place of the light boat stationed off said reef, and the light house on said island: *Provided*, on examination, a good foundation can be found, thirty thousand dollars.

IN RHODE ISLAND.

For a light house on Sandy Point, Prudence Island, three thousand five hundred dollars.

For a spar buoy on the middle ground shoal, Dutch island Harbor, in Narragansett bay, forty dollars.

For a buoy upon a rock near Goat Mine Wharf on the Island of Rhode Island, one hundred dollars.

IN CONNECTICUT.

For a can buoy on Pea Field's Reef, off Black Rock Harbor one hundred dollars.

For a beacon light on Bridgeport bar, three thousand five hundred dollars.

IN NEW YORK.

For four spar buoys in Greenport Harbor, three hundred dollars.

For two beacon lights near Fort Hamilton, as a range to guide vessels from the Southwest Spit to the Narrows, four thousand dollars.

For seven can buoys in Niagara river, between Horse Shoe Reef and Grand Island, one thousand dollars.

For the erection of a beacon on the south east part of Romer Shoal, thirty thousand dollars.

For a spar buoy on Glover's Reef, near Port Chester, Long Island Sound, seventy dollars.

For a spar buoy on Glover's Reef, near Port Chester, Long Island Sound, seventy dollars.

For a star buoy at Cold Spring, Long Island, seventy dollars.

For four spar buoys, to be placed in the inlet to Fire Island Bay, Long Island.

IN NEW JERSEY.

For an iron can buoy between the new and old Inlet Shoal, at Little Egg Harbor, two hundred dollars.

For a beacon at the "Elbow" in Passaic river, and for four spar buoys in said river, four hundred dollars.

For a spar buoy on Mill Rock at the entrance of the Kills, and a beacon at the Corner Stake near Elizabethtown Point, four hundred dollars.

For a light house on Conaskonk Point, four thousand five hundred dollars.

IN DELAWARE.

For a light house at the entrance of Indian river, five thousand dollars.

IN MARYLAND.

For a light house at Seven Foot Knoll, ten thousand dollars.

For a light boat to be stationed off James Island, Tangier Sound, eight thousand dollars; or for a light house on the south west point of James Island, if the Secretary of the Treasury shall decide that it will answer the purposes of commerce.

IN VIRGINIA.

For two lights on the south end of Hog Island, as a range for the channel of Great Mutchipungo, or on Sand Shoal, as the one or the other upon actual survey may be found to be best, ten thousand dollars; and the appropriations of two hundred dollars, made by the act of the fourteenth August, eighteen hundred and forty eight, for two lights on Sand Shoal Inlet, be, and is hereby, repealed.

For four beacons in James river, viz: one on White Shoal, one on Hiavens Bluff Shoal, one on Point Shoal, and one on Deep Water Shoal, three thousand five hundred dollars.

IN NORTH CAROLINA.

For buoys in Hatteras Inlet, near the south breakers, at the entrance from the ocean, five hundred dollars.

For buoys at the Cape Channel opposite the Hatteras light house; one at Cates Sloo, and one at the Bog Channel opposite Kinnikeet, two hundred and fifty dollars.

IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

For a small beacon light on Morris Island, two thousand five hundred dollars.

IN MISSISSIPPI.

For a beacon light house on the pier at Mississippi City, three thousand dollars.

For a light house on the west end of Ship Island, twelve thousand dollars, being a renewal of an appropriation for this purpose made August fourteenth, eighteen hundred and forty eight.

For a light house at or near Pascagoula river, three thousand dollars.

IN MICHIGAN.

For a light house on the north west point of Grand Traverse Bay, four hundred dollars.

For a light house at the Port of Marquette, Lake Superior, five thousand dollars.

For a light house on the point of land about three miles east of Cheboygan river, in the Straits of Mackinaw, four thousand dollars.

For a light house at or near the mouth of Eagle river, four thousand dollars.

For a light house on the south shore of Lake Superior, at Ontonagon, five thousand dollars.

For a light house at Ottawa Point, in Saginaw Bay, five thousand dollars.

For a light house on Beaver Island, Lake Michigan, five thousand dollars.

IN WISCONSIN.

For a light house at the mouth of Twin rivers, three thousand and five hundred dollars.

For a light house at Port Ulao, three thousand five hundred dollars.

IN TEXAS.

For a light house and beacon light at Brazos Santiago, fifteen thousand dollars.

For a light house at Bolivar Point, fifteen thousand dollars.

For a light house at Matagorda Island, fifteen thousand dollars.

IN FLORIDA.

For the erection of a light on Sea Horse Key, eight thousand dollars.

IN GEORGIA.

For the purchase of the signal light at the Savanna river, one hundred and fifty dollars.

For two dumb beacons to be erected, one on Black Oyster Rock, the other on Sugar Loaf, in the river Savannah, four thousand dollars.

IN LOUISIANA.

For a light house at or near the head of the Southwest Pass of the Mississippi river, fifteen thousand dollars.

IN CALIFORNIA.

For a light house at Alcatraz Island; for a light house at Point Conception, and a fog signal; for a light house on Battery Point, entrance of the bay of San Francisco; for a light house at San Diego; for a light house and a fog signal at Monterey; for a light house at the island of Farallones, off the harbor of San Francisco, and a fog signal, and for the transportation, erection, and placing the same; ninety thousand dollars.

IN OREGON.

For a light house on Cape Disappointment, at the mouth of the Columbia river; one on an island off Cape Flattery, at the entrance of the Straits of Fuca, and one at New Dungeness; twelve iron can buoys in Columbia river, and the transportation, erection, and placing of the same; fifty three thousand one hundred and forty dollars.

To authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to test the use and economy of the calcium light, five thousand dollars.

For fog signals at the light houses on Execution Rocks, Gull Island, Long Island Sound, Beaver Tail Point, Rhode Island, and on board the boat at Barnetts Reef, Long Island Sound; two thousand five hundred dollars.

For life boats for rendering assistance to wrecked mariners, and others, on the coasts of the United States, to be expended under the control and direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, ten thousand dollars.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted.* That wherever the light house on Minot's ledge is completed and in operation, the one at Scituate be therefore suspended during such time as the one on Minot's ledge is lighted.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted* That if such person as the Secretary of the Treasury shall designate shall report, in any of the cases herein provided for, that preliminary surveys are necessary to determine the site of a proposed light house, or light boat, beacon or buoy, or to ascertain more fully what the public exigency demands, the Secretary of the Treasury shall thereupon appoint one or more officers of the United States revenue service to perform the required duty.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That any officer so appointed, shall forthwith enter upon the discharge of the duty, and after fully ascertaining the facts, shall report; first, whether the proposed facility to navigation is the most suitable for the exigency which exists; and second, where it should be placed if the interests of commerce demand it; third, if the thing proposed be not the most suitable, whether it is expedient to make any other kind of improvement; fourth, whether the proposed light has any connexion with other lights, and if so, whether it cannot be so located as to subserve both the general and the local wants of trade and navigation; and fifth, whether there be any, and if any, what other facts of importance touching the subject.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That all such reports shall, as speedily as may be, be laid before the Secretary of the Treasury, and if such as to authorize the work without further legislation, he shall forthwith proceed with it; but if otherwise such reports shall be laid before Congress, at the next ensuing session; but in all cases where such person as the Secretary of the Treasury shall designate does not report such preliminary examination to be expedient, the provisions of this act shall without delay be carried into execution.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That hereafter all buoys along the coast, in bays, harbors, sounds, or channels, shall be colored and numbered, so that passing up the coast or round, or entering the bay, harbor, or channel, red buoys with even numbers shall be passed on the starboard hand, black buoys with uneven numbers on the port hand, and buoys with red and black stripes on either hand. Buoys in channel ways to be colored with alternate white and black perpendicular stripes.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted,* That there shall be allowed to collectors, when acting superintendents of light houses, beacons, light boats, and buoys, the same rate of commission on the disbursement of the aforesaid appropriations, as were allowed and paid for the year ending fourth March, eighteen hundred and forty nine: *Provided* That no collector shall receive for his services as superintendent aforesaid, over the sum of four hundred dollars per annum: *And provided, further,* That the Secretary of the Treasury shall assign to the collectors the superintendence of such light houses, beacons, light boats and buoys as he may judge best and most convenient for the public interest.

SEC 8. *And be it further enacted,* That there be, and hereby is, appropriated the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars to purchase a steamer to be employed in the coast survey upon the Pacific coast, and need if deemed expedient in designating the sites of the several light houses provided for in California.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted,* That the sum of two thousand dollars is hereby appropriated to pay the balance due to M. La Point of Paris, for the light at Saucoty Head, Nantucket.

Approved, September 28, 1850.

PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

PUBLISHED BY WHITE & CO

PITTSBURGH

MONDAY MORNING, DEC. 9, 1850.

☞ ADVERTISERS are earnestly requested to hand in their favors before 5 P. M., and as early in the day as practicable. Advertisements not inserted for a specified time will invariably be charged until ordered out

THE HOUSE OF REFUGE.—We are pleased to learn that the Committee who has this matter in hand, has gone to work with promptness and energy, and that they are determined to succeed, if success is possible.

We also understand, with much gratification, that the gentlemen who so liberally headed the subscription list, at the meeting on Thursday evening, has doubled the amount of his subscription, and that his generous course has been imitated by several other signers.

The Committee will commence to call on our citizens on Monday (to day) and we hope and believe that they will be cordially received, and that the urgent demand upon benevolence and public spirit will be most liberally responded to. The necessities of the case are so imperative, that we trust that it will be met at once, and the necessary edifice be commenced the coming spring.

VERMONT.

SINGULAR AND IMPORTANT LEGISLATION.

The Legislature of Vermont has passed a law in regard to Fugitive Slaves, of a very important character, and which may have a very great bearing upon the excitement which now agitates the community. This singular law makes it the duty of the State's Attorney, in the several counties, to apply to either class of Judges of Courts in case of the arrest of any inhabitant as a fugitive slave occurs, when the Judge or Court applied to shall issue the writ of habeas corpus, when in session, or to any Judge of either Court during vacation. If, under this writ, issued during the vacation by any Judge, the person arrested and imprisoned as a fugitive be not discharged, he is entitled to an appeal to the next term of the County Court, by furnishing proper bail. The Court to whom the appeal is made, or to which the writ was originally made returnable, is directed, upon the application of either party interested, to allow a trial by jury of all the facts at issue between the parties. The law makes it the special duty of the State Attorney in the several counties to use every effort and means to procure the acquittal of every person arrested and claimed within their bounds as a fugitive slave, and instructs all judicial and executive officers who shall know or have reason to believe that such an arrest is intended, to give immediate notice thereof to the Attorney in their county, that he may timely take the measures that devolve upon him for securing the rights of the arrested party.

The New York *Journal of Commerce*, in some comments on this law, pronounces its provisions directly contrary to the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States, and in effect a nullification of the recent Act of Congress. Section sixth of the law provides authorizes the Judge or Commissioners to determine the case in a summary manner, and also provides that the certificates in this and the first section mentioned, shall be conclusive of the right of the person or persons in whose favor granted, to remove such fugitive to the State or territory from which he escaped, and shall prevent all molestation at such person or persons, by any process issued by any Court, Judge, Magistrate, or other persons whomsoever. The Legislature of Vermont, it would seem, claims the right to nullify the decisions of the law at every step of its progress: to take the process out of the hands of the tribunals appointed by the United States, and bring it before State Courts, allowing the privilege of appeal, and rendering the execution of the law next to impossible. To all such proceedings, the penalties specified in section seventh apply, and we trust they will be enforced at every hazard."

We cannot presume to judge, for our part, how far the law of Vermont is contrary to the Constitution of the United States, or whether it is so at all. Although the Constitution makes it the duty of the States to give up fugitives from service and labor, yet it does not define the mode by which the State shall arrive at the knowledge of the fact that the person claimed is a fugitive. Vermont does not refusive to give up the fugitive, but has adopted a mode for ascertaining the fact for her own satisfaction, before she lets go her hold, so that no injustice shall be done to her citizens, or to those who claim her protection. The law of Vermont, however, certainly conflicts with the letter of Congress, and with the interpretation generally given to the Constitution.

We feel entirely satisfied, that if the South would consent to a trial by jury in the State where the fugitive is arrested, they would succeed, far better in their object. If this were done, all excitement would be allayed, and in nineteen cases out of twenty, impartial justice would be awarded.

INFORMATION FOR THE PEOPLE, or the Asylum of Ohio; with miscellaneous observations on the health, diet, and morals, and the causes, symptoms, and proper treatment of nervous diseases and insanity. By Rev. D. S. Welling."

Such is the title of a very neat 12 mo. volume of 375 pages, just issued from the press of Geo. Parkin & Co., of this city. The nature of its contents are well set forth in its title; and the reader will find in it much valuable information concerning the public institutions of Ohio, and observations on the nature and causes of insanity, its treatment and cure.

For sale by Robert Hopkins, Appollo Buildings, Fourth street, and at the Book Stores of the city generally, in various styles of binding.

For the Pittsburgh Gazette.

House of Refuge.

At a meeting, held on Thursday evening last, in the Board of Trade Rooms, to deliberate on the means most likely to effect the speedy erection in the city of Pittsburgh, of a House of Refuge, I had the good fortune to be present. A zeal according to knowledge, in connexion with an enlightened liberality, seemed to pervade the hearts and minds of nearly all the persons in attendance. Not only a feeling of pure philanthropy, but of solemn devotion, characterized the remarks of every speaker who addressed the meeting, and the impressions made on the minds of the audience, evidently appeared to be of a corresponding description. It was emphatically, good to be there. Notwithstanding the general good feeling which so delightfully prevailed, it may nevertheless have happened that a few generous minded persons, present on that occasion, deeply regretted their inability to contribute as they could wish, to the advancement and consumation, of so good and great an enterprise. In this instance, as in every other, it should be steadily kept in mind, that where little is given, but little is required. The widow who cast but two miles into the treasury of the Lord, was regarded with even more complacency by the Redeemer himself, than the many who, of their abundance, had cast in much. Indeed the only true standard for the proper exercise of Christian benevolence, is found in the language of inspiration—"Let every man contribute *as God hath given him ability.*"

While I thus apologise for the poor, as much perhaps from a feeling of sympathy, as from a sense of justice, I am profoundly grateful to the few wealthy residents who attended the meeting, for their handsome contributions, to so laudable an object. Many, very many, thank God! of our fellow citizens are men of fortune, and always ready to give generously of their abundance, to every moral and religious enterprise.

The meeting though comparatively small, was composed of the very best materials, as must be apparent from the foregoing remarks. From what has been done by a few whole souled individuals, it may reasonably be concluded, that when our people generally set their shoulders to the wheel, their praiseworthy efforts will be crowned with complete success. HOWARD.

Dec. 7th, 1850.

FROM WASHINGTON

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3, 1850.

Election of Chaplin—The Committees—Important Report from the Treasury—Prospects of the Tariff.—The Message and Documents.

The House had the grace to elect Rev. R. R. Gurley its Chaplain to day, and a choice which gives us reason to hope for a wise, conciliatory, prudent course of conduct in the members with reference to their strictly legislative duties. Of course after effecting this act of devotion to their higher interests, the House was too much overcome for further persistance in well doing, and immediately adjourned. It is ascertained that Speaker Cobb will make no material changes in his committees, and business will begin at once, though little apparent progress will be made in either House for some time.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury has not yet appeared. It is a document of great length, and will be read with intense interest. The President states that the total receipts of the past fiscal year were $47,421,000. I pres ume this includes the following items, referred to in Mr. Meredith's last annual report.

Receipts from Miscellaneous sources	$1,200,000
" " Avails of Loans	399,000
" " Treasury Notes funded	839,000
Balance in the Treasury, July 1, 1849,	2,184,000
Public Lands, about	1,500,000
	6,122,000
Leaving for receipts from Customs for 1849 and '50	41,299,000
Total means for the fiscal year	47,421,000

Mr. Meredith fell just ten millions below the actual receipts from customs in his estimate on that point, provided the President's statement is composed of the items which I have given above. It will be safe, therefore, for Mr. Corwin to make a very liberal calculation of the receipts upon the data furnished by the returns of the last 5 months. But the same rule must be applied to the expenditures. Mr. Meredith estimated them for this year at $45,000,000, and yet though Congress appropriated at its last session $42,500,000, it has been discovered within 60 days after the adjournment, that a deficiency of nearly $11,000,000 remains to be provided for

But it is not merely in the details of our receipts and expenditures that the chief interest Mr. Corwin's report will consist. The developements which it will make of the results of the present revenue system on the manufactures, and general industry and wealth of the country, will be received with the profoundest attention. Upon the facts and arguments presented in this document will, in some measure depend the legislation of the session upon the vital question. The most complete dependence is placed upon the ability of the Secretary, and his suggestions will be received with deference by all parties. Notwithstanding the untoward result of the Pennsylvania election, I learn there is no such predetermined hostility among the Democrats to the desired revision of the Tariff as I had before supposed, and indeed as many prominent and observant Whigs of your and other States had taken for granted. I learn that the Hon. Wm. Strong, a much respected Democratic member from Pennsylvania, is thoroughly impressed with the suffering condition of the iron working and mining interests of that State, and of the leading industrial pursuits in many others, and has consented to exert himself among the members of his own party to bring about among them a better feeling. At this moment I look upon it as more than probable that something efficacious will be done at this session for the protection of manufactures in iron, cotton, and wool, the interests which are suffering the most severely.

I will take care that you have an abstract of this report and the accompanying document as soon as possible after they shall be issued.

There is one thing much to be commended about the State papers that have so far appeared. They are brief, practical, compact to the point. They consist, as they ought to do, of narratives of transactions of government, during the past year. There was no act of Polk's administration, as I believe, that struck the public judgment as more unfavorably, or was more universally and repeatedly a good taste, than his verbose and opinionative messages eulogizing his own performances and malignity—for harsh as it is, that is the true term—the motives and acts of greater men than himself in his annual and occasional messages. I distinctly recollect that in that communicating the treaty of peace, and in his last annual message he lectured Congress soundly in anticipation that the trifling little debt of a hundred millions or so, which he had left to his successors, would not be promptly paid off, when in fact he left the treasury empty, and with inundited and unknown arrearages to the amount of twenty or thirty millions of dollars. President Fillmore's Message is one of the shortest ever delivered, and could not be abridged a paragraph, with advantage to its force and clearness—and all the reports, excepting perhaps that from the treasury department are remarkable for their economy of words. The report from the Secretary of War and Post Master General, are models in their kind. Both embody very important recommendations, which I think will be all sanctioned by Congress.

The report from the South to day is, that the active members of the South Carolina delegation (Burt and Holmes, of the House, only are yet arrived) will not take their seats unless recommended to do so expressly or impliedly by the Governor and Legislature of the State. I do not suppose the rumor has any good foundation, but I give it as part of the town gossip. Another version, more current among the Southern members, is that the palmetto gentlemen will take their seats, without participating in the proceedings of either House, and will keep them for several weeks in order to give their Legislature full time to act, holding themselves in readiness to retire at any moment when the wire pullers at home shall touch the key indicating that the last link is broken between Carolina and the Union. JUNIUS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.

The Message on our Foreign Relations—Treasury Report and the Tariff—Death of Hon. Chester Butler—Proceedings in Congress.

Among the numerous criticisms, which, as a matter of course, the Message evokes, is the remark that in that portion of it referring to the late treaty with Great Britain, respecting the Atlantic and Pacific Canal, and the territorial integrity of Central America, the President has plainly disclaimed all purpose of adhering to the Monroe and Adams doctrine against further European colonization on this continent. It is said that the President clearly indicates his intention not to regard the Clayton treaty of April 19, 1850, as designed to protect, or in any way affect, the territorial rights of Nicaragua, or any other of the Central American States, against the unprincipled encroachments of Great Britain. Non intervention abroad is said to be the policy of the Message throughout. Now I will admit that the tone of the Message on these very important points is not just what I hoped it would be, but I am not willing to take the above interpretation of what it does say upon those topics as the true one. There will be other communications from the President, and Secretary of State, upon those subjects in the course of the session; and indeed there will be decided action on the part of the Senate on some the questions involved in them. It will be recollected that in September, 1849, Mr. Squier, our charge to Nicaragua, concluded a most important treaty, by which that State extended to the American company for the construction of the canal, very comprehensive privileges, and I believe we are in return stipulated to secure the independence and inviolability of her territories. General Taylor laid that treaty before the Senate for its advice, and though, so far as is publicly known, no action took place at the last session upon it, a decision will of course be given before the termination of the present one. This undertaking to guarant e the territory of small and weak powers is certainly a hazardous proceeding, but there may be circumstances to justify it. As during Polk's term we did form a postal treaty with New Granada, which was ratified, and is yet in force, and in treaty we guarantee the integrity of that Republic's territories, while it is a fact that at this moment one province, adjoining the Isthmus, is claimed by the British, on behalf of their pretended King of Mosquito. This is the treaty under which subsist our arrangements for carrying the mail across between Chagres and Panama.

What is commonly called the Monroe doctrine, for the repression of foreign encroachments on the American continent, is said to have originated with Mr. Adams, when Secretary of State, and Mr. Calhoun intimated that though Mr. Monroe concurred in it, Mr. Adams' colleagues in the cabinet did not.

Mr. Corwin's first annual treasury report will be sent in on Monday next. The reason for the delay is said to be, that by keeping it back a few days, it would be found practicable to insert in it some valuable information, highly essential to guide Congress in its legislation upon the tariff and other questions. Certain movements are maturing on the tariff, which I trust will have a happy result. It will be necessary to keep the whole subject out of the control of the Committee of Ways, and to get the bill, which it is intended to frame, before the House at an early period of the session. Let any reasonable proposition for the modification of the present tariff be got before the House, and it must pass. On the other hand, I do not think the friends of the proposed change are also sanguine of the success, but if that body I do not feel so secure. There is a nominal democratic anti-free trade majority there of twelve or fifteen votes.—How it is to be reduced to a minority, I have not yet been able to ascertain. But, as I said, the protectionists are in good spirits, and appear to see their way clear.

In the House, to day, Mr. Chandler, of Philadelphia, announced the death of Hon. Chester Butler, of your State, in very beautiful and affecting terms, in consequence of which the House adjourned without the transaction of any business, other than discharging the melancholy duty of passing the resolutions of sympathy and respect appropriate to the occasion. Mr. Cooper performed the same mournful task in the Senate, in a manner truly eloquent and touching. I had the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with Mr. Butler, and I can say with truth that no man in the House possessed more entirely the confidence and good will of his fellow members, and none conciliated more than he did the regard and esteem of acquaintances, who were brought into contact with him by his official duties or otherwise. Previous to this solemn announcement, the Senate had transacted considerable business.

The Chairman, Mr. King, of Alabama, announced the standing committees for the session. There were no very significant changes. For some reason or other, Mr. Dickinson, of N. Y., had expressed a disinclination for further service on a committee of the Committee on Finance, and Mr. Hunter of Va., was appointed to that station. Mr. Cass, at his own request, was excused from service on the committee on foreign affairs—Mr. Foote will be chairman of that committee. Your readers will notice that let what change will occur in the organization of either House of Congress, they always have this result: Southern men are placed in stations of commanding eminence, trust, and power, at the expense of Northern men. I do not seek to cast censure upon any party or section on account of this matter. I only state the fact, without making comments.

Rev. Mr. Butler, of the Episcopal church, was re-elected Chaplain for the remainder of the Congress, without serious opposition. The complement to the talents, eloquence, and piety of Dr. Butler was well deserved, and bacons the Senate which conferred it, as much as the rising divine who received it. JUNIUS.

Report of the Secretary of the Navy.

This important document deserves, and will excite unusual attention, both on account of the great interest which attaches to the subject of which it treats, and of the numerous suggestions which it advances, in regard to the improvement of the this branch of the public service.

The following complete abstract of its statements and recommendations we take from the *Washington Republic.*

The Secretary commences with a discription of the various squadrons into which the vessels of our navy have been distributed during the past year, and a review of the services which they have performed. The vessels in commission, exclusive of the steamer Michigan, which has been cruising on the lakes, have been employed in six different squadrons. The home squadron, Commodore Parker commanding, flag ship frigate Raritan, whose field of operations extends from the Banks of Newfoundland to the mouth of the Rio Grande river, has been chiefly occupied in the West Indies and the Gulf of Mexico, and has performed valuable service in preventing violation of our national obligations in the attempt attempted invasion of the Island of Cuba.

The Pacific squadron continued under the command of Commodore T. Ap. Catesby Jones until the month of June last, when he was succeeded by Commodore McCauley, whose flag ship is the Savannah. Three vessels of the squadron are to cruise between Cape Horn and Panama, and proceed to the one hundred and eighteenth degree of longitude, while the residue will be generally employed North of the equator.

The squadron on the coast of Brazil, Commodore McKeever commanding, flag ship the frigate Congress, cruises from the mouth of the river Amazon to Cape Horn, and occasionally East ward to the coast of Africa. Its attention has been so powerfully directed to the suppression of the slave trade, and to the protection of our neutral rights in the state of hostility existing between the Argentine Republic and the Banda Oriental of Uruguay.

The Mediterranean squadron, Commodore Morgan commanding, flag ship the razee Independence, has been actively engaged in visiting the ports of the Mediterranean, the Black, Adriatic, and the Archipelago. The squadron on the coast of Africa, Commodore Gregory commanding, flag ship the sloop of war Portsmouth, has been vigilantly employed in breaking up the slave traffic on the coast of Africa.

The squadron in the East India and China seas, lately under the command of Commodore Geisinger, was transferred in June last to the command of Commodore Voorhies, and consists of the sloops-of-war Saratoga and Marion.

Wherever our flag has been displayed by a national vessel, it has received the respect due to the national character, and our interests and commerce have been secure under its protection.

The two brigantines composing the expedition in search of Sir John Franklin, at the date of their last report to the Department, had advanced to the 75th degree of north latitude, and about the 60th degree of west longitude.

During the last year nine parties, eight in the Atlantic and one in the Pacific, each in charge of a lieutenant, accompanied by a competent force of midshipmen as assistants, have been actively engaged in the coast survey. The Secretary suggests that it would be more appropriate as well as more economical that this work, which is now under the direction of the Treasury Department, should be assigned wholly to the Navy, as the branch of the service on which the chief share in execution now devolves.

The vessels of the navy of the United States consist of 7 ships of the line; 1 razee; 12 frigates; 21 sloops-of-war; 4 brigs; 2 schooners; 5 steam frigates; 3 steamers of the 1st class; 6 steamers less than 1st class; and 5 store-ships

Of these there are in commission, 1 razee; 8 frigates; 15 sloops-of-war; 4 brigs; 2 schooners, (coast survey) 2 steam frigates; 1 steamer of the 1st class; 3 steamers less than 1st class; 3 ships of the line, as receiving ships; 1 steamer do; and 1 sloop do.

There are also on the stocks and in progress of construction 4 ships of the line and 2 frigates.

To the foregoing may be added as a contingent naval force, the various mail steamers which are liable in an emergency to be converted into vessels of war, viz: 5 steamers of the 1st class, already constructed; 1 constructed, but not yet received; and 4 contracted for, but not yet constructed.

Permanent stone docks have been many years since erected at the yards in Charlestown and Norfolk, and a third is nearly completed in that at Brooklyn. Floating balance docks, with stone basins and railways are reported to be completed for use at Portsmouth and Pensacola in the course of the ensuing year, and a floating sectional dock also, with a stone basin and railway, at Philadelphia, within the same period. Proposals have been invited for the construction of a sectional or floating dry dock, basin and railway, on the coast of the Pacific.

The personnel of the navy comprises 68 captains, 97 commanders, 327 lieutenants, 63 surgeons, 37 passed assistant surgeons, 42 assistant surgeons, 64 pursers, 21 chaplains, 12 professors of mathematics, 11 masters in the line of promotions, and 464 passed and other midshipmen; to which is to be added, besides other warrant officers, according to the annual appropriation for pay and subsistence, 7,500 petty officers, seamen, ordinary seamen, landsmen, and boys.

The capacity of the country to enlarge this force, whenever desirable, may be readily perceived by statistics that we have now in the mercantile marine 3,000,000 of tons of shipping, greater than that of any other nation of the world; and, according to the ordinary estimate of six men to every one hundred tons, there are in our merchant service 180,000 seamen.

An obvious fault of the present organization of the personnel of the navy, as above set forth, is the great disparity between the head and the subordinate parts. It is believed that the list of supernumery officers, at least in the three higher grades is greater than is demanded for an effective naval establishment. It is, therefore, recommended that the number be reduced to sixty captains, eighty commanders, three hundred lieutenants, with corresponding modifications in the inferior grades.

The size of the navy being thus determined, it is further recommended that, from time to time, as officers may decline in capacity for useful service, they may be retired from the active list on terms both just and liberal.

The Secretary proposes that in all future promotions to a captaincy or to a higher rank, if such shall be established, seniority shall not be regarded, and merit shall be esteemed the only criterion of selection. This will appear to be more eminently just and proper, since, under the present system, no brevet rank is allowed to re ward "the most acknowledged Professional superiority

Another defect in the present establishment is, the disparity between the ages of subaltern officers and their grades, procured by the promotion of juniors in each rank and the failure to provide for any promotion, except in cases of vacancy. The senior passed midshipman, now in the service, are older than were Perry, Decatur, and Macdonough when they achieved their victories.

To remedy this defect two methods have been severally suggested by officers of great merit and intelligence.

1st. To reduce the number of midshipmen, so as to furnish only so many as may be required to supply the higher grades as vacancies may occur.

2d. To educate a number as great as that now established, and to fix an age in early grade, on the attainment of which, if no vacancy exist for promotion, they may be retired from the navy to find employment in the merchant service, and supply a reserve corps, in case of war, of the most efficient character.

This whole subject is submitted for the deliberation of Congress.

Another important recommendation of the Secretary is, that the office of Commodore, (a title now given merely by courtesy to officers who have commanded squadrons) be recognized by law, and that at least two officers be created of the rank of Commodore. This is considered important to enable to place the highest officers of our navy on an equality with those of other nations whom they are accustomed to meet on the ocean. It is necessary, also, in order to put them on a proper footing in rank with the higher officers of the army. By the established rule of relative rank, a captain, the highest officer in our navy, ranks only with a colonel. No good reason can be perceived why the highest officer of one service should not be equal in rank with the highest officer of the other. A rear admiral is the corresitive rank to a major general. If Congress shall deem it expedient to create a lieutenant general to the army, it may be accompanied by its correlative of vice admiral in the navy.

The two rear admirals proposed, one might be most usefully employed at the Department itself, when not on more active duty, in a connexion similar to that of the General-in-chief at the Adjutant General with the Department of War. The other, when not in command at sea, should establish his quarters at San Francisco, or other point on the Pacific coast, and should be invested with command over all the naval officers and seamen west of the Rocky Mountains, as well as the naval forces in the Pacific, and in the China and East India seas. The distance of our Pacific coast from the seat of Government is one great bar to energetic system of naval operations, or even for the enforcement of proper discipline under the existing law.

The necessity of maintaining an efficient naval force in the Pacific, in order to protect a coast more than one thousand miles in length, and to give protection and encouragement to our whale fisheries, is fully set forth in the report. The longest voyage now made by navigators is from our Atlantic to our Pacific ports. It is therefore advised, as a matter of economy, both in expense and time that, when a sufficient number of ships shall be placed on the Pacific side of the continent they be retained there for permanent use, the crews being enlisted in the Atlantic ports and sent out in Government transports on the ordinary line of travel across the Isthmus of Panama.

Although not of the opinion that war steamers will supersede as line of vessels as ships of war, the Secretary is thoroughly persuaded that they will be most valuable auxiliaries. A letter is submitted from an officer of much experience in the command of war steamers in regard to their efficiency simply as striking bodies in running down an enemy's vessel. Attention is also called to the recommendation of the Bureau of Construction that our sail ships of war should be coppered, and provided, with steam propellers, to be used on occasions where celerity of motion adverse to the prevailing winds may be important.

Of the four war steamers authorized to be built by the act of 1837, the Saranac only is ready for sea. She will be retained in the home squadron. The Susquehanna, when completed, will be attached to the East India squadron, and the three remaining ones will be sent to the Pacific and the coast of Brazil.

The commandants of squadrons are to be required to meet at certain times and places for the purpose of exercising in fleets.

The Naval Academy is described as in a flourishing condition. The attachment to the academy of a practice ship for the purpose of practical instruction, is regarded as an improvement of great value.

It is recommended that a few appointments at large, of midshipmen be allowed to the President, as a means of promoting youths of extraordinary promise.

The deficiency of the articles of war for the government of the navy is referred to at length, with especial reference to the alteration made in them by the abolition of flogging. This abolition has left in the hands of authority but few sanctions than those of death and imprisonment.—It has in no degree abated the severities of the penal code. But it was probably the infliction of this punishment in a summary way by a commander of a ship, in which there had doubtless been abuses, that was intended to be remedied. The opinion of a board of officers, assembled for the purpose, has been asked on several questions connected with this change of discipline; and it is suggested that a committee of Congress take the testimony of each of experienced seamen as well as officers, in reference to a proper code of discipline for the service.

The operations of the several lines of mail steamers, and the payments made upon their contracts, are set forth. It is recommended that a line for the transportation of the mails from San Francisco to Macao, Shanghai, or other ports of Eastern Asia, either by steamers or sail vessels, be established.

The operations at the National Observatory and Hydrographical Office, continue to be conducted in a manner highly satisfactory. The astronomical expedition, under Lieut. Gillisz, to Santiago de Chili, with a view to a new determination of the distance of the earth from the sun, by observations carried on at the same time there and here, and other scientific objects, has proceeded its labors successfully, and has been signally favored by the cordial assistance of the civil authorities of the Argentine Republic and the Banda Oriental of Uruguay.

The experiments of Professor Page in testing the application of electro-magnetism as a motive power in mechanics have been continued, and he is now engaged in preparing a locomotive and a locomotive on a railroad propelled by this power. The meteorological observations of Professor Espey are still in progress. The course of experiments in gunnery, and the preparation of ordnance stores of all kinds at the navy yard in Washington, have been conducted in a manner highly satisfactory to the Department.

A board of naval officers has been convened, for advice and information on the question of rank between officers of the military and civil branches of the naval service, and the relative rank of officers of the army and navy when acting together.

The joint board of officers of the army and navy, who have been engaged in the examination of our Pacific coast with reference to harbors, fortifications, light houses, navy yards, and docks, is expected to finish its work in the present month, and return to the seat of Government.

The sum total of appropriations required for all objects under the supervision of the Department is $3,111,600 Of this sum, the amount required for the naval service and marine corps for the year is $2,900,621. The above aggregate is less by more than a million of dollars than were the estimates for the present year. To it, however, must be added the amount which may be required for the dry dock on