

SPECIAL MESSAGE.

The subjoined message from the President of the United States was transmitted to both houses of Congress on Thursday:

To the Senate and House of Representatives: Circumstances have occurred to disturb the course of governmental organization in the Territory of Kansas, and produce there a condition of things which renders it incumbent on me to call your attention to the subject, and to recommend the adoption, by you, of such measures of legislation as the grave exigencies of the case appear to require.

A brief exposition of the circumstances referred to, and of their causes, will be necessary to the full understanding of the recommendations which it is proposed to submit. The act to organize the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas was a manifestation of the legislative opinion of Congress on two great points of constitutional construction: one, that the designation of the boundaries of a new Territory, and provisions for its political organization and administration as a Territory, are measures which of right fall within the powers of the general government; and the other, that the inhabitants of any such Territory considered as an inchoate State are entitled, in the exercise of self-government, to determine for themselves what shall be their own domestic institutions, subject only to the constitution and the laws duly enacted by Congress under it, and to the power of the existing States to decide according to the provisions and principles of the constitution at what time the Territory shall be received as a State into the Union.

Based upon this theory, the act of Congress defined for each Territory the outlines of republican government, distributing public authority among lawfully created agents—executive, judicial, and legislative—to be appointed either by the General Government or by the Territory. The legislative functions were entrusted to a council and a House of Representatives duly elected and empowered to enact all the local laws which they might deem essential to their prosperity, happiness, and good government. Acting in the same spirit, Congress also defined the persons who were in the first instance to be considered as the people of each Territory; enacting that every free white male inhabitant of the same above the age of 21 years, being an actual resident thereof, and possessing the qualifications hereafter described, should be entitled to vote at the first election, and be eligible to any office within the Territory; but that the qualifications of voters and holding office at all subsequent elections should be such as might be prescribed by the legislative assembly: Provided, however, that the right of suffrage and of holding office should be exercised only by citizens of the United States, and those who should have declared on oath their intention to become such, and have taken an oath to support the constitution of the United States and the provisions of the act. And provided, further, that no officer, soldier, seaman, or marine, or other person in the army and navy of the United States, or attached to troops in their service should be allowed to vote or hold office in either Territory by reason of being on service therein.

Such of the public officers of the Territories as, by the provisions of the act, were to be appointed by the general government, including the Governors, were appointed and commissioned in due season; the law having been enacted on the 30th of May, 1854, and the commission of the Governor of the Territory of Nebraska being dated on the 21 day of August, 1854, and of the Territory of Kansas on the 29th day of June, 1854.

Among the duties imposed by the act on the Governors was that of directing and superintending the political organization of the respective Territories. The Governor of Kansas was required to cause a census or enumeration of the inhabitants and qualified voters of the several counties and districts of the Territory, to be taken by such persons and in such mode as he might designate and appoint; to appoint and direct the time and places of holding the first elections, and the manner of conducting them, both as to the persons to superintend such elections and the returns thereof; to declare the number of the members of the Council and House of Representatives for each county district; to declare what persons might appear to be duly elected; and to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of the legislative assembly. In substance, the same duties were devolved on the Governor of Nebraska.

While, by this act, the principle of constitution for each of the Territories was one and the same, and the details of organic legislation regarding both were as nearly as could be identical, and while the Territory of Nebraska was tranquilly and successfully organized in the due course of law, and its first legislative assembly met on the 16th of January, 1855, the organization of Kansas was long delayed, and has been attended with serious difficulties and embarrassments, partly the consequence of local mal-administration, and partly of the unjustifiable interference of the inhabitants of some of the States foreign by residence, interests, and rights to the Territory.

The Governor of the Territory of Kansas, commissioned, as before stated, on the 29th of June, 1854 did not reach the designated seat of his government until the 7th of the ensuing October; and even then failed to make the first step in its legal organization—that of ordering the census or enumeration of its inhabitants—until so late a day that the election of the members of the legislative assembly did not take place until the 30th of March 1855, nor its meeting until the second of July, 1855. So that, for a year after the Territory was constituted by the act of Congress and the officers to be appointed by the Federal Executive had been commissioned, it was without a complete government, without any legislative authority, without local law, and, of course, without the ordinary guarantees of peace and public order.

In other respects, the Governor, instead of exercising constant vigilance, and putting forth all his energies to prevent or counteract the tendencies to illegality, which are prone to exist in all imperfectly organized and newly associated communities, allowed his attention to be diverted from official obligation by other objects, and himself set an example of the violation of law in the performance of acts which rendered it my duty, in the sequel, to remove him from the office of Chief Executive Magistrate of the Territory.

Before the requisite preparation was accomplished for election of a territorial Legislature, an election of delegate to Congress had been held in the Territory, on the 20th day of November, 1854, and the delegate took his seat in the House of Representatives without challenge. If arrangements had been perfected

by the Governor so that the election for members of the legislative assembly might be held in the several precincts at the same time for delegate to Congress, any question appertaining to the qualification of the persons voting as people of the Territory would have passed necessarily and at once under the supervision of Congress, as the judge of the validity of the return of the delegate, and would have been determined before conflicting passions had become inflamed by time, and before opportunity could have been afforded for systematic interference of the people of individual States.

This interference, in so far as concerns its primary causes and its immediate commencement, was one of the incidents of that pernicious agitation on the subject of the condition of the colored persons held to service in some of the States which has so long disturbed the repose of our country, and excited individuals, otherwise patriotic and law-abiding, to toil with misdirected zeal in an attempt to propagate their social theories by the perversion and abuse of the powers of Congress. The persons and the parties whom the tenor of the act to organize the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas, thwarted in the endeavor to impose, through the agency of Congress, their particular views of social organization on the people of the future new States, now perceiving that the policy of leaving the inhabitants of each State to judge for themselves in this respect was ineradicably rooted in the convictions of the people of the Union, then had recourse, in the pursuit of their general object to the extraordinary measure of propagandist colonization of the Territory of Kansas, to prevent the free and natural action of its inhabitants in its internal organization, and thus to anticipate or to force the determination of that question in this inchoate State.

With such views, associations were organized in some of the States, and their purposes were proclaimed through the press in language extremely irritating and offensive to those of whom the colonists were to become the neighbors. Those designs and acts had the necessary consequence to awaken emotions of intense indignation in States near to the Territory of Kansas, and especially in the adjoining State of Missouri, whose domestic peace was thus the most directly endangered; but they are far from justifying the illegal and reprehensible counter-movements which ensued.

Under these inauspicious circumstances the primary elections for members of the Legislative Assembly were held in most, if not all, of the precincts at the time and the places, and by the persons designated and appointed by the governor according to law.

Angry accusations that illegal votes had been polled abounded on all sides, and imputations were made both of fraud and violence. But the governor, in the exercise of the power and the discharge of the duty conferred and imposed by law on him alone, officially received and considered the returns; declared a large majority of the members of the Council and the House of Representatives "duly elected;" withheld certificates from others because of alleged illegality of votes; appointed a new election to supply the place of the persons not certified; and thus at length, in all the forms of statute, and with his own official authentication, complete legality was given to the first legislative assembly of the Territory.

Those decisions of the returning officers and the Governor are final, except that, by the parliamentary usage of the country applied to the organic law, it may be conceded that each house of the assembly must have been competent to determine, in the last resort, the qualifications and the election of its members. The subject was, by its nature, one appertaining exclusively to the jurisdiction of the local authorities of the Territory. Whatever irregularities may have occurred in the elections, it seems too late now to raise that question. At all events, it is a question as to which, neither now, nor at any previous time, has the least possible legal authority been possessed by the President of the United States. For all present purposes the legislative body, thus constituted and elected, was the legitimate assembly of the Territory.

Accordingly, the Governor, by proclamation, convened the assembly thus elected, to meet at a place called Pawnee City; the two Houses met and were duly organized in the ordinary parliamentary form, each sent to, and received from, the Governor the official communications usual on such occasions; an elaborate message opening the session was communicated by the Governor; and the general business of legislation was entered upon by the Legislative Assembly.

But, after a few days, the Assembly resolved to adjourn to another place in the Territory. A law was accordingly passed, against the consent of the Governor, but in due form otherwise, to remove the seat of government temporarily to the "Shawnee Manual Labor School," (or Mission,) and thither the Assembly proceeded. After this, receiving a bill for the establishment of a ferry at the town of Kickapoo, the Governor refused to sign it, and by special message, assigned for reason of refusal, not anything objectionable in the bill itself, nor any pretence of the illegality or incompetency of the assembly as such, but only the fact that the assembly had by its act transferred the seat of government temporarily from Pawnee City to Shawnee Mission. For the same reason he continued to refuse to sign other bills, until, in the course of a few days, he, by official message, communicated to the assembly the fact that he had received notification of the termination of his functions as Governor, and that the duties of the office were legally devolved on the Secretary of the Territory; thus to the last recognizing the body as a duly-elected and constituted legislative assembly.

It will be perceived that, if any constitutional defect attached to the legislative acts of the assembly, it is not pretended to consist in irregularity of election, or want of qualification of the members, but only in the change of its place of session. However trivial this objection may seem to be, it requires to be considered, because upon it is founded all that superstructure of acts, plainly against law, which now threatens the peace, not only of the Territory of Kansas, but of the Union.

Such an objection to the proceedings of the legislative assembly was of exceptional origin, for the reason that, by the express terms of the organic law, the seat of government of the Territory was "located temporarily at Fort Leavenworth;" and yet the Governor himself remained there less than two months, and of his own discretion transferred the seat of government to the Shawnee Mission, where it in fact was at the time the assembly were called to meet at Pawnee City. If the Governor had any such right to change temporarily the seat of government, still more had the legislative assembly. The objection is of exceptional origin for the further reason that the place indicated by the Governor, without having any exclusive claim of preference in itself, was a proposed town

site only, which he and others were attempting to locate unlawfully upon land within a military reservation, and for participation in which illegal act the commandment of the post—a superior officer of the army—has been dismissed by sentence of court martial.

Nor is it easy to see why the legislative Assembly might not with propriety pass the territorial act transferring its sittings to the Shawnee Mission. If it could not, that must be on account of some prohibitory or incompatible provision of act of Congress. But no such provision exists. The organic act, as already quoted, says "the seat of government is hereby located temporarily at Fort Leavenworth;" and it then provides that certain of the public buildings there "may be occupied and used under the direction of the Governor and legislative Assembly." These expressions might possibly be construed to imply that when in a previous section of the act it was enacted that "the first legislative Assembly shall meet at such place and on such day, as the Governor shall appoint," the word "place" means place at Fort Leavenworth, not place anywhere in the Territory. If so, the Governor would have been the first to err in this matter, not only in himself having removed the seat of government to the Shawnee Mission, but in again removing it from the letter of the law, therefore, it was his in both instances.

But, however this may be it is most unreasonable to suppose that by the terms of the organic act, Congress intended to do implicitly what it has not done expressly—that is, to forbid to the legislative assembly the power to choose any place it might see fit as the temporary seat of its deliberations. That is proved by the significant language of one of the subsequent acts of Congress on the subject, that of March 3, 1855, which, in making appropriation for public buildings of the Territory, enacts that the same shall not be expended "until the legislature of said Territory shall have fixed by law the permanent seat of government." Congress, in these expressions, does not profess to be granting the power to fix the permanent seat of government, but recognises the power as one already granted. But how? Undoubtedly by the comprehensive provision of the organic act itself, which declares that "the legislative power of the Territory shall extend to all rightful subjects of legislation consistent with the constitution of the United States and the provisions of this act." If in view of this act, the legislative assembly had the large power to fix the permanent seat of government at any place in its discretion, of course by the same enactment it had the less and the included power to fix it temporarily.

Nevertheless, the allegation that the acts of the Legislative Assembly were illegal by reason of this removal of its place of session was brought forward to justify the first great movement in disregard of law within the Territory. One of the acts of the Legislative Assembly provided for the election of a delegate to the present Congress, and a delegate was elected under that law. But, subsequently to this, a portion of the people of the Territory proceeded without authority of law to elect another delegate.

Following upon this movement was another and more important one of the same general character. Persons confessedly not constituting the body politic, or all the inhabitants, but merely a party of the inhabitants, and without law, have undertaken to summon a convention for the purpose of transferring the Territory into a State, and have framed a Constitution, adopted it, and under it elected a Governor and other officers, and a representative to Congress.

In extension of these illegal acts, it is alleged that the States of California, Michigan, and others, were self-organized, and, as such, were admitted into the Union without a previous enabling act of Congress. It is true that, while, in a majority of cases, a previous act of Congress has been passed to authorize the Territory to present itself as a State, and that this is deemed the most regular course, yet such an act has not been held to be indispensable, and, in some cases, the Territory has proceeded without it, and has nevertheless been admitted into the Union as a State. It lies with Congress to authorize beforehand, or to confirm afterwards in its discretion. But in no instance has a State been admitted upon the application of persons acting against authorities duly constituted by act of Congress. In every case it is the people of the Territory, not a party among them, who have the power to form a constitution, and ask for admission as a State. No principle of public law, no practice or precedent under the Constitution of the United States, no rule of reason, right, or common sense, confers any such power as that now claimed by a mere party in the Territory. In fact, what has been done is of revolutionary character. It is avowedly so in motive and in aim, as respects the local law of the Territory. It will be common reasonable inference if it reach the length of organized resistance by force to the fundamental or any other federal law, and to the authorities of the General Government.

In such an event, the path of duty for the Executive is plain. The constitution requiring him to take care that the laws of the United States be faithfully executed, if they be opposed in the Territory of Kansas he may and should place at the disposal of the marshal any public force of the United States which happens to be within the jurisdiction, and, if that do not suffice to maintain order, then he may call forth the militia of one or more States for that object, or employ for the same object any part of the land or naval force of the United States. So, also if the obstruction be to the laws of the Territory, and it be duly presented to him as a case of insurrection, he may employ for its suppression the militia of any State, or the land or naval force of the United States. And if the Territory be invaded by the citizens of other States, whether for the purpose of deciding elections or for any other, and the local authorities find themselves unable to repel or withstand it, they will be entitled to, and upon the fact being fully ascertained, they shall most certainly receive the aid of the general government.

But it is not the duty of the President of the United States to volunteer interposition by force to preserve the purity of elections either in a State or Territory. To do so would be subversive of public freedom. And whether a law be wise or unwise, just or unjust, is not a question for him to judge. If it be constitutional—that is, if it be the law of the land—it is his duty to cause it to be executed, or to sustain the authorities of any State or Territory in executing it in opposition to all insurrectionary movements. Our system affords no justification of revolutionary acts; for the constitutional means of relieving the people of unjust administration and laws, by a change of public agents

and by repeal, are ample, and more prompt and effective than illegal violence. These constitutional means must be scrupulously guarded—this great prerogative of popular sovereignty sacredly respected.

It is the undoubted right of the peaceable and orderly people of the Territory of Kansas to elect their own legislative body, make their own laws, and regulate their own social institutions, without foreign or domestic molestation. Interference, on the one hand to procure the abolition or prohibition of slave labor in the Territory, has produced mischievous interference, on the other for its maintenance or introduction. One wrong begets another. Statements entirely unfounded, or grossly exaggerated, concerning events within the Territory, are sedulously diffused through remote States to feed the flame of sectional animosity there; and the agitators there exert themselves indefatigably in return to encourage and stimulate strife within the Territory.

The inflammatory agitation, of which the present is but a part, has for twenty years produced nothing save unmitigated evil, North and South. But for it the character of the domestic institutions of the future new State would have been a matter of too little interest to the inhabitants of the contiguous States, personally or collectively, to produce among them any political emotion. Climate, soil, production, hopes of rapid advancement and the pursuit of happiness on the part of the settlers themselves, with good wishes, but with no interference from without, would have quietly determined the question, which is at this time so disturbing character.

But we are constrained to turn our attention to the circumstances of embarrassment as they now exist. It is the duty of the people of Kansas to discountenance every act or purpose of resistance to its laws. Above all, the emergency appeals to the citizens of the States, and especially of those contiguous to the Territory, neither by intervention of non-residents in elections, nor by unauthorized military force, to attempt to encroach upon or usurp the authority of the inhabitants of the Territory.

No citizen of our country should permit himself to forget that he is a part of its government, and entitled to be heard in the determination of its policy and its measures, and that, therefore, the highest considerations of personal honor and patriotism require him to maintain, by whatever power or influence he may possess, the integrity of the laws of the Republic.

Entertaining these views, it will be my imperative duty to exert the whole power of the Federal Executive to support public order in the Territory, to vindicate its laws, whether federal or local, against all attempts of organized resistance; and so to protect its people in the establishment of their own institutions, undisturbed by encroachment from without, and in the full enjoyment of the rights of self-government assured to them by the Constitution and the organic act of Congress.

Although serious and threatening disturbances in the Territory of Kansas, announced to me by the governor in December last, were speedily quieted without the effusion of blood and in a satisfactory manner, there is, I regret to say, reason to apprehend that disorders will continue to occur there, with increasing tendency to violence, until some decisive measure be taken to dispose of the question itself, which constitutes the inducement or occasion of internal agitation and of external interference.

This, it seems to me, can best be accomplished by providing that, when the inhabitants of Kansas may desire it, and shall be of sufficient numbers to constitute a State, a Convention of delegates, duly elected by the qualified voters, shall assemble to frame a constitution, and thus to prepare, through regular and lawful means, for its admission into the Union as a State.

I respectfully recommend the enactment of a law to that effect. I recommend, also, that a special appropriation be made to defray any expense which may become requisite in the execution of the laws or the maintenance of public order in the Territory of Kansas.

FRANKLIN PIERCE. WASHINGTON, January 24, 1856.

Our Diplomatic Relations with Great Britain.

The following extract of a late letter of one of the correspondents of the Baltimore Sun has been quoted and commented on by the National Intelligencer as containing reliable information:

"The cabinet have had under consideration the expediency of suspending diplomatic intercourse with England, as a mode of resenting the refusal of the British government to afford reparation to the United States for the alleged violation of our laws and neutral rights by recruiting troops in this country."

We think we can safely assure the editors of the Intelligencer that no such question as the suspension of diplomatic intercourse with Great Britain has been before the cabinet. Our relations with the government are certainly delicate, and perhaps critical, but the proposed withdrawal of our minister is not amongst the evidences going to indicate the delicacy of those relations. If we might indulge conjectures so grave a matter, we should venture the opinion that the action of our government in asking the recall of Mr. Crampton and the Consuls implicated in the recruitment of soldiers for the Crimea furnishes the only foundation for the statement quoted above. Whilst we desire by this correction to avoid any unfounded apprehensions of an impending difficulty with Great Britain, we cannot deny that there are indeed serious questions of difference between the two governments which ought to be thoughtfully considered by those members of Congress who are obstructing the organization of the House. Our neighbors of the Intelligencer make an appeal on this subject which is worthy of attention. We quote: "And now we would put it, in all seriousness, to the members of the House, if in view of so critical a state of the affairs of the country, they can, without being derelict to every dictate of patriotism and duty, consent to consume any more of the session in a triangular contest about the Speakership, which never can be terminated without a compromise as to the mode or the man; or can they regard the peace of the country secondary to pride of opinion and the trammels of party?"

Two DEAD CHILDREN FOUND IN A CAR.—On Wednesday, after the emigrant train had changed cars at Altoona, Pa., the bodies of two children, aged about five and two years, were found in the vacant cars. They were ascertained to be the children of poor German emigrants, who had left them unburied from necessity. They were decently interred by the citizens of Altoona.

The Public Works.

The Harrisburg correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, thus details the propositions submitted to the Governor, and by him communicated to the legislature, for the purchase of the main line of the Public Works, or parts thereof:

"The Governor, failing to effect a sale of the public works in June last, pursuant to the act of the Legislature, advertised for the reception of sealed proposals for their sale or lease. Two offers were received, which were communicated by the Governor, and today opened and read in the House.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company the following proposal for the purchase of the Main Line of State improvements; also, a proposition for the Columbia Railroad only. For the Main Line from Philadelphia to the Monongahela and Allegheny rivers, including the real estate, ships, tools, engine houses, depots, locomotives, cars, toll houses, lock houses, water power, and other property connected therewith, the sum of seven millions five hundred thousand dollars, (\$7,500,000).—Payments to be made as follows: Five hundred thousand dollars on the delivery of the works to the Company, in cash or certificates of State loan; ten per cent of the remainder on the 30th day of July, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, and ten per cent annually thereafter until the whole amount is paid.

The instalments unpaid to bear interest at the rate of five per cent per annum, payable semi-annually, on the 30th day of January and July of each year. The company to have the right at any time to pay off the whole or any portion of the purchase money, by the delivery to the State Treasurer of an equal amount in certificates of State Loan. The State to relinquish her right to purchase the Pennsylvania Railroad, and to repeal all laws imposing a tax on tonnage passing over said road. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company will further agree to keep up the canal portion of the line east of the Allegheny mountain; also, that part of the line between Blairsville and Pittsburgh, until the North-Western Railroad shall be opened for running from Blairsville to the Allegheny river. The Company will also agree to purchase the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad, at its cost of construction, to be determined by three eminent engineers, to be appointed by the State with the concurrence of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, upon which sum, so ascertained, they will pay forever, semi-annually, to the State Treasurer, an amount equivalent to the dividend paid to the stockholders of said company, on an equal portion of capital stock.

The Harrisburg, Portsmouth, Mount Joy and Lancaster Railroad Company submit the following proposition for the purchase of the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad, and all the real estate, rolling stock and other property connected therewith—to be subject to all the rights and privileges contained in the charter and supplements thereto of the Harrisburg, Portsmouth, Mount Joy and Lancaster Railroad Company. The purchase money to be paid ninety days after the acceptance of this proposal, in cash or certificates of State loan; one-eighth on the first day of January, 1866, and one-eighth annually thereafter, until the whole shall have been paid; the amount of the purchase money unpaid to bear interest at the rate of five per cent per annum, from the date of the delivery of the road to the Company, payable on the 30th day of January and July in each year. Purchase money unpaid, to be secured by a lien upon the whole road, from Columbia to Philadelphia. The company to have the right to pay the remaining instalments, or any portion of them, at any time in cash or certificates of State loan. The tax on tonnage passing over the Harrisburg, Portsmouth, Mount Joy and Lancaster Railroad Company, to be repealed. To straighten the Philadelphia and Columbia railroad—re-build the bridges, which are now in a dilapidated condition, and complete the re-laying of the tracks of the road, will require fully one million of dollars.

To provide this sum, without incurring immeasurable sacrifice, we have proposed to make the second instalment full due in 1866, in the meantime interest to be paid to the State upon an equivalent amount of State debt. We have not deemed it necessary at this time, to submit a proposal for a lease of the road, as we cannot conceive of a plan by which the interest of the State would be protected under a lease, which would not be equivalent to a sale of the work."

THE HOG CROP.

The Working Farmer states that the value of the hog crop this year, in the United States, will fall short of \$200,000,000, or \$50,000,000, more than the cotton crop. In the United States there are believed to be 50,000,000 of hogs raised yearly, or more than in all the States of Europe combined. In Great Britain the number is estimated at two million, of which Ireland has a large proportion, and Scotland nearly two hundred thousand. Austria has about five million swine, and Austria an Italy 250,000. France has from five million to six million. Russia has an immense number of wild hogs, but they are merely skin and bone, valuable principally for their bristles. It is estimated that ninety-six million pounds of lard are made in the United States, of which twenty millions are made in Cincinnati. England and Cuba each take annually nine million pounds of American lard.

NOTICE.

LETTERS of administration, de bonis non, on the estate of Wm. Buchanan, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned, all persons still indebted to the estate of said deceased, are requested to make immediate payment, and those having claims, not heretofore presented to the former administratrix or her attorney are requested to make them known. SAMUEL T. BROWN, Adm'r. de bonis non. Huntingdon Jan. 9th, 1856.

Norcross Rotary Planing Machine.

WANTED.—To sell the Rights and Machinery for a Rotary Planing, Tonguing and Grooving Machine, for boards and plank, under the Norcross Patent. Also, the attachment of the Moulding Machine, which will work a whole board into mouldings at one operation.—This patent has been tried, and decided in the Supreme Court in Washington, to be no infringement, being superior to Woodworth's Machine. Apply to J. D. DALE, Willow Street above Twelfth, Philadelphia, where the Machine can be seen in operation. January 16th, 1856.—3m.

GEO. GWIN.

WILL sell off his Summer stock of dress goods at reduced prices, August 14, 5.

THE British Periodicals.

PREMIUMS TO NEW SUBSCRIBERS! L. SCOTT & CO., NEW YORK, continue to publish the following leading British Periodicals, viz: The London Quarterly (Conservative). 2. The Edinburgh Review (Whig). 3. The North British Review (Free Church). 4. The Westminster Review (Liberal). 5. Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine (Tory).

The great and important events—Religious, Political, and Military—now agitating the nations of the Old World, give to these Publications an interest and value they never before possessed. They occupy a middle ground between the hastily written new-items, crude speculations, and flying rumors of the newspaper, and the ponderous Tome of the historian, written long after the living interest in the facts he records shall have passed away. The progress of the War in the East occupies a large space in their pages. Every movement is closely criticised, whether of friend or foe, and all short comings fearlessly pointed out. The letters from the Crimea and from the Baltic in Blackwood's Magazine, from two of its most popular contributors, give a more intelligible and reliable account of the movement of the great belligerents than can elsewhere be found.

These Periodicals ably represent the three great political parties of Great Britain—Whig, Tory, and Radical—but politics forms only one feature of their character. As Organs of the most profound writers on Science, Literature, Morality, and Religion, they stand, as they ever have stood, unrivalled in the world of letters, being considered indispensable to the scholar and the professional man, while to the intelligent reader of every class they furnish a more correct and satisfactory record of the current literature of the day, throughout the world, than can be possibly obtained from any other source.

EARLY COPIES.

The receipt of Advance Sheets from the British publishers gives additional value to these Reprints, especially during the present exciting state of European affairs, inasmuch as they can now be placed in the hands of subscribers about as soon as the original editions.

TERMS AND PREMIUMS.

(See List of Premium Volumes below.) For any one of the four Reviews and one Premium volume, \$3 00 For any two of the four Reviews and one Premium volume, 5 00 For any three of the four Reviews and two Premium volumes, 7 00 For all four of the Reviews and two Premium volumes, 8 00 For Blackwood's Magazine and one Premium volume, 3 00 For Blackwood's & three Reviews and three Premium volumes, 9 00 For Blackwood's & the 4 Reviews and three Premium volumes, 10 00 Payments to be made in all cases in advance. Money current in the State where issued will be received at par.

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CLUBBING.

A discount of twenty-five per cent, from the above prices will be allowed to Clubs ordering four or more copies of any one or more of the above works. Thus: Four copies of Blackwood, or of one Review, will be sent to one address for \$9; four copies of the four Reviews and Blackwood for \$30; and so on.

* * * No premiums will be given where the above allowance is made to Clubs, nor will premiums in any case be furnished, unless the subscription money is paid in full to the Publishers without recourse to an agent.

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In all the principal Cities and Towns, these works will be delivered, FREE OF POSTAGE. When sent by mail, the POSTAGE for any part of the United States will be but Twenty-four Cents a year for "Blackwood," and but Fourteen Cents a year for each of the Reviews.

Remittances for any of the above publications should always be addressed, post-paid, to the Publishers, LEONARD SCOTT & CO. No. 54 Gold Street, New York.

J. SIMPSON AFRICA, COUNTY SURVEYOR, Huntingdon, Pa. OFFICE ON HILL STREET.

Dissolution of Partnership.

THE partnership heretofore existing between the subscribers was dissolved by mutual consent on the 15th day of November last—persons indebted to the firm will please call and settle their accounts with Geo. C. Bucher, on or before the first of April next.

GEORGE C. BUCHER, GEORGE B. PORTER, Alexandria, Dec. 26, 1855.

The business will be continued at the old stand by the subscriber who will sell Goods at very low rates to all who may favor him with a call. GEO. C. BUCHER.

HUNTINGDON COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

There has been opened in the Hall formerly occupied by the "Sons of Temperance" in the borough of Huntingdon, a School under the above title, in which is proposed to be given, a thorough course of instruction, and practice, in single and Double Entry Bookkeeping. Also, Lectures on Commercial Law, will be given in regular course, by the most talented members of the Bar.

Students can enter at any time, a day or evening class, or both if they wish. For any other particulars, address personally or by letter, T. H. POLLOCK, Principal. Huntingdon, Dec. 17th, 1855.—3m.