## THE OBSERVER.

B. F. SLOAN, Editor.

TERMS: \$1 50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

ERIE, PA., SATURDAY, DEC. 31, 1859. n granger jare i jareti i ren gold et i i ger A SHORT HORSE IS SOON CURRIED,-Mr. M. B. Lowry, who lately represented the Republicans of Erie county in the prison of the felon Brown, and who will soon represent the same party in its State Convention, from whence he will doubtless be translated to the Republican National

Convention at Chicago as the accredited desperadoes to whom you refer, not a man, champion, chief-cook and bottle-holder of so far as I dan learn, was a citizen of Penn-Gen. Sinon Caneron, is very much put out and otherwise made unhappy because, in the letter published last week to the Editor of this paper, Gov. Wise brands his has done her duty. Virginia has no right -tatement of certain conversations, he (Lowry) professed to have had with that ! functionary, as false. This sympathiser with murder and treason seems to think that no one has a right to question his veracity, and hence a good part of a column and a half of what purports to be a reply to Gov. Wise's charge of falsehood, is devoted to us. And the head and front of our offending, is that we wrote to Gov Wise, and Wise replied. In whining over this fact, he (Lowry) says that he "once made us his enemy for life by loaning us a relyent note for \$1,000," What logical connection there can be between such a business transaction and the fact that we wrote a letter to Gov. Wisk on the 4th of December, in regard to a public matter, to which he replied on the 10th of the same month, we leave for such logicians as Mr. M.B. Lowry to discover—we can't. But we regard to the state of political affairs. Senabeg to assure Mr. M. B. Lowry that his fiuancial statement is quite as devoid of truth as its introduction into a letter to Gov. Wise is devoid of any logical connection with the question of his verseity. Mr. M. B. Lowry never loaned as a "solvent note for \$1,000," or 1,000 cents. The transaction he doubtless refers to, was simply this .-Nine years ago he sold to the firm of Durlin & Sloan, to use in their business, a note of S. Jackson for \$1,000-the amount of of three persons, named Martin, Snow and Murwhich note the said firm of Durlin & Sloan | phy, charged with being criminally connected repaid to Mr. M. B. Lowry long since, prin- with the extensive robberles which have transcaple and interest, and that, too, before any pired in this and adjoining counties the past personal or political difficulty ever occurred year; and that it was stated to be quite probbetween that individual and us. The firm | able that those three comprised only a small of Durlin & Sloan ceased to exist four years ago; and it seems to that is rather late in the day for Mr. Lowry to come forward and claim that, because a firm of which we were a member nine years ago bought an article of value from him, therefore we, the the only remaing member of the firm in the State, are under such personal obligations to him that we ought not, as a newspaper editor, to criticise his public acts, or expose his bids for political preferment. But Mr. Lowry is mistaken in another particular His assumption that we are his "enemy' seems to imply that we have some personal hostility to him. The man was never more mistaken in his life. When he left the Democratic party for the Democrati party's good, he became our political op a quantity of timothy seed, and a quantity of ever be invaded—if the mothers of families ponent. As such, we would be recreant to oats, bags, &c., the property of James C. Rusour party fealty if we did not take all le- sell, of Millereck township. Sold same to our party fealty if we did not take all le sell, of Millereek township. Bold same to defeatful apprehensions of what may be their gitimate means to defeat him in his polity Crouch & Bro. at Fairmount Mills. Bags were own fate and that of their children before the ical ambition, and expose his political manocurres. The letter to Gov. Wise, and the publication of his reply, was for that purpose, and for no other. It is not the first time we have tripped his political beels from under him, nor will it be the last; and in this political tournament if he can obtain an advantage, he is welcome. We shall neither cry, like a whipped school r, me omoce and enagger like a thimble rigger on a race course. We admire pluck-not swagger:-we respect talent and truth, but have no sort of patience with that species of low bred cock-pit morality which seeks to cover a retreat from a deliberately published statement of pretended facts by an offer to bet." As to the question of verseity between him and tioy. Wise we are quite content to leave it with the Republicans of Erie county, whose Representative he is in their State convention, to decide; for candidly we do not behere there is one in five hundred that give the least credit to his statement of the motives which prompted him to visit Harper's Ferry, or his sayings and doings while there. They know that if he had not thought that the Joffn Brown card in politics would prove as profitable as Sumner's broken head, the old man might have rotted in Charleston prison for all of him. And hence it is that even his political constituents, we are inclined to think, look upon his attempt to stake his veracity against that of such a man as Gov. Wise as they

DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION. -The Dem orratic State Central Committee, held a meeting in Philadelphia, on Tuesday of last week, and appointed Wednesday, the 29th of February. 1960, as the time, and the city of Reading, as the place, for holding the next Democratic State Convention. We like this. The first and only Democratic State Convention ever held in that city, was the Convention of the 4th of June, 1851, at which the Hon. WILLIAM Bio-LER Was nominated for Governor, and Gen SETH CLOVER for Canal Commissioner. We were a member of that convention, and we have a most lively recollection of the hospitality of the people of Reading. That ticket was elected by a handsome majority: which may be regarded as a favorable omen for the nominees of the next Reading Convention. Its delibers tions will be looked forward to with more than ordinary interest, not only on account of the momentous political questions that, from present indications, will enter into the campaign of ly open: but for the reason that a candidate for Governor is to be chosen, delegates appointed to represent Pennsylvania in the Charleston Convention, and a ticket for Presidenimi Electure nominated. It will be one of the most important Conventions, both with respect to men and measures, ever held in this Commonwealth; and it should be the earness preser of every sincere Democrat, that a single and the Nation, may govern its choice of men for the several positions named; and that a same time, of firmness and decision in the en- by the by, that burns more buildings than he unctation of principles, may prevail in all its | gets credit for. proceedings. The success or failure of the Democracy of Pennsylvania, in the great contest in 1860, will depend, in no inconsiderable

n wouled disper in the face of a well dressed

lady and offering to bet the "real estate"

whitest. There, the horse is curried—put

him in the stable!

TERREAND TO THE POINT.-The reply of iov. Packerto Gov. Wise, in relation to the Hurper's Ferry difficulty, has just made its appearance. It is so terse and to the point, and withal so manly, that we cannot resist the temptation to give it a place in that Almighty Power which has bestowed upon our columns. It will be recollected that us such varied and numerous blessings through Gov. Wisz wrote to Gov. PACKER complain- out the past year. The general health of the ing that the soil of Pennsylvania was made a rendezvous for the Brown desperadors, throughout the land. Indeed, notwithstand and that to this the Governor replied:

PENNSTLYANIA EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, | Harrisburgh, Dec. 1, 1859. Your letter of the 25th having been miswent to Harrisonburg. Virginia, was not received until this morning. Of all the sylvania; nor was their rendzyous, which you say was "unobstructed by guard or otherwise," in the State, but in Maryland and Virginia. In relation to them, Pennsylvania to anticipate that she will not do so in the tuture. The information you have received in regard to a conspiracy to rescue John Brown will undoubtedly be found in the sequel, utterly and entirely without foundation, so far as Pennsylvania is concerned. Nor will we permit any portion of our horders or elsewhere, to be made a depot, a rendezvous, or a refuge for "lawless desperadoes" from other States, who may seek to make war on our Southern neighbors. When that contingency shall happen the constitutional and confederate duty of Pennsylvania shall be performed; under all circumstances she will take care to see that her honor is fully vindicated.

To His Excellency the Governor of Virginia, Richmond, Va.

A Sign. - The Washington Globe sava: "19 stated that fifty gentlemen, including the American members of Congress, met in this menced in the last generation, among the wise city, on Monday evening to take counsel in tor Crittenden presided. A committee of seven was appointed to confer with the Central Committee of the Whigs and Americans as to the practicability of organizing a party on the platform of the Union and the Constitution and the execution of the laws. Several speeches were made."

IMPORTANT ARRESTS .- Our readers will recollect we published, some two months since an account of the arrest, by officer Paraceson, portion of the gang, which was believed to be very extensive, and containing many experienced professional thieves. We are glad to learn that there has been another haul made from the same prolific source, and that measares are being taken to bring the whole pack to justice. Officer Furgeson arrested five of this gang on Friday hight last, and an examination was had before justice ('RAIG, upon various charges, with the following results:

Com. vs. Thos. J. Crosen, James Peck, Edward Snow and Lewis Sharp—charged with the arceny of fifteen bags of barley, the property of E. O. Pinney, of Green township. This grain was sold to Chas. Koehler. Defendants each held in default of \$200 bail to answer

recognized by Mr. Russell. Defendents each held in default of \$200 bail to answer. Com. vs. Edward Snow, Lewis Sharp and

Daniel Murphy—charged with the larceny of thon James Miles, of Girard township. Defendants each held in default of \$200 bail to answer at next term of Court.

Com. rs. Same-charged with larceny of ten bushels of wheat, the property of A. C. Sulli-

van, of Millereck township. Held as above to appear at next term of Court. Com. re. Same-charged with the largeny of quantity of wheat, the property of John Shank, of Millewek township Held to answer

Com cs. Same-charged with the larceny of a quantity of wheat, the property of-Royer,

of Millereck township. Held to naver as

Snow and Murphy, defendants in suits above are two of the three arrested some two months since-Murphy having been released on his own recognizance, at the late adjourned term of Court, from exempathy for his youth. Murphy dollars worth of property in his life. Was following his "profession" of tin-peddler, when engaged in stealing wool from John Burt. at North-East, and from Jewetts factory, last fall. We trust he will be "fixed" this time

Snow is only seventeen or eighteen years old and is, without doubt, the "sharp" one of the young, not withstanding his extreme youth. He is evidently one of that class who think the would upon a slatternly termigant flouting "world owes him's living, and he is bound to have it"-and he has succeeded very well so far in obtaining it. He should be brought under her nails that her linen was the up with a short turn: reform-schools are inadequate in his case: sympathy shouldn't save

This is the second "crib" of this gang that has been "cracked" in this vicinity. There is one of the same kind in Greene township, one near Girard, and one near North-East, between that place and Mina. We may expect soon to hear of another haul. The attempt to break jail on Saturday night last, which was so nearly successful, was by this gang, aided, no doubt, by confederates on the outside.

There it is again! The Warren Ledger has "gone and did it." Last week we went over to Warren with eleven respectable, sober, steady, responsible men! We behaved ourself with becoming circumspection. We admired the town! We praised the pirls! We kissed the babies, complimented the mothers, andtreated the fathers! We conceived we had vet the Warren Ledger has "gone and done it."

Quite a crowd of Erlans were again in our village yesterday, among them B. P. SLOAN (Soil), which the act of the convention will fair- Erie, who honored our sanctum with a brief visit. We found him a hale and companion able fellow, full of Politics and fun, and devoted to the Administration of James Brenan-An by the strongest of ties—that of office.— He wears his spectacles with becoming whiterial gravity, and looks to be-what he certainly is\_the keenest and spiciest Editor in North

SCHOOL HOUSE BURET.-We learn that school house in Wayne township, in this counene to the best interests of the Party, the State. Ip, was burnt on Friday night of last week, together with all its contents. The fire was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary barrel -pirit of inoderation and harmony, but at the of ashes placed in the entry-an incendiary.

One MEREN, was found dead one morning this week in Summit township, degree, upon the character and acts of the next frozen. He had been drinking -- a most

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow Chains of the Senate

And House of Representatives. Our deep and heart felt gratitude is due country has been excellent; our harvests have been usually plentiful, and prosperity smiles ing our demerits, we have much reason to be eve from the past events of our history, that we have enjoyed the special protection of Di-vine Providence ever since our origin as a nation. We have been exposed to many threat ening and alarming difficulties in our progress;

but on each successive occasion the impending cloud has been dissipated at the moment it apand protection. Whilst it is the duty of the President "from time to time to give to Congress information of the state of the Union," I shall not refer in deail to the recent sad and bloody occurrences at Harper's Ferry. Still, it is proper to ob-

in themselves, derive their chief importance from the apprehension that they are but symptoms of an incurabte disease in the public mind which may break out in still more dangerous outrages and terminate at last in an open war by the North to abolish slavery in the South. Whilst, for myself, I entertain no such apprehension, they ought to afford a solemn warn. ing to us all to beware of the approaching

Our Union is a stake of such inestimable value as to demand our constant and watchful vigilance for its preservation. In this view south, to cultivate the ancient feelings of mutual forehearance and good will towards each other, and strive to allay the demon spirit of sectional hatred and strife now alive in the land. This advice proceeds from the heart of an old public functionary whose services com and conservative statesmen of that day, now nearly all passed away, and whose first and dearest earthly wish is to leave his country tranquil, prosperous, united and powerful

pecially in this country, there is an incessant flux and reflux of public opinion. Questions, which in their day assumed a most threatening aspect, have now nearly gone from the mem ory of men They are "volcanges burnt out. and on the lava and ashes and squalid scoria of old eruptions grow the penceful olive, the had been delegates to the convention, and ufcheering vine, and the sustaining corn."such, in my opinion, will prove to be the face those who wisely seek to apply the remedy, ontinue always to confine their efforts within the pale of the Constitution. If this course be pursued, the existing agita-

We ought to reflect that in this age, and es-

tion on the subject of domestic slavery, like everything human, will have its day and give place to other and less threatening controversies. Public opinion in this country is all powerful, and when it reaches a dangerous exceas upon any question, the good sense of the people will furnish the corrective and bring it sack within safe limits. Still, to hasten this auspicious result, at the present crisis, we ought to remember that every rational creature presumed to understand the consequences of his own teachings. Those who announce abstract doctrines subversive of the 'onstitution and the Union, must not be surprised should their heated partisans advance one step further, and attempt by violence to arry these doctrines into practical effect. In this view of the subject it ought never to he forgotten that, however great may have seen the political advantages resulting from the Union to every portion of our common country, these would all prove to be as nothing should the time ever arrive when they canpersonal safety of the people of fifteen mem-

within this extensive region should not be able to return to rest at night without suffering a people the political benefits which result to em from the Union. Self-preservation is the first law of patpra

sworth is all the time suspended over the heads of the people, must become intolerable. But I indulge in no such gloomy forebodings. On the contrary, I firmly believe that the events t llarper's Ferry, by causing the people to pause and reflect upon the possible peril of their cherished institutions, will be the means, inder Providence, of allaying the existing excitement, and preventing future outbreaks of similar character. They will resolve that he Constitution and Union shall not be endangered by rash counsels, knowing that should "the silver chord be loosed or the golden bowl be broken \* \* at the fountain numan power could never reunite the scattered and hostile fragments.

I cordially congratulate you upon the final ettlement by the Supreme Court of the United States of the question of slavery in the terriories, which had presented an aspect so truly ormidable at the commencement of my admin- proved stration. The right has been established of every citizen to take his property of any kind. including slaves, into the common territories belonging equally to all the states of the confederacy, and to have it protected there under the Federal Constitution. Neither Congress is an old offender; he claims to be and appar- nor a territorial legislature, nor any human ently is, a tin peddler. he never owned ten power, has any authority to annul or impair affirmed those principles of constitutional law, | consequences. so manifestly just in themselves, and my well calculated to promote peace and harmony

smong the states It is a striking proof of the sense of justice which is inherent in our people, that the property in slaves has never been disturbed, to my knowledge, in any of the territories. Even throughout the late troubles in Kansas there has not been any attempt, as I am credibly in- self-interest of the master have combined t formed, to interfere, in a single instance, with produce this humane result. But let this trade the right of the master Had any such attempt heen made, the judiciary would doubtless have same, to a considerable extent, as on a neighafforded an adequate remedy. Should they boring island—the only spot now on earth fail to do so hereafter, it will then be time where the African slave trade is openly tolerlegislation. Had it been decided that either with a power abundantly able at any moment ongress or the territorial legislature possess the power to annul or impair the right to

rty in slaves, the evil would be intoler-In the latter event, there would be a struggle for a majority of the members of the legislature at each successive election, and the sa cred rights of property held under the Federal Constitution would depend for the time being on the result. The agitation would thus be rendered incessant, whilst the territorial conlition remained, and its baneful influence would keep slive a dangerous excitemet among the people of the several States.

Thus has the status of a territory, during the intermediate period from its first settleme intil it shall become a State, been irrevocably fixed by the final decision of the Supreme Fortunate has this been for the prosperity of the territories, as well as the tran-quility of the States. Now, emigrants from the North and the South, the East and the done our duty as a man and a citizen-and West, will meet in the territories on a common platform, having brought with them that species of property best adapted, in their own opinion, to promote their welfare. From natural causes the slavery question will in each case soon virtually settle itself; and before the Esq., editor of the Observer and Post Master at | territory is prepared for admission as a State into the Union this decision, one way or the other, will have been a foregone conclusion .-Mesnwhile the settlement of the new territory will proceed without serious interruption, and its progress and prosperity will not be en-dangered or returded by yellent political stress

Witch in the progress of events the inhabitants of any Territory shall have reached the number required to form a State, they will then proceed, in a regular manner, and in the exercise of the rights of popular sovereignty, o form a constitution preparatory to admission into the Union. After this has been done, to employ the language of the Kansas and Na prasks act, they "shall be received into the Union with or without slavery, as their constitution may prescribe at the time of their ad This sound principle has happily been recognised in some form or other, by an lmost unanimous vote of both houses of the

All lawful means at my command have been employed and shall continue to be employed, to execute the laws against the African slavesde After most :

ion of the subject, we have not been able to Wanderer, sumbering between three and four hundred. Those ougsged in this unlawful en-terprise have been rigorously prosecuted; but occa as their crimes have not with as much su deserved. A number of them are still under

Our history proves that the Fathers of the Republic, in advance of all other nations, con-demsed the African slave trade. It was, notwithstanding, deemed expedient by the framers of the Constitution to deprive Congress of the power to prohibit "the migration or importation of such persons as any of the states now existing shall think proper to admit" "prior

eight.

It will be seen that this restriction on the manger to our institutions has passed away.— only as might think proper to admit the im-May we ever be under the Divine guidance portation of slaves. It did not extend to other and protection. March, 1794, Congress passed an act imposing severe penalties and punishments upon citteens and residents of the United States who should engage in this trade between foreign nations. The provisions of this act were extended and nforced by the act of 10th of May, 1860. Again: The States themselves had a clear

right to wave the constitutional privilege inthought proper previous to 1808. them exercised this right before that period, and among them some containing the greatest number of slaves. This gave to Congress the nmediate power to sot in regard to all such States, because they themselves had remove the constitutional barrier. Congress accordingly passed an act on the 28th of Fedruary, 1803, to "prevent the importation of certain persons into certain States where, by the laws thereof, their admission is prohibited. this manner the importation of African slaves into the United States was, to a great extent. prohibited some years in advance of 1808, As the year of 1808 approached, Congress determined not to suffer this trade to exist even for a single day after they had the power

to abolish it. On the 2d of March, 1807, the passed an act to take effect "from and after the let of January, 1808," prohibiting the impor-tation of African slaves into the United States. This was followed by subsequent acts of a similar character, to which I need not specially refer. Such were the principles and such the practice of our ancestors more than fifty years ago in regard to the African slave trade. le did not occur to the revered patriots who

terwards became members of Congress, that in stitution which they had framed with so much care and deliberation. They supposed that to reising a specified power before an apponted day, necessarily involved the right to exercise this power after that day had arrived.

If this were not the case, the framers of the onstitution had expended much labor in vain. Had they imagined that Congress would possess no power to prohibit this trade either hefore or after 1808, they would not have taken so much care to protect the States against the exercise of this power before that period. Nay more, they would not have attached such vast importance to the provision as to have excludded it from the possibility of future repeal or amendment, to which other portions of the constitution were exposed. It would, then, have been wholly unnecessary to engraft on the fifth article of the Constitution, prescribing the mode of its own future amendment, the proriso, "that no amendment which may be prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and ight shall in any manner affect" the provis-

the right to admit the importation of African slaves previous to that period. According to the adverse construction, the not be enjoyed without serious danger to the clause itself on which so much care and dis- | shall consider them binding engagements from cussion had been employed by the members of their date on both parties, and cause them to Com. rs. Same—charged with the larceny of bers of the confederacy. If the peace of the convention, was an absolute nullity from be published as such for the information and twelve bushels of corn, two bushels of wheat, domestic fireside throughout these States should the beginning, and all that has since been done guidance of our merchants trading with the under it a mere usurpation.

It was well and wise to confer this power of

on in the Constitution securing to the states

Congress: because, had it been left to the atates, its efficient exercise would have been impossible. In that event any one state could norning—it would be vain to recount to such effectually continue the trade not only for itself but for all the other slave states, though never so much against their will. And why ! within the limits of any one state, in accordance with its laws cannot practically be excluded from any other state where slavery exists. And even if all the states had separately passed laws prohibiting the importation of slaves, these laws would have failed of effect for want of a naval force to capture the slavers and to guard the coasts. Such a force no state can employ in time of peace without the con-

> These acts of Congress, it is believed have with very rare and insignificant exceptions, ccomplished their purpose. For a period of nore than balf a contury there has been no erceptible addition to the number of our domestic slaves. During this period their nel-vancement in civilization has far surpassed that of any other portion of the African race The light and the blessings of t bristianity have een extended to them, and both their moral and physical condition has been greatly im-

Reopen the trade and it would be difficult to determine whether the effect would be more been defrayed out of the ordinary approprideleterious on the interests of the master or on those of the native-born slave. Of the evils of the master, the one most to be dreaded would be the introduction of wild, heathen, and ignorant harbarians among the soher, orderly, and quiet slaves, whose succestors have been on the this vested right. The supreme judicial trib-unal of the country, which is a co-ordinate to barbarize, demoralize, and exasperate the branch of the government, has sanctioned and whole mass, and produce the most deplurable

The effect upon the existing clave would, if possible, be still more deplorable. At present he is treated with kindness and humanity. He well fed, well clothed, and not overworked His condition is comparatively better than that lof the coolies which modern nations of high civilization have employed as a substitute for African slaves. Both the philanthropy and be re-opened, and what will be the effect. The enough to strengthen their hands by further ated: and this in defiance of solemn treaties to enforce their execution.

There the master, intent upon present gain extorts from the slave as much labor as his physical powers are capable of enduringknowing that, when death comes to his relief his place can be supplied at a price reduced to he lowest point by the competition of rival African slave-traders. Should this ever be the case in our country-which I do not deem possible—the present useful character of the lomestic institution, wherein those too old and too young to work are provided for with care and humanity, and those capable of labor re not overtasked, would undergo an unfortunate change. The feeling of reciprocal debetween master and slave would be converted nto mutual distrust and hostility.

But we are obliged as a Christian and mor-I nation to consider what would be the effect ipon unhappy Africa itself if we should reopen the slave trade. This would give the rade an impulse and extension which it has never had even in its palmiest days. The numerous rictims required to supply it would onvert the whole slave coast into a perfect Pandemonium, for which this country be responsible in the eyes both of God and nan. Its petty tribes would then be constantly engaged in predatory wars against each other for the purpose of seizing slaves to sup-ply the American market. All hopes of African civilization would thus be ended

an slaves shall no longer be furnished in Cuba, ad thus all the world be closed against this trade, we may then indulge a reasonable hope motive of war among the tribes will cease whenever there is no longer any demand for slaves. T resources of that fertile but miserable cour y might then be developed by the hand of industry and affold subjects for legitimate foreign and domestic commerce. In this manner ('hristianity and civilization may gradually penetrate the existing gloom.

The wisdom of the course pursued by the government toward China has been vindicated by the event. Whilst we santain a neutral position in the war waged by Great Britain and France against the Chinese empire, our late

ination of our coasts and a thorough investiga- | the interests of foreign commerce. The result | is that satisfactory treaties have been concluddiscover that any slaves have been imported ed with China by the respective minister sof into the United States except the cargo by the the United States, tirest Britain, France, and Bussia. Our "treaty, or general convention of peace' amity and commerce," with that empire was concluded at Tientsin on the 18th of June, 1868, and was ratified by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senie, on the 21st December following.

()n the 16th December, 1858, John E. Ward, a distinguished citizen of Georgia, was duly commissioned as envoy extraordinary and mininter plenipotentiary to China. He left the United States for the place of his destination on the 5th of February, 1859, bearing with him the ratified copy of this treaty, and arrived at Shanghai on the 28th of May. From thence o the year one thousand eight hundred and he proceeded to Pekin on the 16th June, but did not arrive in that city until the 27th July. According to the terms of the treaty the ratifi peared ready to hurst upon our head, and the power of Congress was confined to such States cations were to be exchanged on or before the 18th June, 1859. This was rendered impossible by reasons and events beyond his control, States or to the trade carried on abroad. Ac | not necessary to detal; but still it is due to the cordingly, we find that so early as the 22d | Chinese authorities at Shanghai to state that | they always assured him no advantage should he taken of the delay, and this pledge has been

aithfully redeemed On the arrival of Mr Ward at Pekin he requested an audience of the Emperor to present his letter of credence. This he did not obtain, in consequence of his very proper refusal to submit to the humiliating ceremonies required tended for their benefit, and by their by the eliquette of this strange people in apown laws prohibit this trade at any time they proaching their sovereign. Nevertheless the their by the etiquette of this strange people in apinterviews on this question were conducted in the most friendly spirit and with all due regard to his personal feelings and the honor of his country. When a presentation to his Majesty was found to be impossible, the letter of cred-dence was received with peculiar honors by Kweillang, "the Emperor's prime minister and the second man in the empire to the Emperor umself." The ratifications of the treaty were afterwards, on the 16th of August, exchanged In proper form at Peitsang. As the exchange by the treaty, it is deemed proper, before its publication, again to submit it to the Senate. It is but simple justice to the Chinese au hoiries to observe, that, throughout the whol transaction, they acted in good faith and in a friendly spirit towards the United

itates. It is true this has been done after their own peculiar fashion; but we ought t regard with a lenient eye the uncient customs of an empire dating back for thousands of years, so far as this may be consistent with our national honor. The conduct of our minister on the occasion has received my entire appro In order to carry out the spirit of this trea-

ty, and to give it full effect it bacame neces sary to conclude two supplemental convenpassing these laws they had violated the con- tions the one for the adjustment and satisfaction of the claims of our crizens, and the other to fix the tariff on imports and exports. prohibit Congress, in express terms, from ex- and to regulate the transit duties and trade of our mechanis with China. This duty was sa tisfactorily performed by our late minister. These conventions hear date at Shanghai on the 8th of November, 1858 Having been considered in the light of binding agreements subsidiary to the principle treaty, and to be carried into execution without delay, they do not provide for any formal ratification or ex change of ratifications by the contracting par

ies.
This was not deemed necessary by the this nese, who are already proceeding in good faith to satisfy the claims of our catizens, and, it is hoped, to carry out the other provisions of the conventions. Still, I thought it was proper to submit them to the Senate, by which they were ratified on the 3d of March, 1850. The ratified cobies, however, did not reach Shangani until after the departure of our minister to Pekin, and these conventions could not, therefore, be exchanged at the 'same time with the No doubt is entertained that they will be ratified and exchangedby the Chinese government, should this be thought advisable; but, under the circumstances presented. 1

Chinese empire. It affords me much satisfaction to inform to that all our difficulties with the republic of Paraguay have been satisfactorily adjusted. happily did not become necessary to employ the force for this purpose which Congress had placed at my command, under their joint resthe President of that republic, in a friendly spirit, acceded promptly to the just and reasonble demands of the government of the United States. Our commissioner arrived at Assumption, the capital of the republic, on the 25th of January, 1859, and left on the 17th of February, having, in three weeks abiy and successfully accomplished the objects of his mission. The treaties which he has concluded will be immedately submitted to the Senate

In the view that the employment of other than peaceful means might become necessary o obtain 'Just sacistaction from Paraguay, a strong naval force was concentrated in the waters of the La Plata to await contingencies while our commissioner ascended the river to Assumption The Navy Department is entiled to great credit for the promptness, efficiency, and economy with which this expedition was fitted out and conducted. It consisted of uneteen armed vessels, great and small, carrying 200 gans and 2,500 men, all under command of the veteran and gallant Shubrick. The entire expenses of the expedition have ation for the nayal service, except the sum of \$289,000, applied to the purchase of seven of the steamers, constituting a part of it, ander the authority of the naval appropriation act of the 3d of March last It is besteved that these steamers are worth more than their cost, and they are now usefully and netively employed

in the naval service. The appearance of so large a force, fitted out n such a prompt manner, in the far distant waers of the La Plata, and the admirable conduct of the officerr and men employed in it, have had a happy effect in favor of our constru broughout all that remote portion of the world Our ralations with the great empires of France and Russian, as well as with all other governments on the continent of Europe, unless we may except that of Spain, happily continue

to be of the most friendly character In my last annual message I presented statement of the unsatisfactory condition of our relations with Spain, and I regret to say that this has not materially improved. Without special reference to other claims, even the Cuban claims," the payment of which has been ably urged by our ministers, and in which more than a hundred of our citizens are directly interested, remain unsatisfied, notwithstanding both their justice and their amount | \$128, 535 54) had been recognized and accreained by

the Spanish government itself I again recommend that an appropriation be made "to be paid to the Spanish government for the purpose of distribution among the claimants in the Amistead In common with two of my predecase.` cessors, I entertain no doupt that this is equired by our treaty-with Spain of the 27th October, 1859. charge this obligation has been employed by the cabinet of Madrid as a reason. against the settlement of our claims.

I need not repeat the arguments which I urged in my last sonnual message in favor | of the acquisition of Cuba by fair purchase. My opinions in that message remained unchanged. I, therefore, ag un invite the serious attention of Congress to this imany reasonable prospect of success

Until a recent period there was good reason to believe that I should be able to announce to you on the prethat our difficulties w n t Britain. arising out of the Clayton On the other hand, when a market for Afri- treaty, had been finally adjusted in a manner alike honorable and satisfactory to both parties. From cause, however, which the British government had not anticipated, they have not yet completed treaty arrangements with the republics of Honduras and Nicaragua, in pursuance of the understanding between the two governments. It is, nevertheless, confidently expected that this good work will ere long be accomplished. Whilst indulging the hope that noother

subject remained which could disturb the tries, the question arising out of the the adverse claims of the parties to the Island of San Juan, under the Oregon treaty of the 15th of June, 1846, suddenly assumed inister, in obedience to his instructions, ju- a threatening prominence. In order to Miramon, but that officer repudiated the relates to the future as well as to the prediciously co-operated with the Ministers of prevent unfortunate collisions on that rethose powers in all peaceful measures to secure | mote frontier, the late Secretary of State,

to Mr. Crampton, the British minister at withdraw from it, and Miramon it Washington, communicating to him a copy of the instructions which he (Mr. Marcy) had given, on the 14th July, to Gov. Stevens, of Washi ngton territory, having a special reference to an "apprehended conflict between our citizens and the British subjects

on the Island of San Juan." To prevent this, the governor was instructed "that the officers of the territory should abstain from all acts on the disputed grounds which are calculated to provoke any conflicts, so far as it can be done without implying the concession to the authorities of Freat Britain of an exclusive right over the been an established government premises. The title ought to be settled before either party should attempt to exclude the other by torce, or exercise complete hostilities against it would have to and exclusive sovereign rights within the justifiable, and indeed necessari fairly dispute limits."

In acknowledging the receipt on the next In acknowledging the receipton the user and all president might lead to a condiister expressed his entire concurrence "in things less injurious to the U.S. the propriety of the course recommended cess became so probable that in Jan. to the governor of Washington Territory employed a reliable agent to that Mur by your [Mr. Marcy's] instructions to that officer," and stating that he had "lost no time in transmitting a copy of that document to the governor general of British North America" and had "earnestly recommended to his Excellency to take such measures as to him may appear best calulated to secure, on the part of the Brit- brace the earliest suitable opportun. ish local authorities and the inhabitants of restoring our diplomatic relations with the neighborhood of the line in question, republic. For this purpose a disting. the exercise of the same spirit of forbear ance which is inculcated by you [Mr. Marcy] on the authorities and citizens of the United last, with discretionary authority to re States.

Thus matters remained upon the faith of this arrangement until the 9th July last, entitled to such recognition, according when General Harney paid a visit to the the established practice of the U bus Island. He found upon it twenty-five American residents with their families, and also an establishment of the Hudson's having no hesitation "in pronouncing the first did not take place until after the day prescribed Bay Company for the purpose of raising erument of Juares to be the only existing ?. sheep. A short time before his arrival one ernment of the Republic. He was corda. of these residents had shot an animal befonging to the company, while trespassing upon his premises, for which, however, he ly disposition towards the United States fferd to pay twice its value; but that was happily, however, the constitutional gives efused. Soon after "the chief factor of ment has not been able to establish its por the company at Victoria, Mr. Dalles, son-inlaw of Governor Douglas, came to the Island in the British sloop of war Satellite, and threatened to take the American (Mr. Cutler; by force to Victoria, to answer for the trespass he had committed. American seized his rifle and told Mr. Ualles if any such attempt was made he would kill him on the spot. The affair then ended."

Under these circumstances, the Ameri can settlers presented a petition to the liceral, "through the U. S. inspector of enstoms. Mr. Hubbs, to place a force upon the island to protect them from the indians as well as the oppressive interferance of the authorities of the Hudson Bay Co. ! at Victoria with their rights as American sitizens." The General immediately resconded to this petition, and ordered Capt. ica, E. Pickett, 9th in. "to establish his l company on Bellevue, or St. Juan, island, in some suitable position near the harbor at the southeastern extremity." This orler was promptly obeyed, and a military post was established at the place designs. ed. The force was atterwards increased. o that by the last return the whole numser of troops then on the island amounted n the aggregate to 691 men.

Whilst I do not deem it proper on the present occasion to go further into the subect, and discuss the weight which ought to be attached to the statement of the British Colonial authorities, contesting the accuracy of the information on which the gallant General acted, it was due to him that I should thus present his own is asons been fined and imprisoned for disterior for issuing the order to Capt. Pickett From the authorities. Military contributes those it is quite clear his object was to pre- have been levied in violation of every jevent the British authorates on Vancouvet | cude of right, and the American Island from exercising jurisdiction over American residents on the island of San Juan, w. well as to protect them against

to incursions of the indians Much excitement prevailed for a time in that region, and seriousidancer of collision between the parties was apprehended memity, and it is but an act of simple jutice to the admiral on that station to state that he wisely and discreetly forebore to hearing, and even when released her commit any hostile act, but determined to refer the whole affor to his government l and await their instructions. This aspect of the matter in my opinion

demands serious attention. It would have been a great calamity for both nations had they been perceputated into acts of nostility, not on the question of title to the island, but merely concerning what should [ be its condition during the intervening peried while the two governments might be employed in settling the question to which of them it belongs. For this reason Liout Gen. Scott was despatched on the 17th of Sept. last to Washingto territory to take immediate command of the U.S. forces on the Pacific coast, should be deem this neressary. The man object of his mission ! onary arrangements between the late Sec. of State and the British Minister, and thus to preserve the peace, and prevent collision | while attending upon the sick and the de ities pending the negotiations between the two governments.

Entertaining no doubt of the validity of event. American cuttens are to be placed in a footing at least as favorable as that of l state the event has proven that this discretion could not have been intrusted to more there is no longer any good reason to appearing prehend a collision between the forces of In all the two countries during the pendency of

the existing negotiations. I regret to inform you that there has been no improvement in theaffairs of Mexico since my last annual message, and I am I their demands effective. Their testimony again obliged to ask the earnest attention Congress to the unhappy condition of remedy which, in their judgment, would that republic.

adjourned on the 17th of Feb. 1857, adopt- ition of the power of the government of the ed a constitution and provided for a popular election. This took place in the following July, and Gen. Comonfort was chosen President, almost without opposition. At The failure to dis- the same time a new tongress was chosen, whose first session commenced on the 16th of Sept. 1857. By the constitution of 1857. the Presidential term was to begin on the lst of Dec. and continue four years. On that day tien. Comonfort appeared before the assembled Congress in Mexico, took the oath to support the new Constitution. and was duly inaugurated as President .--Within a month afterwards he had been portant subject. Without a recognition of driven from the capitol, and a military re- stitutional authorities, in order to protect this polcy on their part, it will be almost | bellion had assigned the supreme power of impossible to institute negotiations with the republic to Gen. Zulongs. The constitution provided that in the absence of the President his office should devolve upon { the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, } and Gen. Commonfort having left the country, this functionary, then Juarez protional government. Before this was officially known, however, at the capitol the government of Zulonga had been recogni- antly led to the same opinion, and, in jussed by the entire diplomatic corps, inclu- tice to my countrymen who have suffered ding the minister of the U.S. as the defacto government of Mexico.

The constitutional President, nevertheless, maintained his position with firmness and was soon established with his cabinet at Vera Cruz. Meanwhile the gov-President. This assembly elected tien, of the world. But it is a question which plan under which he was chosen, and Zu- ent and the past, and which involves, di loaga was thus restored to his previous po- | rectly at least, the whole subject of our

become by his appointment, Substitute," continues with that the head of the insurgent parts In my last annual message I co

cated to Congress the circustances which the late minister of the f pended his official relations with to tral government and withdren to country. It was impossible to friendly intercourse with a gollike that at the capitol, under when ped authority wrongs were constant. mitted, but never redressed Ha power extending by the consent of the nle over the whole of Mexico, & recountry was a prey to civil war, and hoped that the success of the constitution

and report to me the actual condition prospects of the contending parties in sequence of this report, and from thorns sequence of this report, and from historication which reached me from other without favorable to the prospects of the contional cause, I felt justshed in appear a new Minister to Mexico, who right citizen of Maryland was selected, w ceeded on his mission on the win of Misnize the government of President June

on his arrival in Mexico he should the On the 7th of April following, Mr Melan presented his credentials to President than received by the authorities at Vera Crut, at they have ever since manifested the most free; over the whole republic It is supported b large majority of the people and the States. there are important parts of the country who

it can enforce no obedience. General Miramon maintains himself a: capital; and in some of the distant provide there are military governors who pay ittie: spect to the decrees of either governmen the meantime the excesses which always atupon civil war, especially in Mexico, are stantly recurring Outrages of the ward scription are committed both upon person u property There is scareely any form of inwhich has not been suffered by our cititats Mexico during the last few years We is: been nominally at peace with that republic "so far as the interests of our commerce ... our citizens who have visited the country merchants, shipmasters, or in other capacit are concerned, we might as well have been

Life has been insecure, property until terand trade impossible except at a ri-1 ; . which prudent men cannot be expected to ix. Important contracts, involving large expetures entered into by the central governo. have been sat at defiance by the local g ... ments Peaceful American residents ing their rightful possessions, have been dealy expelled the country, in denan-treaties, and by the mere force of artico-power. Even she course of justice La. 1 seen safe from control, and a recent decre Miramom permits the intervention of givement in all suits where either party is a

eig Det. Vessels of the United States have be seized without law, and a consular office who protested against such segure to sisted the lawless demand his had here perty forcibly taken away, and has i umself banushed. From a conflict of so thorny in different parts of the country tariff dutich which had been jud in one idace have been exacted over again in se

ther place. Large numbers of our citizens have in arrested and improvided without any feaof examination or any opportunity for a only obtained their liberty atter much ... lering and injury and without any hope ...... The wholesale massacreout false and his associates, without trial in Singa as well as the seizure and murder of ". sick Americans who had taken shelter the house of an American, upon the so, the United States, was communicated

Congress at its last session. Murders of a still more atrocous, too. er have been committed in the very near of Mexico, under the authority of Mexico mon's government, during the present Some of these were only worths a rear. a barbarious age, and, if they had not been clearly proven, would have seemed impor sible in a country which claims to be citil ized. Of this description was the brute. was to carry out the spirit of the precauti- massacre in April last, by order of tien Mar quez, of three American physicians, who vere setzed in the hospital at Tacubaya between the British and American author-ling of both parties, and without trial as without crime, were hurried away to speedy

execution. Little less shocking was the recent fator our title. I need scarcely add that, in any of Ormond Chase, who was shot in in Tepic on the 7th of August by order of the same Mexican general, not only without a British subjects, it being understood that I trial, but without any conjecture by his inja. Inchett's company should remain on friends of the cause of his arrest. He a the island. It is proper to observe that, represented as a young man of good char considering the distance from the scene of acter and intelligence, who had made no action, and in ignorance of what might merous friends in Tepic by the courage have transpired on the spot before the and humanity which he had displayed on General's arrival, it was necessary to leave several trying occasions, and his death was much to his discretion, and I am happy to as unexpected as it was shocking to the whole community. Other outrages might be enumerated, but these are sufficient to competent hands. Gen. Scott has recent- illustrate the wretched state of the counly returned from his mission, having suo try and the unprotected condition of the refully accomplished its objects, and persons and property of our citizens in In all these cases our Ministers have

been constant and faithful in their demands for redress, but both they and this government, which they have successively represented, have been wholly powerless to make in this respect, and in reference to the only meet the exigency, has been both uniform hat republic.

The costituent Congress of Mexico which and emphatic. "Nothing but a manifestal United States, (wrote our late minister in 1850) and of its purpose to punish these wrongs, will avail. I assure you that the universal belief here is that there is noth ing to be apprehended from the government of the United States, and that local Mexican officials can commit these out rages upon American citizens with absolute

"I hope the President" I wrote our breent minister in August last) "will feel authorized to ask from Congress the power to enter Mexico with the military forces of the United States, at the call of the con the citizens and the treaty rights of the United States. Unless such a power iconferred upon him, neither the one or the other will be respected in the existing state of marchy and disorder, and the outrageand perpetrated will never be chastised and, as I assured you in my No. 23, all ceded to form, at Guanajuato, a constitu- these events must increase until every vetige of order and government disappearfrom the country." I have been reluct

wrongs from Mexico, and who may still suffer them. I feel bound to announce this onclusion to Congress. The case presented, however, is not merely a case of individual claims, although our just claims against Mexico have reach arnment of Zuloaga was earnestly resisted | ed a very large amount. Nor is it merely in many parts of the republic, and even in the case of protection to the lives and prop good understanding between the two count the capitol, a portion of the army having erty of the few Americans who may still pronounced against it, its functions were remain in Mexico, although the life and declared terminated, and an assembly of property of every American citizen ought citizens was invited for the choice of a new to be sacredly protected in every quarter

numed it however, only to duty to Mexico as a neighboring state