

ings 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 their 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 which it might desire to obtain. Each to the true spirit of our institutions, should concede something to the other.

Our gallant forefathers 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, & 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 could never 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 co-partners 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 as to the subject of slavery, while their power to do so is not only seriously questioned, but denied by many of the soundest exponents 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 & proper. Any and all the States possess this right, and Congress cannot deprive them of it. The people of Georgia might, if they choose, 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 to do so, 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 the several States as equal, 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 a great 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 the 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 preserve the harmony of the Union, and in deference for the acts of my predecessors, I felt constrained to yield my acquiescence to the extent to which they had gone in compromising this dangerous and delicate 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 defenses 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 alike 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 in 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 to 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 proper to dispose of the mineral lands they should be sold in small quantities, and at a fixed minimum price.

I recommend that surveyor general's 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 received.

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 control 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 remotest 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 the original 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 guarantee for the preservation of the Union itself.

In pursuance of the provisions of the thirteenth article of the treaty of peace, friendship, limits, & settlement, with the republic of Mexico, and the act of July the 29th, 1848, claims of our citizens which had been "already liquidated," and decided against the Mexican republic, amounting, with the interest thereon, to \$2,023,832 51 have been liquidated and paid. There remain to be paid on these claims \$74,192 26. Congress at its last session having made no provision for executing the 15th 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 \$3,250,000," the subject is again recommended to your favorable consideration.

The exchange of ratifications of the treaty with Mexico took place on the 30th of May, 1848. Within one year after that time, the commissioner

and surveyor which each 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 30th May, 1849. 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 14th 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 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, I communicated information 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 the rendezvous in Missouri, and 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 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 the 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 early 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 fulfillment had been postponed from time to time, for nearly two years, so that those who made it had been anxiously waiting for Congress to establish a territorial government over the country. The Indians at length became 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 a compensation for the country which had been taken possession of by our citizens, would have satisfied the Indians and 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 on 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 a 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.

[Concluded next week]

## NEW GOODS.

RICHARD SHAW HAS just received at his old stand a large assortment of **FALL & WINTER GOODS**, among which will be found one of the best assortments of **Dry Goods, Hardware, Groceries, Queensware, Drugs and Dye-stuffs, Tin-ware, Stationary & books, Hats, caps & bonnets, boots and shoes, tobacco & cigars carpet chain, Umbrellas, brass clocks, confectionary, oils Paints, etc.**

which he is determined to sell cheaper than they can be bought elsewhere in the county. Call and examine. Oct. 25, 1848.

6 Barrels Brown & White Sugar for sale by **BIGLER & CO.**

A FEW BARRELS of excellent Salt for sale by **A. M. HILLS.** Clearfield, Nov. 14, 1848.

**BLANKS for sale at this office.**

## Democratic Banner.

CLEARFIELD, Pa., Dec. 14, 1848.

### The Message.

The portion of President Polk's last annual Message which we give this week will be found peculiarly interesting; but the portion yet remaining for next week will be found equally, if not more important.

To say that this message of a Democratic President gives satisfaction to his political friends, is not telling half the story. It fills them with delight. Indeed, they now seem fully reconciled to their late defeat, as the first part of the message exhibits our country in a state of prosperity and happiness entirely unprecedented. This the Democratic claim as the result of the success of their measures of State policy, which they are willing to have contrasted with those of their opponents.

And the latter part of the message contains an argument in defence of the veto power of the Constitution which the greatest guns of Whiggery never can, and never will attempt, by fair reasoning, to controvert. Henceforth Mr. Polk will rank among the foremost and clearest-headed statesmen of the age.

### Our Dollar Paper.

We publish, in another column, proposals for publishing a weekly paper in this place, for the benefit of the people of Clearfield county, at ONE DOLLAR per year. We have placed prospectuses in the hands of leading men throughout the county, for the purpose of obtaining subscribers, and we hope the people will all step forward and contribute each one his mite. We have other copies of our prospectus, which we would like to place in the hands of such persons as would be likely to take an interest in this useful enterprise. From the tone of our country friends, on court week, we are in the best spirits and assure all that it only requires a little effort in each neighborhood to raise the required number of subscribers.

**Mahoning Register** is the title of a new paper just started at Punxsutawney, by B. T. HASTINGS & CLARK WILSON. The first number looks well, and promises to merit a liberal support.

### THE TRIAL OF ALLMAN.

The trial of Lawrence Allman, indicted for the murder of his brother Godfrey, in September last, will take place at the February term. As circumstances connected with this dreadful affair are being developed, the trial bids fair to be one of the most interesting, not to say exciting, that ever came before a court and jury.

**SORE THROAT, Coughs, Consumption, Pain** in various parts of the body, and other unpleasant symptoms, are the effects of catching cold.

**Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills** are a delightful medicine for carrying off a cold, because they purge from the body all morbid and corrupt humors in an easy and natural manner. From three to six of said Indian Vegetable Pills, taken every night on going to bed, will, in a short time, make a perfect cure of the most obstinate cold—at the same time the blood and other fluids will be thoroughly purified, and the constitution so completely invigorated, that the body will be restored to even a sounder health than before.

**Beware of Counterfeits and Imitations!** Remember that the original and only genuine **Indian Vegetable Pills** have the signature of **Wm. Wright** written with a pen on the top label of each box.

The genuine for sale by **R. SHAW, sole Agent for Clearfield; CRANS & BROTHER, Curwensville; DANIEL BARRETT, Luthersburg; and wholesale at the office and general depot, 169 Race street, Philadelphia.**

**MARRIED**—On Sunday the 3d inst., by **J. L. Cottle, Esq., Mr. James Nelson,** of Girard tp., to **Miss Susanna Graham,** of Bradford township.

On Thursday the 7th inst., by the same, **Mr. George R. Kline,** of Goshen tp., to **Miss Jimima Kline,** of Lawrence tp.

**DIED**—At his residence in Curwensville, on Tuesday last, after an illness of several weeks, **JAMES A. CATHCART,** aged about 38 years.

### CONSUMPTION CAN BE CURED.

**THOMPSON'S Compound Syrup of Tar and Wood Naphtha will cure Consumption.**

This excellent medicine has fully established its reputation, and all that is asked is a fair trial of it to prove it the only certain remedy for the cure of Consumption, Obsolete Coughs, Spitting Blood, Bronchitis, Hoarseness, Loss of voice, Pain in the Breast, in short, all diseases of the Throat and Lungs. Numerous individuals of the first respectability certify to its beneficial effects, when nothing else would relieve.

Prepared and sold by **AGNEY & DICKSON, N. E. corner of FIFTH and SPRUCE streets, Philadelphia.**

Sold by **A. M. HILL,** Clearfield, Pa., and by Druggists generally. Price 50c or \$1.00 per bottle.

### Partnership Dissolved.

THE Co partnership heretofore existing between the undersigned, trading under the firm of **Thomas Miller & Brothers,** is this day dissolved by mutual consent. The books of the late firm are in the hands of **H. B. Miller,** and all persons having unsettled accounts will come forward without delay.

**THOMAS MILLER, W. H. MILLER, JOHN MILLER, HENRY B. MILLER, PHILIP MILLER.** Boggs tp, Dec. 8, '48.—pd

### Notice

IS hereby given, that the undersigned, composing the late firm of **Thomas Miller & Brothers,** nor either of them, will be held responsible in law, for debts heretofore, or hereafter contracted by **John W. Miller,** he never having been a part of said firm.

**THOMAS MILLER, W. H. MILLER, JOHN MILLER, HENRY B. MILLER, PHILIP MILLER.** Dec. 8, 1848.—pd

## Boot & Shoemaking.

**McCLINTOCK & GALER,**

RESPECTFULLY inform their friends & the public generally that they have commenced the business of

## BOOT AND SHOEMAKING.

in Curwensville, in the building known as McNaul's Tannery, on the second floor, where they are now making, & will continue to make all work in their line of business in the best and most serviceable style, and at the shortest notice and on the most reasonable terms.

Hides, and Country produce generally, taken in exchange for work. **ALEX. McCLINTOCK, JAMES GALER,** Dec. 8, 1848.

### Dissolution.

THE Co-partnership heretofore existing between the subscribers under the firm of **Beers, Cowder & Sloan,** in the Saw-mill business, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. The books of the above firm will be left with **Chas. Sloan** for settlement.

The business will be continued by **Cowder & Sloan.**—**Mr. B.** retiring from the firm **THOS. BEERS, JOHN COWDER, CHAS. SLOAN.**

Boggs tp, Dec. 4, 1848.

### Auditor's Notice.

IN pursuance of an order of the **Phosphorus** Court of the county of Clearfield, they have appointed the subscriber to audit and distribute the balance in the hands of the Administrators of **Adam Neving,** dec'd, of Beccaria township, Clearfield county; I have appointed Monday the 15th day of January 1849, at my office in the borough of Clearfield for hearing & auditing the above matter, when the heirs of the said Adam Neving, and all other persons interested in the distribution of the balance in the hands of **Jonathan Boynton,** the surviving administrator, are requested to attend.

**JOSIAH W. SMITH, Aud.** Clearfield, Dec. 9, '48.—pd

### Stray Cow.

**STRAYED** away from the residence of the subscriber in Lawrence township, some time in the month of June or July, a large Red Cow, with large horns. The subscriber will reward any person giving him information of her whereabouts so that he can get her. **JONATHAN NICHOLS;** Dec. 12, 1848

### A FAIR OFFER

To the People of Clearfield county.

The subscribers, deeply anxious for the welfare and prosperity of the people of Clearfield county, and being well aware that nothing will more materially aid in securing real property than the general diffusion of useful information among the people, propose to publish a weekly paper, in the borough of Clearfield, at the very low price of

**ONE DOLLAR per YEAR, (In Advance.)**

To enable us to do this, we must have at least ONE THOUSAND subscribers. This number, it is believed, can be raised within the limits of Clearfield county, if proper exertions are made. But there must be no holding back on the part of any man who can possibly get a paper conveyed to him. It will require the unanimous effort of the citizens of the county.

We therefore appeal to those of our fellow citizens who desire the dissemination of general information among the people, to use their efforts and influence in behalf of this useful enterprise. Your county cannot get along without a paper. We are unwilling to publish one at a loss of labor and money to ourselves. To enable every man to assist in thus sustaining the name and credit of the county, therefore, we offer to reduce the subscription price within the three years, there will be no political excitement, and our paper will bear more the character of an Independent, than that of either a Partisan or a Neutral Journal. That is, we shall approve, or condemn, as the acts of either party may seem to deserve—speaking our own sentiments as freemen—and allowing the free use of our columns for others of either party to do the same.—Thus we appeal with as much confidence to the members of one party as the other. Our aim shall be to make our paper beneficial to the people of Clearfield county, by supporting and defending their interests—by aiding to develop and make profitable the various resources of the county—and by laying before them, regularly every week, a faithful sketch of the events, great and small, as they may occur throughout the world.

When so much is to be gained, shall we appeal in vain to the friendship—to the liberality—to the patriotism—to the county pride—of the citizens of Clearfield county? We hope not. Then, gentlemen, all you have to do, is to assist us in procuring the required number of subscribers.

It is our intention to issue the first number about the first of May next. In the meantime, persons having Prospectuses will procure all the subscribers they can, and inform us, at the February court, of the number they may have.

The paper shall be printed on new type, and as large, and perhaps larger, than the present size of the BANNER, and contain as much reading matter as any of the country papers of the State.

In every case the subscription price (\$1) must be paid in advance—on or before 14 May, 1849.

**D. W. MOORE, A. J. AEMPHILL.** Nov. 30, 1848.

### Meeting of County Comm'rs.

PERSONS having business to transact with the Board of Commissioners of Clearfield county, will take notice, that said Board will be in session at their office, in the borough of Clearfield, on Monday, the 25th of December, (inst.) Attest—**WM. RADEBAUGH, Clk.** Comm' Office, 11th Dec. 1848.

### Queensware, Queensware.

ALL persons can be suited in price and style by calling at **THE GREAT CORNER. Come and examine our stock.** **CRANS & BROTHER.** Nov. 22, 1848.