

all the means which may be placed at my command by Congress, to conclude a just and honorable peace.

Of equal importance with an energetic and vigorous prosecution of the war are the means required to defray its expenses, and to uphold and maintain the public credit.

In my annual message of the 8th December last, I submitted for the consideration of Congress the propriety of imposing, as a war measure, revenue duties on some of the articles now embraced in the free list. The principal articles now exempt from duty, from which any considerable revenue could be derived, are tea and coffee. A moderate revenue duty on these articles, it is estimated, would produce annually an amount exceeding two and a half millions of dollars.

Though in a period of peace, when ample means could be derived from duties on other articles for the support of the government, it may have been deemed proper not to resort to a duty on these articles; yet, when the country is engaged in a foreign war, and all our resources are demanded to meet the unavoidable increased expenditure in maintaining our armies in the field, no sound reason is perceived why we should not avail ourselves of the revenues which may be derived from this source. The objections which have heretofore existed to the imposition of these duties were applicable to a state of peace, when they were not needed.

We are now, however, engaged in a foreign war. We need money to prosecute it, and to maintain the public honor and credit. It cannot be doubted that the patriotic people of the United States would cheerfully, and without complaint, to the payment of this additional duty, or any other that may be necessary to maintain the honor of the country, provide for the unavoidable expenses of the government, and to uphold the public credit. It is recommended that any duties which may be imposed on these articles be limited in their duration to the period of the war.

An additional annual revenue, it is estimated of between half a million and a million of dollars, could be derived from the graduation and reduction of the price of such of the public lands as have been long offered in the market at the minimum price established by the existing laws and have remained unsold. And, in addition to other reasons commending the measure to favorable consideration, it is recommended as a financial measure. The duty suggested on tea and coffee, and the graduation and reduction of the price of the public lands, would secure an additional annual revenue to the treasury of not less than three millions of dollars, and would thereby prevent the necessity of incurring a public debt annually to that amount, the interest on which must be paid semi-annually, and ultimately the debt itself, by a tax on the people.

It is a sound policy, and one which has long been approved by the government and people of the United States, never to resort to loans unless in cases of great public emergency, and then only for the smallest amount which the public necessities will permit.

The increased revenues which the measures now recommended would produce, would, moreover, enable the government to negotiate a loan, for any additional sum which may be found to be needed, with more facility, and at cheaper rates than can be done without them.

Under the injunction of the Constitution which makes it my duty "from time to time to give Congress information of the state of the Union, and to recommend to their consideration such measures as shall be judged necessary and expedient," I respectfully and earnestly invite the action of Congress on the measures herein presented for their consideration. The public good, as well as a sense of my responsibility to our common constituents, in my judgment, imperiously demand that I should present them for your enlightened consideration, and invoke favorable action upon them before the close of your present session.

JAMES K. POLK.
Washington, Feb. 13, 1847.

The Taylor Crusade.

All the wars of the administration, national, partisan, individual, have been unprofitable, but none so disastrous as its its hostilities upon the hero of three wars—the soldier whose every upward step has been by a brevet or acknowledged superiority—who never fought a battle but against overwhelming odds, and never left the field but as a victor. When the administration offered him up as a sacrifice at the Rio Grande, he, from the thistle danger, plucked the flower safety; and the cries of the administration against him for not having done that for which Gaines was disgraced—made a call upon the militia—were lost in the shouts that hailed the victories of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. Every obstruction was subsequently thrown in his way; but all were, by his genius, made to subserv the glory of his country and his own; and the subjection of impossibilities to his iron will at Monterey, the achievement of that which even now startles belief, and which leaves the loftiest military triumph of the age behind it—crowned a fame beyond the reach of petty envy. The attacks made by the administration upon that noble achievement, have more intently directed public admiration to the genius, energy, heroism, and humanity which characterized it. Mr. Polk has gone beyond his depth in his hostilities against the gallant Taylor; he has compromised himself with the people, and with history. He is branded as the friend of Santa Anna and the foe of Taylor; as the patron of the Mexican, the calumniator of the American, arms. His effort to strew the pathway of his ginger-bread Lieutenant General with wreaths torn from the brow of the real hero of the war, has excited against him and his pet Napoleon of the palace boudoir, feelings that will last while lasts the memory of the war and its triumphs.—*North American.*

MEXICO.—The National Intelligencer has received full files of Mexican papers, to Jan. 15. They are filled with accounts of voluntary contributions to support the expenses of the war, and speak of the promises before them at present as bright. They by no means seem anxious enough for peace to sacrifice for it honor or territory.

Thos. McCrea, son of Charles R. McCrea, was drowned in the Juniata river, at Hollidaysburg, on Monday, 14th inst. He was about ten years of age.

THE JOURNAL.



Huntingdon, Wednesday, February 24, 1847.

TAVERN KEEPERS who desire to publish their applications for license in the Journal, should hand them in immediately.

WOOD wanted at this office immediately. Subscribers who pay in this article, will please fork it over.

The recent message of the President in relation to the organization of the new military force, prosecution of the war, &c., will be found in this paper.

Thanks to Hon. A. Ramsey and Hon. John Blanchard, for Congressional documents. Also, to D. Blair, Esq., for favors from Harrisburg.

Conferee Meeting.

The Whig Conferees from Huntingdon, Blair and Bedford counties, appointed to select a Senatorial delegate, to represent this Senatorial District in the 9th of March Convention, met at Hollidaysburg on Friday last, and appointed Hon. JOHN KER said delegate. We have not yet received the proceedings, but learn from one of the conferees, that the delegate was instructed to support Gen. Irvin for Governor, and J. W. Patton, Esq., for Canal Commissioner.

Opening of the Canals.

The Harrisburg Pa. Intelligencer says: "We have made inquiry at the proper quarters, and learn that the Canal Commissioners are making every exertion to open the Canals by the first of March, and that if no freshets should occur to produce breaches, they are confident that the several lines will be in order for transportation from the first to the 10th of March."

THE LICENSE QUESTION.—The Chairman of the Committee on Vice and Immorality, has reported a bill extending the law of last session, giving the people the right to decide by ballot whether license to sell liquor shall be granted or not, to the following counties, viz: Philadelphia city and county, Montgomery, Westmoreland, Armstrong, Bedford, Dauphin, Northumberland, Cumberland, Lycoming, HUNTINGDON, Franklin, Perry, York, Clarion, Wayne, Potter, Bucks, Blair and Adams.

The editor of the Washington Union, the Organ of Mr. Polk, has been expelled from the privilege of coming upon the floor of the U. S. Senate, by a vote of 27 to 21—for publishing a gross libel upon a majority of that body, in charging them with treachery to their country. The motion to expel was made by Mr. Yulee, a Locofoco Senator.

LICENSE IN WARREN.—A vote on the question of "license" or "no license," in Warren county, was taken on Tuesday, the 9th inst., and as far as heard from, the townships, with one exception, have voted for "no license," by large majorities.

The following companies have been accepted by the President, from Pennsylvania, to form part of the ten regiments, and will be immediately mustered into service:

Captain Butler's Dragoons,
" Biddle's Infantry, } from Philadelphia.
" Syberg's do }
" Bernard's do }
" Hunter's, from Carlisle,
" Guthrie's, from Pittsburg,
" Irwin's, from Lewistown,
" More's, from Bedford and Franklin.

THE GAINES CASE.—The Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States have before them the Gaines case, known as involving a large amount of money. The counsel on the one side are Mr. Brent, of Baltimore, and Mr. May, of Washington city; and upon the other side, Mr. Johnston, of Maryland, and General Jones, of Washington.

Westmoreland county has appointed one Irvin and three Cooper delegates to the State Convention. Washington county, one Cooper and two Irvin delegates.

Hon. Jos. R. Underwood, (Whig) has been elected U. S. Senator from Kentucky for six years.

THE MARKETS.—Flour and Grain have declined a little in price during last week. At the close of the week, in Philadelphia, Flour sold at \$6 25 per bbl. Wheat at \$1.25 a 1.37 per bushel. Rye 85 cts. Corn, 88 a 95 cts. Oats, 44 cts. There is little disposition to operate until after the arrival of the next steamer.

GEN. IRVIN'S VOTES.

The false charge made against Gen. Irvin, of having voted, while in Congress, to tax Tea and Coffee, has been most effectually nailed to the counter by the editor of the Daily Intelligencer, and a correspondent of the Penn'a. Telegraph. They show from the Journals of Congress and also from the Congressional Globe, that the charge is just what we pronounced it last week—a base, unmitigated FALSEHOOD.

The object of the Locofoco press in making a false attack upon Gen. Irvin at this time, is too manifest not to be perfectly understood by all. They are alarmed at the sure prospect of his nomination by the 9th of March Convention—well knowing that the moment Gen. IRVIN is made the candidate of the Whig party of Pennsylvania, the doom of Locofocoism and Free Trade is sealed in the State. But the slanders of public plunderers invariably have a contrary effect upon the minds of the people, to that which is intended; and therefore the abuse and calumny which is now being poured out upon Gen. Irvin, by the Treasury pap suckers about Harrisburg, will only increase the enthusiasm with which the people, in all parts of the Commonwealth, hail the name of the "Popular Congressman"—and render his nomination by the Convention doubly sure. So lay on, "Old Clo'" of the Harrisburg Union; the people are vastly obliged to you for lending your aid to increase the overwhelming majority by which they are determined to elect their favorite, Gen. Irvin, in October next.

Relief For Ireland.

There was an immense meeting held in New Orleans on the 4th inst., to procure aid for suffering Ireland. The Governor of the State presided, and on his right hand sat Henry Clay, who, at the particular request of the meeting, rose and made a most eloquent and feeling appeal in behalf of the sufferers—urging his hearers to efficient action in their behalf.

In Philadelphia a large meeting, with the same object in view, was recently held; and in that city and elsewhere, the good work of collecting means in aid of our transatlantic brethren, is now going on with commendable spirit. The reward of those engaged in procuring food for the starving, is sure. The approving smile of Heaven will rest upon their generous exertions. We learn with pleasure that some of our humane and generous citizens have been sending on liberal contributions to this object. Let all who can afford it, "go and do likewise." In connection with this subject, we cannot refrain from giving the following piece of poetry, taken from an English paper:

THE IRISH STARVING FATHER'S PRAYER.
Give us this day our daily bread:
Father! in mercy hear our prayer;
All hope of human aid has fled—
We sink in deep despair.
Our little ones scream out with pain,
And clamor to be fed:
Father! their cries to us are vain!—
Give us our daily bread.
O'er the gaunt infant at the breast,
The mother bows her head;
The fount is dry, in vain 'tis prest;
Give us our daily bread.
Our eldest born, with hollow eye,
And eager stealthy tread,
Would TAKE the food we cannot buy—
Give us our daily bread.
We must not beg, we shall not steal,
Though stores before us spread;
But we will work with earnest zeal;
Give us our daily bread.
Famine hath laid her withering hand
Upon each little head;
Oh Christ! is this a Christian land!
Give us our daily bread.
Thy will be done: Father receive
Our souls, when we are dead:
In Heaven we shall not pine and grieve—
Or want our daily bread.

The Lancaster County Farmer devoted a column last week to the License Question. The editor is opposed to all legislation on the subject, and argues that giving the people a vote on the question, would be an arbitrary way of stopping the sale of liquors. We clip the following from his article:

"It is notorious, that drunkards, and even 'occasional' drinkers, abominate those who are known to belong to temperance associations. A mere prejudice, of course—but sometimes excited by the contempt with which some stupid temperance men regard their unfortunate brethren; being too ignorant to appreciate the generous and noble qualities which in nine cases out of ten sink the drunkard to the grave!"

Is it not strange that some people are so intolerably "ignorant" and "stupid," as not to be able to "appreciate" the "generous" and "noble qualities" which impel a man to commit suicide? It would seem that the editor of the Farmer thinks so.

BENTON OUTRANKED.

In the course of his recent speech in the Senate, in explanation of his course and his plan of Lieutenant General, Mr. Benton, for the purpose of showing his fitness to fill the office of Lieutenant-General is reported to have said:

"Even in the Regular Army in 1813, I was Lieut. Colonel, while most of the present Generals were company officers, and only one of them of the rank of Colonel!"

And further—
"In 1812 I was the military superior of every General now in the service, and had a right to have commanded the whole of them, if we had chanced to serve together. I was then Colonel in the service of the United States, commissioned by President Madison, under a law of Congress, and led a regiment of my own raising, from Tennessee, to the lower Mississippi, &c. &c."

Upon these statements a writer in the New York Courier takes issue, and very clearly demonstrates first, that in 1813, he was Lieut. Colonel of one of fourteen regiments raised for one year only, and that his rank dates from the 18th July, 1813. As the regiments were raised for only one year, Col. Benton's command of course passed from him at the expiration of that period. But the assertion that he was Lieutenant Colonel while most of the present Generals were only company officers, meets a still stronger refutation in the following extract from the list of regular officers who held rank as follows, in 1813:

Hugh Brady, Col. 22d Reg. Inf., 6th July, 1812.
E. P. Gaines, Col. 25th Reg. Inf., 12th March, '13.
Winfield Scott, Col. 2d Reg. Art., 12th "
W. K. Armstrong, Lieut. Col. 31st July, 1812.
G. Gibson, Lt. Col. 5th Reg. Inf., 15th Aug. 1813.
M. Arbuckle, Maj. 3d Reg. Inf., 15th Aug. 1812.
T. S. Jessup, Maj., 19th Inf., 6th April, 1813.
J. E. Wool, Maj., 29th Inf., 13th April, 1813.

Most of these are 'present Generals,' and act according to the rules and regulations of the regular army, had a Lieutenant Colonel of the regular arm of service been called to act with a Lieutenant Col. of Volunteers, his commission as a regular would entitle him to take precedence of the latter, no matter what the dates of their respective commissions may be.

This is rather hard upon Col. Benton, and as the facts to refute are drawn from official sources, we do not see that the Senator and disappointed Lieutenant-General can do any thing else than to beat a retreat, a thing to which Colonels and Generals have generally a great dislike.

Hon. John Quincy Adams.

The return of this venerable statesman to his seat in Congress, is thus described by the National Intelligencer:

"A beautiful incident occurred in the House of Representatives on Saturday. While Mr. Hunt, of New York, was addressing the Committee of the Whole in support of the Wilmot Proviso (so-called), the venerable figure of ex-President Adams presented himself at the central door of the hall. All eyes were quickly attracted to the spot; Mr. Hunt suspended his speech; Mr. Mosely, of New York, and Mr. Holmes, of South Carolina, conducted Mr. Adams to his former seat (temporarily occupied by Mr. Andrew Johnston, of Tennessee, who instantly relinquished the right which he had to it under a late rule of the House, as he had promised to do when he selected it). The members of the House rose at their seats, and numbers of them approached Mr. Adams to congratulate him on his recovery and restoration to the hall.

"Mr. Adams, who seemed a good deal subdued by this reception, expressed his thanks, but in so low a voice that little of what he said could be heard at any distance from that quarter of the hall. All that we were able to catch of these well-known tones was, that Mr. A. was deeply sensible of the kindness of the House in thus receiving him, and, but for the feebleness of his voice, would have more fully expressed his gratitude to gentlemen of all parties for their kind congratulations. As it was, he hoped they would excuse him.

"Mr. Hunt, in resuming, noticed the incident, and expressed his own deep-felt gratification at Mr. Adams' return to his wonted place."

The Philadelphia Gleaner says that the demand for vessels was never greater in Philadelphia than at the present time. Every ship, brig or barque in port is engaged, and we are informed that ten vessels from Boston are about to visit this port for the purpose of carrying bread-stuffs to Europe.

COMMUNICATION.—MR. CLARK:—I understand that Mr. Ross, the new Supervisor on the Canal, is not making many removals, only here and there. Where he finds a good foreman or lock-keeper, he is sure to get a notice from somebody to leave. This is all right, when qualification is no longer a standard to judge men by. You shall hear from me again when the list is complete.

A LOOKER ON.

LETTER FROM HARRISBURG,

Correspondence of the Huntingdon Journal.
HARRISBURG, Feb. 20, 1846.

JAMES CLARK, ESQ.—SIR:—The week which has just ended, has not been a very eventful one in and about the capitol of Pennsylvania, and the letter-writer has not, therefore, the wherewith to excite the interest and astound the wisdom of the newspaper reading public.

In the early part of the week several divorce cases were on the tapis in both branches of the Legislature. These do not create general interest, although to the parties, and often to the members of the Legislature, they are mostly of deep concern.

The Governor sent a message to the Legislature on Tuesday, announcing the fact that the State Treasurer had not available funds enough at his disposal to meet the interest which became due on the 1st inst., and urged the immediate passage of a law authorizing the State Treasurer to make a temporary loan of two hundred thousand dollars, to meet the deficit. This fact is a pretty comment on the vaunting reports of the late State Treasurer, James Ross Snowden, to the effect that the interest could be met by "anticipating the revenue," without legislative action, and that he had, consequently, no legislative action to suggest. And what is a little singular in this matter, is the fact that the chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means of the House, Charles B. Trego, sustained this contemptible, perille gasconading of James Ross Snowden.

Mr. Evans, one of the members from Chester county, urged upon the House the necessity of compelling the State Treasurer to give some satisfactory intelligence on the subject of the interest, in order that the requisite steps to guard against a deficit, might be taken.

But the chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means thought the precaution unnecessary. Out of deference to that gentleman, supposing him to be familiar with the whole matter, the measure projected by Mr. Evans was suffered to fall. Mr. E. from similar feelings and considerations, did not urge the matter, although he believed that the State Treasurer was deceiving, either wittingly or unwittingly, the Legislature on the subject. The facts announced in the Governor's message prove that Mr. Evans was right; and those who opposed him wrong. It exhibits, too, the financial skill of the late State Treasurer, and the great want of judgment in the chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, in relying upon that humbug functionary's statements.

A bill was immediately passed by both houses, authorizing the State Treasurer to borrow on temporary loan, on the credit of the State's revenue, two hundred thousand dollars, to supply the deficit in the Treasury. It is thought there will be no difficulty in procuring the money.

On Monday the Governor sent back to the Senate, with his veto, the bill incorporating the Lancaster City Steam Cotton Mills. On Saturday the Senate passed the bill over the Governor's head by a vote of 20 yeas to 7 nays.

The appropriation bill was up during the week, on second reading. It passed along smoothly until the appropriation to pay the judges salaries was reached. The bill appropriates the same amounts respectively as were paid last year; which is, I believe, in conformity with the law of 1843. By a law of 1839, all the judges were allowed two thousand dollars per annum. By that of 1843, they were again reduced to sixteen hundred dollars per annum. The constitution says that judges' salaries shall not be reduced during the continuance of their term of office. In consequence of this, the salaries of the president judges appointed between '39 and '43, cannot be effected by the law of the latter year, so that they get four hundred dollars more than those appointed before and since. In addition to which, I believe, the Supreme Court has decided the law of 1843 unconstitutional. In making the appropriation to pay the judges, the Legislature of last winter adhered to the law of 1843, as the bill now before the Legislature proposes to do. Mr. Knox and some other lawyers, contended that this was an outrage upon the constitution and the laws. But the amendments to change the section were voted down, and it was passed by a vote of 56 yeas to 30 nays. An appropriation of three thousand dollars was incorporated into the bill, in the shape of an amendment, for the destitute families of the volunteers who have gone to the wars. An amendment was also proposed, and carried, appropriating twelve thousand dollars to defray the expenses of the militia system. A great humbug; and it was carried solely through the influence of the military men in the House. As thus amended, the bill passed the House to-day without opposition.

The supplement to the Pennsylvania Railroad passed the House to-day by a vote of 47 yeas to 37 nays. The bill, as it passed, allows all municipal corporations in the counties of Philadelphia and Allegheny, the city corporations inclusive, to subscribe to the stock of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

The Governor returned to the House to-day the bill divorcing Eliza A. Whale with his veto. This veto is one of the weakest of Gov. Shunk's productions. He says in the message that he had no evidence before him, and could not, therefore determine as to its merits; and yet, he takes it upon himself to use the veto force against the bill. Is this not one of the most glaring pieces of presumption that any man was guilty of? The propriety of exercising the veto power, even in matters of public interest, has ever been questioned by a large portion of intelligent and patriotic citizens of the country; and its exercise in local and private matters always reprobated by the whole people. Notwithstanding these facts, our modest Governor uses this franchise of his office, in this extraordinary manner, without even evidence to show that he is using it in a proper case. This is the most barefaced abuse of this power that I have witnessed for some time. The judiciary committees of both Houses had examined this case, and approved it. The Houses respectively sanctioned this approval. The committees and both Houses had all the evidence before them, and determined to grant the divorce; but Gov. Shunk knows more about the case than all, although he has no evidence on the subject. Wise man, that thou art!

The House passed four divorce bills this morning, and refused, for the present, to pass two others. The cases acted upon, were hard ones, and I think fully justifiable.

The Governor to-day, sent into the Senate the nomination of J. Pringle Jones, as President Judge of the Berks district, in the room of Judge Banks.

Sergeant Reynolds, a non-commissioned officer of the United States Service, who was in the battles of the 8th and 9th of May, at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, d'el in this place on Thursday. He was buried with the honors of war, and the members of both Houses of the Legislature attended the funeral in a body.

Daniel Toy, a resident of this place, was drowned in the Susquehanna about noon to-day. He, in company with two others, was out in a boat; the boat struck a large rock and upset. The party landed safely on the rock, but two of them undertook to swim across. The first succeeded; the latter, Toy, who was somewhat intoxicated, sank, and up to this time, has not been found.

Yours, &c., SPY.

CONGRESS.

THE debate on the Three Million Bill—which provides for giving the President that amount of money to enable him to purchase a peace with Mexico—terminated in the House on Monday last, and the House proceeded to vote on the several amendments proposed. Mr. Hamlin moved to amend the bill by adding the "Wilmot Proviso," which provides that slavery shall be forever excluded from such territory as may fall to the United States, by virtue of the proposed negotiations. The amendment was agreed to by a vote of 105 to 77—the members from the free States generally voting for the Proviso, and those from the Slave States against it. The Bill, as amended, was then passed finally by a vote of 115 yeas to 106 nays. Seventeen Locofocos from the North voted with the South against this Proviso. Messrs. C. J. Ingersoll, Black, Erdman, Brodhead and McLean, of Pa., are among the number.

The debate on the bill is still going on in the Senate, and a number of able speeches have already been delivered. On the 15th inst. Mr. Webster offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the war now existing with Mexico ought not to be prosecuted for the acquisition of territory to form new States to be added to the Union.

Resolved, That it ought to be signified to the Government of Mexico that the Government of the United States does not desire to dismember the Republic of Mexico, and is ready to treat with the Government of that Republic for peace, for a liberal adjustment of boundaries, and for just indemnities due by either Government to the citizens of the other.

Mr. Webster is expected to make a great speech in favor of the adoption of these resolutions, and the Baltimore American thinks they may pass the Senate. We hope so.

On Friday last, Mr. Calhoun made some interesting remarks in relation to Wilmot's proviso, predicting the most fearful consequences to the Union should its principles be carried out, and concluded by offering a series of resolutions of the following import:

First, That the territories belonging to the U. S. are the joint and common property of the States.

Second, That Congress as the agent of all the States, has no right to make any law by which they shall be deprived of this full and equal right to any territory acquired, or to be acquired.

Third, That any law which would deprive the citizens of any State from emigrating with their property into any territory of the United States, would be in derogation of their perfect equality, and a violation of the constitution, and tend to subvert the Union.

Fourth, That the imposition of any condition upon a State, in order for its admission into the Union, other than that its constitution shall be republican, would be in direct violation of the constitution, and conflict with the principles upon which our system rests.

Mr. Calhoun asked that these resolutions should be printed, which was agreed to. He also hoped that when taken up, Senators would be prepared to vote upon them; it was high time that the South should know where they stood.

Mr. Benton pronounced the resolutions a "string of abstractions," and was opposed to throwing fire-brands into Congress to obstruct the regular business.