

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES December 7, 1847. Fellow Citizens of the Senate, and of the House of Representatives:

The annual meeting of Congress is always an interesting event. The Representatives of the States and of the people come from their constituents to take counsel together for the common good. After an existence of near three centuries as a free and independent republic, the people are still capable of self government. The success of our admirable system is a conclusive refutation of the theories of those in other countries who maintain that "a favored few" are born to rule, and that the mass of mankind must be governed by force. Subject to no arbitrary or hereditary authority, the people are the only sovereigns recognized by our constitution. Numerous emigrants of every lineage and language, attracted by the civil and religious freedom we enjoy, and by our happy condition, annually crowd to our shores, and transfer their hearts, not less than their allegiance, to the country whose dominion belongs alone to the people.

No country has been so much favored, or should acknowledge with deeper reverence, the manifestations of the Divine protection. An all-wise Creator directed and guarded us in our infant struggle for freedom, and has constantly watched over our surprising progress, until we have become one of the great nations of the earth.

It is in a country thus favored, and under a government in which the executive and legislative branches hold their authority for limited periods, alike from the people, and where all are responsible to their respective constituencies, that it again my duty to communicate with Congress upon the state of the Union, and the present condition of public affairs.

During the past year the most gratifying proofs are presented that our country has been blessed with a wide-spread and universal prosperity. There has been no period since the government was founded, when all the industrial pursuits of our people have been more successful, or when labor in all branches of business has received a fairer or better reward. From our abundance we have been enabled to perform the pleasant duty of furnishing food for the starving millions of less favored countries.

In the enjoyment of the bounties of Providence at home, such as have rarely fallen to the lot of any people, it is cause of congratulation, that our intercourse with all the powers of the earth, except Mexico, continue to be of an amicable character.

It has ever been our cherished policy to cultivate peace and good will with all nations; and this policy has been steadily pursued by us. No change has taken place in our relations with Mexico since the adjournment of the last Congress. The war in which the United States were forced to engage with the government of that country still continues.

I deem it unnecessary, after the full exposition of them contained in my message of the 4th of May, 1846, and in my annual message at the commencement of the session of Congress in December last, to reiterate the serious causes of complaint which we had against Mexico before she commenced hostilities.

It is sufficient on the present occasion to say, that the wanton violation of the rights of person and property of our citizens committed by Mexico, her repeated acts of bad faith, through a long series of years, and her disregard of solemn treaties, stipulating for indemnity to our injured citizens, not only constituted ample cause of war on our part, but were of such an aggravated character as would have justified us before the whole world in resorting to this extreme remedy. With an anxious desire to avoid a rupture between the two countries, we forbore for years to assert our clear rights by force, and continued to seek redress for the wrongs we had suffered by amicable negotiation, in hope that Mexico might yield to pacific councils and the demands of justice. In this hope we were disappointed. Our minister of peace sent to Mexico was insultingly rejected. The Mexican government refused even to hear the terms of adjustment which he was authorized to propose; and, finally, under wholly unjustifiable pretexts, invaded the two countries in war, by invading the territory of the State of Texas, striking the first blow, and shedding the blood of our citizens on our own soil.

Though the United States were the aggrieved nation, Mexico commenced the war, and we were compelled, in self-defence, to repel the invader, and to vindicate the national honor and interests by prosecuting it with vigor until we could obtain a just and honorable peace.

to the vanquished enemy exhibited by our gallant army, the nation is called to mourn over the loss of many brave officers and soldiers who have fallen in defence of their country's honor and interests. The brave dead merit their melancholy fate in a foreign land, nobly discharging their duty, and with their country's flag waving triumphantly in the face of the foe. Their patriotic deeds are justly appreciated, and will long be remembered by their grateful countrymen. The parental care of the government they loved and served, should be extended to their surviving families.

Shortly after the adjournment of the last session of Congress, the gratifying intelligence was received of the signal victory of Buena Vista, and of the fall of the city of Vera Cruz, and with it the strong castle of San Juan de Ulloa, by which it was defended. Believing that after these and other successes, so honorable to our arms and so disastrous to Mexico, the period was propitious to afford her another opportunity, if she thought proper to embrace it, to enter into negotiations for peace, a commissioner was appointed to proceed to the headquarters of our army, with full powers to enter upon negotiations and to conclude a just and honorable treaty of peace. He was not directed to make any overtures of peace, but was the bearer of a despatch from the Secretary of State of the United States to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, in reply to one received from the latter of the 22d of February, 1847, in which the Mexican government was intimated of his appointment, and of his presence at the headquarters of our army, and that he was invested with full powers to conclude a definite treaty of peace, whenever the Mexican government might signify a desire to do so. While I was unwilling to subject the United States to another indignant refusal, I was yet resolved that the evils of the war should not be protracted a day longer than might be rendered absolutely necessary by the Mexican government.

Care was taken to give no instructions to the Commissioner which could, in any way, interfere with our military operations, or relax our energies in the prosecution of the war. He possessed no authority in any manner to control these operations. He was authorized to exhibit his instructions to the General in command of the army; and in the event of a treaty being concluded and ratified on the part of Mexico, he was directed to give him notice of that fact. On the happening of such contingency, and on receiving notice thereof, the General in command was instructed by the Secretary of War to suspend further active military operations until further orders. These instructions were given with a view to intermit hostilities, until the treaty thus ratified by Mexico could be transmitted to Washington, and receive the action of the government of the United States.

The commissioner was also directed, on reaching the army, to deliver to the General in command the despatch which he bore from the Secretary of State to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, and on receiving it, the General was instructed by the Secretary of War to cause it to be transmitted to the commander of the Mexican forces, with a request that it might be communicated to his government.

The commissioner did not reach the headquarters of the army until after another brilliant victory had crowned our arms at Cerro Gordo. The despatch which he bore from the Secretary of War to the General in command of the army was received by that officer, then at Jalapa, on the 17th day of May, 1847, together with the despatch from the Secretary of State to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, having been transmitted to him at Vera Cruz. The commissioner arrived at the headquarters of the army a few days afterwards. His presence with the army and his diplomatic character were made known to the Mexican government, from Puebla, on the 12th of June, 1847, by the transmission of the despatch from the Secretary of State to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mexico.

Many weeks elapsed after its receipt, and no overtures were made, nor was any desire expressed by the Mexican government to enter into negotiations for peace. Our arms pursued its march upon the capital, and, as it approached it, was met by formidable resistance. Our forces first encountered the enemy, and achieved signal victories in the severely contested battles of Contreras and Churubusco. It was not until after these actions had resulted in decisive victories, and the capture of the enemy was within our power, that the Mexican government manifested any disposition to enter into negotiations for peace, and even then, as events have proved, there is too much reason to believe they were insincere, and that in agreeing to go through the forms of the negotiation, the object was to gain time to strengthen the defences of their capital, and to prepare for fresh resistance.

The General in command of the army deemed it expedient to suspend hostilities temporarily, by entering into an armistice with a view to the opening of negotiations. Commissioners were appointed on the part of Mexico to meet the commissioner on the part of the United States. The result of the conferences which took place between these functionaries of the two governments was a failure to conclude a treaty of peace.

It is well known that the only indemnity which it is in the power of Mexico to make in satisfaction of the just and long deferred claims of our citizens against her, and the only means by which she can reimburse the U. States for the expenses of the war, is a cession to the United States of a portion of her territory. Mexico has no money to pay, and no other means of making the required indemnity. If we refuse this, we can obtain nothing else. To reject indemnity, by refusing to accept a cession of territory, would be to abandon all our just demands, and to wage the war, bearing all its expenses, without a purpose or definite object.

The terms of the treaty proposed by the United States were not only just to Mexico, but, considering the character and amount of our claims, the unjustifiable and unprovoked commencement of hostilities by her, the expenses of the war to which we have been subjected, and the success which has attended our arms, were deemed to be of a most liberal character.

The commissioner of the United States was authorized to agree to the establishment of the Rio Grande as the boundary, from its entrance into the Gulf to its intersection with the southern boundary of New Mexico, in north latitude about 32 degrees, and to obtain a cession to the United States of the provinces of New Mexico and Upper California, constituted an ultimatum which our commissioner was, under no circumstances, to yield.

late for the restoration to Mexico of all our other conquests. The territory to be acquired by the boundary proposed might be estimated to be of greater value than a full equivalent for our just demands, our commissioner was authorized to stipulate for the payment of such additional pecuniary consideration as was deemed reasonable.

The terms of a treaty proposed by the Mexican commissioners were wholly inadmissible. They negotiated as if Mexico were the victors, and not the vanquished party. They must have known that their ultimatum could never be accepted. It required the United States to dismember Texas, by surrendering to Mexico that part of the territory of that State lying between the Nueces and the Rio Grande, included within her limits by her laws when she was an independent republic, and when she was annexed to the United States, and admitted by Congress as one of the States of our Union. It contained no provision for the payment of the just claims of our citizens. It required indemnity to Mexican citizens for injuries they may have sustained by our troops in the prosecution of the war. It demanded the right for Mexico to levy and collect the Mexican tariff of duties on goods imported into her ports while in our military occupation during the war, and the owners of which had paid to officers of the United States the military contributions which had been levied upon them; and it offered to cede to the United States, for a pecuniary consideration, that part of Upper California lying north of latitude 37 degrees. Such were the unreasonable terms proposed by the Mexican commissioners.

The cession to the United States by Mexico, of the provinces of New Mexico and the California, as proposed by the commissioner of the United States, it was believed, would be more in accordance with the convenience and interests of both nations, than any other cession of territory which it was probable Mexico could be induced to make.

It is manifest to all who have observed the actual condition of the Mexican government, for some years past, and at present, that if the provinces should be retained by her, she could not long continue to hold and govern them. Mexico is too feeble a power to govern these provinces, lying as they do at a distance of more than a thousand miles from her capital, and it is temptingly to be retained by her, they would constitute but for a short time, even nominally, a part of her dominions.

This would be especially the case with Upper California. The sagacity of powerful European nations has long since directed their attention to the commercial importance of that province, and there can be little doubt that the moment the United States shall relinquish their present occupation of it, and their claim to it as indemnity, an effort would be made by some foreign power to possess it, either by conquest or by purchase. If no foreign government should acquire it in either of these modes, an independent revolutionary government would probably be established by the inhabitants, and such foreigners as may remain in or remove to the country, as soon as it shall be known that the United States have abandoned it. Such a government would be too feeble long to maintain its separate independent existence, and would finally become annexed to, or be a dependency of, some more powerful State.

Should any foreign government attempt to possess it as a colony, or otherwise to incorporate it with itself, the principle avowed by President Monroe in 1823, and reaffirmed in my first annual message, that no foreign power shall, with our consent, be permitted to plant or establish any new colony or dominion on a part of the North American continent, must be maintained. In maintaining this principle, and in resisting an invasion by any foreign power, we might be involved in other wars more expensive and more difficult than that in which we are now engaged.

Our arms having been everywhere victorious, having subjected to our military occupation a large portion of the enemy's country, including his capital, and negotiations for peace having failed, the important questions arise, in what manner the war ought to be prosecuted; and what should be our future policy? I cannot doubt that we should secure and render available the conquests which we have already made; and that, with this view, we should hold and occupy, by our naval and military forces, all the ports, towns, cities, and provinces now in our occupation, or which may hereafter fall into our possession; that we should press forward our military operations, and levy such military contributions on the enemy as may, as far as practicable, defray the future expenses of the war.

Early after the commencement of the war, New Mexico and the California were taken possession of by our forces. Our military and naval commanders were ordered to conquer and hold them, subject to be disposed of by a treaty of peace.

These provinces are now in our undisputed occupation, and have been so for many months; all resistance on the part of Mexico having ceased within their limits. I am satisfied that should they never be surrendered to Mexico, should Congress concur with me in this opinion, and that they should be retained by the United States as indemnity, I can perceive no good reason why the civil jurisdiction and laws of the United States should not at once be extended over them. To wait for a treaty of peace, such as we are willing to make, by which our claims towards them would not be changed, and that of the people inhabiting them, require that a stable, responsible, and free government under our authority should, as soon as possible, be established over them. Should Congress therefore determine to hold these provinces permanently, and that they shall hereafter be considered as constituent parts of our country, the early establishment of territorial governments over them will be important for the more perfect protection of persons and property; and I recommend that such territorial governments be established. It will promote peace and tranquillity among the inhabitants, by allaying all apprehension that they may still entertain of being again subjected to the jurisdiction of Mexico. I invite the early and favorable consideration of Congress to this subject.

With a people distracted and divided by contending factions, and a government subject to constant changes, by successive revolutions, the continued success of our arms may fail to secure a satisfactory peace. In such event it may become proper for our commanding general in the field to give encouragement and assurances of protection to the friends of peace in Mexico, in the establishment and maintenance of a free republican government of their own choice, able and willing to conclude a peace which would be just to them, and secure to us the indemnity we demand.

persons and property, might at least be inclined to foreign influence, and to cast themselves into the arms of some European monarch for protection from the anarchy and suffering which would ensue. This for our own safety, and in pursuance of our established policy, we should be compelled to resist. We could never consent that Mexico should be thus converted into a monarchy governed by a foreign prince.

In the future prosecution of the war the enemy must be made to feel its pressure more than they have heretofore done. At its commencement, it was deemed proper to conduct it in a spirit of forbearance and liberality. The Mexicans having thus shown themselves to be wholly incapable of appreciating our forbearance and liberality, it was deemed proper to change the manner of conducting the war, by making them feel its pressure according to the usages observed under similar circumstances by all other civilized nations.

Accordingly, as early as the 22d of September, 1846, instructions were given by the Secretary of War to Maj. Gen. Taylor, to "draw supplies" for the army "from the enemy, without paying for them, and to require contributions for its support," if in that way he was satisfied he could "obtain abundant supplies for his force." In directing the execution of these instructions, much was necessarily left to the discretion of the commanding officer, who was best acquainted with the circumstances by which he was surrounded, the wants of the army, and the practicability of enforcing the measure.

Gen. Taylor, on the 26th of October, 1846, replied from Monterey, that "it would have been impossible heretofore, and is so now, to sustain the army to any extent by forced contributions of money or supplies." For the reasons assigned by him, he did not adopt the policy of his instructions, but declared his readiness to do so, "should the army, in its future operations, reach a portion of the country which may be made to supply the troops with advantage." He continued to pay for the articles of supply which were drawn from the enemy's country.

Similar instructions were issued to Maj. Gen. Scott on the 31st of April, 1847, which he replied to on the 20th of May, 1847, that if he expected "the army to support itself from forced contributions levied upon the country, we may ruin and exasperate the inhabitants, and starve ourselves." The same direction was given to him that had been given to Gen. Taylor in this respect. Gen. Scott, for the reasons assigned by him, also continued to pay for the articles of supply for the army which were drawn from the enemy.

On the 31st of March last, I issued an order to be issued to our military and naval commanders to levy and collect a military contribution upon all vessels and merchandise which might enter any of the ports of Mexico in our occupation, and to apply such contributions towards defraying the expenses of the war.

For the amount of contributions which have been levied in this form, I refer you to the accompanying reports of the Secretary of War and of the Secretary of the Navy, by which it appears that a sum exceeding half a million of dollars has been collected.

This amount would undoubtedly have been much larger, but for the difficulty of keeping open communications between the coast and the interior, so as to enable the owner of the merchandise imported, to transport and vend it to the inhabitants of the country.

I recommend, also, that authority be given by law to call for and accept the services of an additional number of volunteers to be exercised at such time and to such extent as the emergencies of the service may require.

A detailed statement of the condition of the finances will be presented in the annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury. The imports for the last fiscal year, ending on the 30th of June, 1847, were of the value of \$146,545,628; of which the amount exported was \$9,011,159, leaving \$137,534,469, in the country for domestic use. The value of the exports for the same period amounted to \$26,346,700 37, of which there was derived from customs \$2,747,864 06; from sales of public lands, \$2,498,335 20; and from incidental and miscellaneous sources, \$100,570 51. The last fiscal year, during which this amount was received, embraced five months under the operations of tariff act of 1842, and seven months during which the tariff act of 1846, the amount received from customs was \$7,842,306 00, and during the seven months under the act of 1846, the amount received was \$15,905,257 78.

from 1-8 of one per cent, to 2 per cent, above par. The premium has been paid into the Treasury, and the sums awarded deposited in specie in the treasury as fast as it was required by the wants of the government.

To meet the expenditures for the remainder of the present and for the next fiscal year, ending on the 30th of June, 1849, a further loan in aid of the ordinary revenues of the government, will be necessary. Retaining a sufficient surplus in the treasury, the loan required for the remainder of the present fiscal year will be about \$18,500,000.

Should the war with Mexico be continued until the 30th of June, 1849, it is estimated that a further loan of \$20,500,000 will be required for the fiscal year ending on that day, in case no duty be imposed on tea and coffee, and the public lands be not reduced and graduated in price, and no military contributions shall be collected in Mexico. If the duty on tea and coffee be imposed, and the lands be reduced and graduated in price, as proposed, the loan may be reduced to \$17,000,000, and will be subject to be still further reduced by the amount of the military contributions which may be collected in Mexico.

I refer you to the accompanying report of the Postmaster General for a detailed and satisfactory account of the condition and operations of that department during the past year. It is gratifying to find that, within so short a period after the reduction in the rates of postage, and notwithstanding the great increase of mail service, the revenue received for the year will be sufficient to defray all the expenses, and that no further aid will be required from the treasury for that purpose.

JAMES K. POLK. Washington, December, 1847. [Correspondence of the Public Ledger] FROM WASHINGTON. Washington, Dec. 2, 1847.

The intrigues of the Speakership are rife, and every day brings forth new candidates. Winthrop and Smith, of Indiana, seem to be the two strongest men, and though Winthrop is a gentleman of high breeding and education, yet Smith is so much better a politician, that I am rather inclined to think the latter will carry the day. I look upon the chances of the election of Mr. Hilliard as equal to zero. There is as yet no Taylor party organized in Congress. What the session may bring forth I know not, and no one else does, I believe. All I can see and learn, however, convince me that parties are eager for the fray, and will at an early day commence introducing resolutions. That of Gen. Henry Foote, of Mississippi, in the Senate, will probably astonish both parties, and perhaps the administration to boot.

Gen. Quitman, who is now on the way to the seat of government, has written a letter to a Senator here, giving his reasons why we should keep permanent possession of Mexico. I will speak on this subject more fully in my next letter.

Among the arguments used by those of the Whig party who have advocated the giving up to Mexico of all the country west of the Nueces, it has been stated that the principal portion of the lands between that river and the Rio Grande, was a barren, worthless desert. This is not the case. A very great portion of the country between those rivers is very fertile. Those used to the Kentucky bottoms and to the rich lands of the Western States and of Pennsylvania, comparing them with the lands in Southern climates, condemn the latter. They do not appreciate the difference in the climate, its effect upon all vegetable production, and do not reflect that if the rich Western country land were in such southern climate, they would be so unhealthily as to be unfit for cultivation. What would north of 35 be regarded as poor pine barren, south of 31 is the most desirable land; because readily cleared, at small expense, easily cultivated, and generally healthy. I learn that Gen. Z. Taylor who is well known as a practical planter, recently paid \$80,000 for a Mexican grant of eleven leagues, (about 4000 acres of land,) between the Nueces and the Rio Grande; and I am satisfied that most of the land called *Tierrez Calientes*, on the other side of the Rio Grande, down to the Sierra Madre is susceptible of profitable cultivation. As to the want of water, and the supposed necessity for artificial irrigation, it is known that the Mexicans complained of the lands in Texas now planted profitably by our southern and western farmers, as subject to the same drawback. The objection seems now to be considered as wholly without foundation.

Gen. Ross, of Texas, has arrived here to-day, but his colleague, Gen. Sam Houston, will not till January. The Legislature of Texas meets next Monday, and he will probably be re-elected for the next six years, there being no opposition to him whatever. OSKREVER.

Congressional Caucus. WASHINGTON, Dec. 5. The caucus of the Democratic members of Congress adjourned last evening without making any nominations. The Whig caucus nominated Mr. Winthrop as Speaker; Mr. Campbell, of Tennessee, as Clerk; Nathan Sargent, as Sergeant-at-Arms; Mr. Homer, of New Jersey, as Doorkeeper, and Mr. McCormick as Postmaster. Mr. Vinton was at first nominated nearly unanimously for Speaker, but declined.



THE AMERICAN. Saturday, December 11, 1847.

J. B. FAIRBANK, Esq., of the Mail Exchange and Coal Office, corner of 3d and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, at No. 110 of Nassau Street, New York, at No. 110 of Broadway and Calvert Sts., Baltimore, and No. 16 State Street, Boston, is authorized to act as Agent, and receipt for all monies due this office, for subscription or advertising. E. W. CARR, corner of Third and Dock Streets, Sun Buildings, opposite Merchants' Exchange, Philadelphia, is also authorized to act as our Agent.

FOR PRESIDENT. Gen. ZACHARY TAYLOR. Democratic Central Taylor Committee.

- Hon John C. Bucher, of Dauphin county
Hon John M. Reed, of Philadelphia city
Hon Richard Vaux do do
Hon Robert Allen, do do
Andrew Miller, Esq. Philadelphia county
Samuel D. Patterson, Esq. Montgomery county
Franklin Vanzant, Esq. Bucks county
Joseph J. Lewis Esq. Chester county
Dr William Gray, Delaware county
Henry W. Smith, Esq. Berks county
Hon Ellis Lewis, Lancaster county
Charles W. Hayden, Esq. Northumberland co
Hon John Snyder, Union county
Col James Burnside, Centre county
Robert J. Fisher, Esq. York county
Oliver Watson, Jr. Esq. Lycoming county
Gen J. K. Morrow, Allegheny county
Col Israel Painter, Westmoreland county
Thomas J. Power, Esq. Beaver county
Hon Edward Herrick, Bradford county
Hendrick B. Wright, Esq. Luzerne county
Francis W. Hughes, Esq. Schuylkill county
James L. Gillis, Esq. Elk county
James Peacock, Esq. Dauphin county
Hon William Dock do
Hon Simon Cameron do
Benjamin Park, do
Gen Christian Seiler do
Philip Dougherty, Esq. do
O. Barrett, Esq. do
Francis C. Carson, Esq. do
James Brady, Esq. do
Edward A. Lealey, Esq. do

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.—We hasten to lay before our readers a portion of the Message, this week. Its great length prevents us giving more than such portions as will be of the most interest. The Message is an able document, and discusses the war question at great length. His views on this subject are clear and explicit, and will be responded to by the democracy of the whole country. This portion of the Message we lay before our readers. Next week we will furnish our readers an abstract of the remainder.

CONGRESS.—The message and proceedings of Congress, have crowded out nearly all other matter, this week.

CAPT. WALKER.—On our first page will be found an interesting sketch of the life of the gallant Capt. Walker, whose death has probably been more seriously regretted than any other of our war heroes in Mexico.

FARMS FOR SALE.—We call the attention of our readers to the sale of a farm in Upper Augusta, formerly belonging to Wm. and Robert Hunter, which will be sold on the 3d of January next. Also, to a farm in Shamokin township, belonging to the heirs of John Yorum, dec'd.

THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.—Will the editor of this excellent paper see that it is forwarded to us more regularly, as per contract?

A NEW COURSE OF TRADE.—According to the Danville papers, a cargo of 2200 bushels of wheat, for Peter Baldy, Esq., arrived at that place about ten days ago, from Baltimore, and another cargo was daily expected. Mr. Van Allen also received a cargo from Baltimore. About the same time, Capt. H. Simpson, of this place, brought a lot of flour from Baltimore, for sale and home consumption. The manufacturing and mining operations in this section of the state, together with the scarcity, affords our farmers a better grain market, at present, than the cities.

REMOVAL OF THE SEAT OF JUSTICE.—The people of Pottsville, the papers say, are very generally satisfied with the location for the court house. It is a beautiful spot, and may be known by the stone house on the right, as you enter Pottsville from the Sunbury road. Sixteen thousand dollars have already been subscribed for the erection of the buildings.

REMOVAL OF THE SEAT OF JUSTICE.—On Tuesday week last, the good people of Bloomsburg came down to Danville with an omnibus and other vehicles, and removed the records of Columbia county from the old court house to the new buildings erected at Bloomsburg, the new seat of justice. The Sheriff, Prothonotary, Register and Recorder, Clerks, &c., were all obliged to pack up their duds and go along. A number of the members of the bar, at Danville, have filed exceptions to the report of the commissioners, and the decree of the court thereon, ordering the removal. The main exception is, the unconstitutionality of the law, the principles, it was alleged, having been recently decided by the Supreme Court, at Pittsburgh, in the license question, which is an analogous case. The question will therefore come up before the Supreme Court, at this place, in July next.

GRAND LOSS OF LIFE.—The papers give a melancholy account of the burning of the steamer Phoenix, on Lake Michigan, and the loss of several hundred lives, among them 150 Hollanders, moving to the West. The particulars have been crowded out, this week.