

# Democratic Banner.

BY MOORE & THOMPSON.

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## TERMS

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## POETRY.

### MAN WAS NOT MADE TO MOURN.

BY W. PERRISSON.

There is a voice which haunts me still,  
Where'er on earth I be;  
In lonely vale, or lofty hill,  
And on the distant sea—  
I hear it in the silent night,  
And at the break of morn,  
And eye it e'er—dark or light—  
Man was not made to mourn!  
In every stream that seaward flows,  
That woe salutes mine ear;  
In every wind that round me blows,  
Its thrilling notes I hear:  
In every sound of Nature's heart,  
The cheerful or forlorn,  
The cheer that glads the better part—  
Man was not made to mourn!  
The sun that glads the summer noon,  
The light that blesteth all,  
The myriad stars, the quiet moon,  
The flowers which in our meadows grow,  
Our mountain paths adorn—  
All, all, in their own fashion show  
Man was not made to mourn!  
All Nature cries aloud—  
Rejoice not Nature's voice;  
Forsooth her benignant plan,  
Her workmanship destroy;  
From her fair book the brightest page,  
With impious hand has torn,  
Yet still she cries, from age to age,  
Man was not made to mourn!  
Oh, gentle mother! may thy child  
Ere long thy lesson read;  
Embrace thy precepts, loving, mild,  
Thy fostering creed;  
Then shall the blessed end be known,  
For which he has been born,  
And all shall feel from song to song,  
Man was not made to mourn!

### GEN. TAYLOR IN FRANCE.

The Paris Correspondent of the *National Intelligencer* thus writes from that city, on the 29th of June:  
The morning after the date of my last issue, we were inexpressibly relieved and exhilarated by the news of Gen. Taylor's victories over the Mexicans. So much sinister prediction from your side of the Atlantic excited, even in my confidential mind, vague apprehensions for the safety of the General, and absolute despondency in some of my friends. But we are more than indemnified. Europe is impressed in the most beneficial way, by the battles, the subsequent proceedings of Congress, and the patriotic manifestations of the whole Union. It is now understood how the immense majority of the American people would act in the event of a rupture with Great Britain, or any European power. Before the end of the sitting of the Deputies, on the 17th instant, two eminent members of the Chamber, (of the opposition,) went to Versailles, where I then was, to congratulate me on the *Rio Grande* occurrences, and to describe the effect of the intelligence on the Chamber. Lively satisfaction pervaded the assembly; most of the Conservatives betrayed that feeling; Mr. Guizot, two of his colleagues and a few of his party, the nearest and most devoted, were alone chaffalant; their disconcertion served to amuse the rest. It was added by my visitors that, should war between the United States and England ensue, twenty thousand French volunteers, under the command of experienced officers, would at once endeavor to reach your shores, for the purpose of joining in the invasion of Canada. This does not pass for me as an incitement to war, which I deprecate as much as any one, under the proper reserves of honor and right; but it is meant as evidence of the disposition of the French in general. They are far from being reconciled to the British. With a few exceptions, I have not, in my long and various intercourse with Frenchmen, encountered any who entertained for the British as a nation, other sentiments than jealousy, dislike, and immemorial resentments. Veteran officers of the garrison of Versailles, with whom I have chatted at the reading-room which I frequent there, on the operations of Gen. Taylor, pronounce the most flattering judgment in respect to boldness, skill, and the entire professional process. The French opposition press has been, in the main, liberal, but a slight natural jealousy may be discerned where temperament and destiny beget the highest, and, in a degree, exclusive belligerent pretensions. Your troops on the Rio Grande fought the Mexicans under more disadvantages than did the British the Sikhs on the Sutlej, or the French the Moors at Isley. Further successes, with like moderation in the use of victory, and a language so simple, so unambitious as that of the official despatches, will strengthen and animate the friends of the United States, and of republicanism throughout Europe.  
A late writer says that if you would have an idea of the ocean in a storm—just imagine ten thousand hills and four thousand mountains, all drunk, and chalking one another over newly ploughed ground, with lots of caverns in it for them to step into now and then.

## Official Correspondence.

From the North American  
[CONFIDENTIAL.]

Message from the President of the United States communicating a proposition on the part of the British Government for the adjustment of the Oregon question.

[June 10, 1846—read.]

To the Senate of the United States:

I lay before the Senate a proposal in the form of a Convention, presented to the Secretary of State on the 6th inst., by the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of her Britannic Majesty, for the adjustment of the Oregon question, together with a protocol of this proceeding. I submit this proposal to the consideration of the Senate, and request their advice as to the action which, in their judgment, it may be proper to take in reference to it.

In the early periods of the Government, the opinion and advice of the Senate were often taken in advance upon important questions of our foreign policy. General Washington repeatedly consulted the Senate and asked their advice, to which he always conformed his action. This practice, though rarely resorted to in later times, was, in my judgment, eminently wise, and may, on occasions of great importance, be properly revived. The Senate are a branch of the treaty-making power, and by consulting them in advance of his own action, upon important measures of foreign policy which may ultimately come before them for consideration, the President secures harmony of action between that body and himself. The Senate are moreover a branch of the war-making power, and it may be eminently proper for the Executive to take the opinion and advice of that body in advance upon any great question which may involve in its decision the issue of peace or war.

On the present occasion the magnitude of the subject would induce me, under any circumstances, to desire the previous advice of the Senate, and that desire is increased by the recent debates and proceedings in Congress, which render it in my judgment, not only respectful to the Senate, but necessary and proper, if not indispensable to insure harmonious action, between that body and the Executive.

In conferring on the Executive the authority to give the notice for the abrogation of the Convention of 1827, the Senate acted publicly so large a part, that the decision on the proposal now made by the British Government, without a definite knowledge of the views of that body in reference to it, might render the question still more complicated and difficult of adjustment. For these reasons, I invite the consideration of the Senate to the proposal of the British Government for the settlement of the Oregon question, and ask their advice on the subject.

My opinions and my action on the Oregon question were fully made known to Congress in my annual message of the 2d December last, and the opinions therein expressed remain unchanged.

Should the Senate, by the ratification of Treaties, advise the acceptance of this proposition, or advise it with such modifications as they may upon full deliberation deem proper, I shall conform my action to their advice. Should the Senate however, decline by such constitutional majority to give such advice, or to express an opinion on the subject, I shall consider it my duty to reject the offer.

I also communicate herewith an extract from a despatch of the Secretary of State to the Minister of the United States at London, under date of the 28th of April last, directing him in accordance with the joint resolutions of Congress, "Concerning the Oregon Territory," to deliver the notice to the British Government for the abrogation of the Convention of 6th August, 1827; and also, a copy of the Notice transmitted to him for that purpose, together with extracts from a despatch of that Minister to the Secretary of State, bearing date, the 18th of May, last.

JAMES K. POLK.

WASHINGTON, June 10, 1846.

## PROTOCOL.

A conference was held at the Department of State on the 6th June, 1846, between the Hon. James Buchanan, Secretary of State, the American Plenipotentiary, and the right hon. Richard Pakenham, the British Plenipotentiary, when the negotiation respecting the Oregon Territory was resumed. The British Plenipotentiary made a verbal explanation of the motives which had induced her Majesty's government to instruct him to make another proposition to the Government of the United States for the solution of these long existing difficulties. The Secretary of State expressed his satisfaction with the friendly motives which had animated the British Government in this endeavor.

Whereupon, the British Plenipotentiary submitted to the Secretary of State the draught of a convention (marked A.) setting forth the terms which he had been instructed to propose to the Government of the United States for the settlement of the Oregon question.

JAMES BUCHANAN,  
RICHARD PAKENHAM.

[Here follows the draught of the Con-

vention, which is in the precise words of the treaty below given.]

Mr. Buchanan to Mr. McLean.—*Extracts.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, April 28, 1846.

I herewith transmit a notice for the abrogation of the Convention of the 6th August, 1827, between Great Britain and the United States, in accordance with the terms prescribed in its second article. This paper you will deliver to her Britannic Majesty in person or to her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, after you shall have ascertained which of these modes of presenting it will be most in accordance with her Majesty's wishes. A duplicate of the same is transmitted, to be placed on file in the archives of your legation.

As the abrogation of this Convention is an act of an important and solemn character, the delivery of the Notice ought to be attested with all due formality. The mode is left entirely to your own discretion; but I would suggest that it might be made the subject of a protocol, in triplicate; one copy of which should remain with the British Government, another with the Legation in London, and the third be transmitted to this Department.

In the remarks which you may have occasion to make on the delivery of the Notice, the language of the preamble to the "Joint Resolution concerning the Oregon Territory," must necessarily be your guide. Congress have spoken their will upon the subject, in their Joint Resolution, and to this it is his (the President's) and your duty to conform.

To her Majesty VICTORIA, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, &c. &c.

Whereas, the Congress of the United States have adopted a "Joint Resolution concerning the Oregon Territory" of which the following is a copy:

"WHEREAS, by the convention concluded the twentieth day of October, eighteen hundred and eighteen, between the United States of America and the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, for the period of ten years and afterwards indefinitely extended and continued in force by another convention of the same parties, concluded the 6th day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, it was agreed that any country that may be claimed by either party on the northwest coast of America westward of the Stony or Rocky Mountains, now commonly called the Oregon territory, should, together with its harbors, bays, and creeks, and the navigation of all rivers within the same, be 'free and open' to the vessels, citizens, and subjects of the two Powers, but without prejudice to any claim which either of the parties might have to any part of said country; and with this further provision, in the second article of the said convention of the sixth of August, eighteen hundred and twenty-seven, that either party might abrogate and annul said convention, on giving due notice of twelve months to the other contracting party."

And whereas, it has now become desirable that the respective claims of the United States and Great Britain should be definitely settled, and that said Territory may no longer than need be remain subject to the evil consequences of the divided allegiance of its American and British population, and of the confusion and conflict of national jurisdiction, dangerous to the cherished peace and good understanding of the two countries:

With a view, therefore, that steps be taken for the abrogation of the said convention of the 6th of August, eighteen hundred and twenty-seven, in the mode prescribed in its second article, and that the attention of the Governments of both countries may be the more earnestly directed to the adoption of all proper measures for a speedy and amicable adjustment of the differences and disputes in regard to the said territory:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized, at his discretion, to give to the Government of Great Britain the notice required by the second article of the said convention of the 6th of August, 1827, for the abrogation of the same.

Now, therefore, after a careful consideration of the premises, I, JAMES K. POLK, President of the United States, in the exercise of the authority and discretion vested in me by the said "Joint Resolution concerning the Oregon Territory," and in pursuance of the second article of the Convention of 6th August, 1827, therein mentioned, do hereby, in behalf of the United States, give notice to her Majesty, the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, that at the end of twelve months from and after the delivery of these presents, by the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States at London, to her Britannic Majesty or to her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the said Convention shall be entirely annulled and abrogated.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at Washington, this twenty-eighth day of April,

A. D. eighteen hundred and forty-six, and of the Independence of the United States the seventieth.

By the President, JAMES K. POLK.

JAMES BUCHANAN, Sec. of State.

Mr. McLean to Mr. Buchanan.—*Extracts.*

LONDON, May 19, 1846.

I received late in the day, on the 15th inst., [Friday,] your despatch numbered twenty-seven, dated the 28th of April, 1846, transmitting a notice for the abrogation of the Convention of the 6th August, 1827, between the United States and Great Britain, in accordance with the terms prescribed in the second article, instructing me to deliver the notice to her Britannic Majesty in person, or to her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, as will be most agreeable to her Majesty's wishes, and at the same time leaving the mode of the delivery of the notice entirely at my own discretion.

I will of course execute your instructions at the earliest practicable moment. As, however, I could only ascertain her Majesty's wishes, which I am directed to consult, through the principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, sufficient time has not yet been afforded for that purpose; and in the midst of the preparation of my despatches for the steamer to-morrow, and of my engagements at the Foreign Office, connected with one of the topics of this letter, it has not been in my power to give to a subject of so much importance that deliberation which I am sensible a proper exercise of the discretion confided to me requires. To-morrow, however, I purpose to seek an interview with Lord Aberdeen for this purpose, and without loss of time finally to execute your instructions in the mode that may be deemed most effectual. I may add, that although it is altogether probable that the presentation of the notice to her Majesty in person will not be admissible, and that where a treaty may be annulled upon notice by one party, the mode of delivering the notice need not be dependent upon the assent of the other; yet, in the present instance, I do not apprehend there will be any difficulty in giving and receiving the notice in a mode mutually satisfactory and in conformity with usage in such cases.

I have now to acquaint you that after the receipt of your despatches on the 15th inst. by the *Caledonia*, I had a lengthy conference with Lord Aberdeen; on which occasion the resumption of the negotiation for an amicable settlement of the Oregon question, and the nature of the proposition he contemplated submitting for that purpose, formed the subject of a full and free conversation. I have now to state, that instructions will be transmitted to Mr. Pakenham by the steamer of to-morrow, to submit a new and further proposition on the part of this Government, for a partition of the territory in dispute.

The proposition, most probably, will offer substantially—  
First—To divide the territory by the extension of the line on the parallel of forty-nine to the sea; that is to say, to the arm of the sea called Birch's Bay, thence to the Canal de Arro and Straits of Fuca to the Ocean; and conforming to the U. States, what indeed they would possess without any special confirmation, the right freely to use and navigate the Strait throughout its extent.

Second—To secure to the British subjects occupying lands, forts, and stations, any where in the region north of the Columbia and south of the 49th parallel, a perpetual title to all their lands and stations of which they may be in actual occupation; liable, however, in all respects, as I understand, to the jurisdiction and sovereignty of the United States, as citizens of the United States. Similar privileges will be offered to be extended to citizens of the United States who may have settlements north of the 49th parallel; though I presume it is pretty well understood, that there are no settlements upon which this nominal mutuality could operate. I have no means of accurately ascertaining the extent of the present British settlements between the Columbia and the 49th parallel. They are not believed by Lord Aberdeen to be numerous, however; consisting, as he supposes, of a few private farms and two or three forts and stations. I have already in a previous despatch taken the liberty to remind you that by their charter, the Hudson's Bay Company are prohibited from acquiring title to lands, and that the occupations to be affected by this reservation have been made either by the squatters of the company or by the Puget's Sound Land Company, for the purpose of evading the prohibition of the Hudson's Bay Charter. They are in point of fact also, according to Captain Wilkes' account, cultivated and used chiefly by the persons employed in the service of the former Company, and as auxiliary to their general business of hunting and trapping, rather than with a view, as it has been generally supposed, of colonizing, or of permanent settlement.

Lastly—The proposition will demand for the Hudson's Bay Company the right of freely navigating the Columbia river. It will, however, as I understand, disclaim the idea of sovereignty, or of the right of exercising any jurisdiction or police whatever, on the part of the government, or of

the company, and will contemplate only the right of navigating the river upon the same footing and according to the same regulations as may be applicable to the citizens of the United States. I have already acquainted you that Lord Aberdeen has very positively and explicitly declined to treat of the navigation of the St. Lawrence in connection with that of the Columbia; and that even if it were desirable to propose to offer one for the other, he would on no account enter into any negotiation in regard to the St. Lawrence!

I have seen no cause to change the opinion, that in any attempt to divide the Oregon territory, the obligation felt by this government to protect the rights of its subjects, which may have been acquired or have grown up during the joint occupation, would most probably interpose the greatest difficulty in the way of an amicable adjustment. And it is now obvious that the proposed reversion of the right to the Hudson's Bay Company of freely navigating the Columbia, and that in favor of the British occupants north of the river, proceed from this source; although it is probable that more or less pride may be felt at giving up now, without that they may deem an adequate equivalent, what has hitherto been tendered by our negotiators.

In fact, except in the surrender to the United States of the title of the lands not occupied by British subjects between the Columbia and the 49th parallel, and also the surrender of the jurisdiction over the river and the country within the same limits, I am afraid it may, with some plausibility, be contended that there is no material difference between the present proposition and that offered to Mr. Gallatin by Messrs. Addington and Huskisson, the British negotiators, in 1827.

It is scarcely necessary for me to state that the proposition, as now submitted has not received my countenance. I have therefore felt it my duty to discourage the expectation that it would be accepted by the President; or, if submitted to that body, approved by the Senate.

I do not think there can be much doubt, however, that an impression has been produced here that the Senate would accept the proposition now offered, at least without any material modification, and that the President would not take the responsibility of rejecting it without consulting the Senate. If there be any reasonable ground to entertain such an impression, however erroneous, an offer less objectionable, in the first instance at least, could hardly be expected.

It may be considered certain, also; in my opinion, that the offer now to be made is not to be submitted as an ultimatum, & is not intended as such; though I have reason to know Mr. Packenham will not be authorized to accept or reject any modification that may be proposed on our part but that he will, in such case, be instructed to refer the modification to his government.

It is not to be disguised, since the President's annual message, and the public discussion that has subsequently taken place in the Senate; it will be difficult, if not impossible, to conduct the negotiation in its future stages, without reference to the opinion of Senators, or free from speculation as to any degree of control they may exercise over the result. Whatever, therefore, might be prudent and regular in the ordinary course of things, I think it of the utmost importance, upon the present occasion, if the President should think proper to propose any modification of the offer to be made by Mr. Packenham, that the modification should be understood as possessing the concurrence of the co-ordinate branch of the treaty power.

It is not easy to conjecture, with any certainty, the extent to which this government might be induced to modify the proposition even if they should be assured that the Senate, no less than the President demanded it. It must not escape observation that, during the preceding administration of our government, the extension of the line on the 49th parallel to the Strait of Fuca, as now proposed by Lord Aberdeen, was actually suggested by my immediate predecessor as one he thought his government might accept; and that, in regard to those English subjects who would be left within American jurisdiction by adopting that boundary, he considered the provisions of the second article of Jay's Treaty as a precedent for a convenient mode of dealing with them.

By the second article of Jay's Treaty, however, British subjects would not only be secured in the absolute title of all their lands and effects, as fully as by Lord Aberdeen's proposition, but would be allowed the option to continue as British subjects and without any allegiance to the government of the United States, which, according to Lord Aberdeen's offer, as I understand it, they would not possess. In point of fact, therefore, the substantial points of the present offer, and those which may be expected to be regarded as most objectionable, are little more than the embodiment of the various offers and suggestions which at different times, have, in some form or other, proceeded from our own negotiators.

I have myself always believed, if the extension of the line of boundary on the 49th parallel by the Strait of Fuca to the sea, on the part of the government, or of

Entertaining great confidence in that opi-