



VOL. 1 CHARLESTOWN, JEFFERSON COUNTY, FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 27, 1844. NO. 24.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The subjoined Message of the President to both Houses of Congress, gives a faithful abstract of the relations at present existing between our Government and that of Mexico.

General Intelligence.

Nolle Prosequi in the case of James L. Hawkins, late Cashier of the Franklin Bank. It may be remembered that James L. Hawkins, the former Cashier of the Franklin Bank of this city, was in 1840 detected in a succession of fraudulent abstracts of large amounts from the bank under various devices and schemes, which he had concealed through a period of nearly ten years from the knowledge of a confiding board of directors, until these peculations amounted in the gross to about \$100,000, or as charged in the bill found by the grand jury, \$100,683 78.

A PRIZE OF COOL RASCALTY.—One day last week, two respectable looking persons went into the North River Bank in New York, the Morning News says, and asked for a blank check, stepped to a desk, where one of them filled it up to the other's order. The latter having endorsed it, presented it for payment to the first Teller. That officer not recognizing his face, inquired, "This your check, sir?" He answered, "No—this gentleman's, (naming his companion) my companion, but he has the honor of my name."

LOVE AND CONFLAGRATION.—Not long since, a pair of lovers at Grindonmire were left together, the family having retired to rest. Two or three hours afterwards the father of the young woman awoke, and perceiving a smell of fire, went down stairs, where he found his daughter and the young man sitting before the fire, apparently asleep, but enveloped in flames. How the accident occurred is unknown, but it is supposed that the parties having been overtaken by the drowsy god, a spark flew on the cotton gown of the female, and set it on fire. The young man was considerably injured.

HEAVY ROBBERY.—Mr. James B. Falsom's dry goods store, in the vicinity of New York, was entered by burglars on the night of the 18th inst., and robbed of \$16,500 in gold and bank notes, and a quantity of goods. He offers a reward of \$1500 for the detection of the thieves and the recovery of the money.

ROBBERIES AT CUMBERLAND, MD.—The stores of Messrs. E. A. Claiborn and J. L. Richardson, of Cumberland, were, on the night of Wednesday of last week, entered by some daring burglars, who robbed the drawers, &c., of all the money found therein, and carried off some few articles of value.

U. S. LAND SALES IN OHIO.—It is stated that the alternate sections of land held by the U. States, in the vicinity of the Miami Extension Canal, will be offered for sale at Upper Sandusky, on the 6th of January, 1845. The minimum price is 24 per acre.

LOOK OUT.—A late English paper says that counterfeit sovereigns, made of a low standard, have been manufactured for the express purpose of circulation in the United States. It is said that the fraud could only have been detected at the Mint.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE. The subjoined Message of the President to both Houses of Congress, gives a faithful abstract of the relations at present existing between our Government and that of Mexico.

TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: I transmit herewith copies of despatches received from our Minister at Mexico, since the commencement of your present session, which claim your claim and deliberate consideration. The extraordinary and highly offensive language which the Mexican Government has thought proper to employ in reply to the remonstrance of the Executive, through Mr. Shannon, against the renewal of the war with Texas while the question of annexation was pending before Congress and the People, and also, the proposed manner of conducting that war, will not fail to arrest your attention.

Such remonstrances, urged in no unfriendly spirit to the President, were called for by considerations of an imperative character, having relation as well to the peace of this country and honor of the Government, as to the cause of humanity and civilization. Texas had entered into the Treaty of Annexation upon the invitations of the Executive; and when, for that act, she was threatened with a renewal of the war on the part of Mexico, she naturally looked to this Government to interpose its efforts to ward off the threatened blow.

THE BLOODY AND INHUMAN MURDER OF FANIN and his compatriots, equalled only in savage barbarity by the usages of the untutored Indian tribes, proved how little confidence could be placed on the most solemn stipulations of her Generals, while the fate of others who became her captives in war, many of whom, no longer able to sustain the fatigues and privations of long journeys, were shot down by the way, while their companions who survived, were subjected to sufferings even more painful than death—had left an indelible stain on the page of civilization.

STILL FURTHER TO MANIFEST HER UNFRIENDLY FEELINGS towards the United States, she has issued decrees expelling from some of her provinces American citizens engaged in the peaceful pursuits of life, and denied to those of our citizens prosecuting the whole commerce on the north-west coast of the Pacific, the privileges which have, through all time, heretofore been accorded to them, of exchanging goods of a small amount in value at her ports in California for supplies indispensable to their health and comfort.

NOT WILL IT ESCAPE THE OBSERVATION OF CONGRESS, that in conducting a correspondence with the Minister of the United States, who cannot, and does not, know any distinction between the geographical sections of the United States, charges wholly unfounded are made against particular States, and an appeal to others for aid and protection against supposed wrongs. In this same connection, sectional prejudices are attempted to be excited, and the hazardous and unpardonable effort, is made to foment divisions among the States of the Union, thereby to embitter their peace.

THE SUBJECT OF ANNEXATION ADDRESSES ITSELF most prominently to every portion of the Union. The Executive would have been un mindful of its highest obligations, if it could have adopted a course of policy dictated by sectional interests and local feelings. On the contrary, it was because the question was neither local nor sectional, but made its appeal to the interests of the whole Union, and of every State in the Union, that the negotiation, and finally the Treaty of Annexation was entered into; and it has afforded me no ordinary pleasure to perceive that, so far as demonstrations have been made upon it by the People, they have proceeded from all portions of the Union.

MEXICO MAY SEEK TO EXCITE DIVISIONS AMONGST US, by uttering unjust denunciations against particular States, but when she comes to know that the invitations addressed to our fellow-citizens by Spain, and afterwards by herself to settle Texas, were accepted by emigrants from all the States; and when, in addition to this, she refreshes her recollection with the fact, that the first effort which was made to acquire Texas was during the administration of a distinguished citizen from an Eastern State, which was afterwards renewed under the auspices of a President from the Southwest, she will awake to a knowledge of the futility of her present purpose of sowing dissensions among us, or producing distraction in our Councils by attacks either on particular States, or on persons who are now in the retirement of private life.

THE appeal which she now makes to eminent citizens by name, can she hope to excite us for having ascribed to them as well as to others, a design, as she pretends now, for the first time revealed, of having originated negotiations to despoil her, by duplicity and falsehood, of a portion of her territory? The opinion then, as now, prevailed with the Executive, that the annexation of Texas to the Union was a matter of vast importance.

WHILE TEXAS WAS A DEPENDENCY OF MEXICO, the United States opened negotiations with the latter power for the cession of her then acknowledged territory; and now that Texas is independent of Mexico, and has maintained a separate existence for nine years,—during which time she has been received into the family of nations, and is represented by accredited ambassadors at many of the principal Courts of Europe—and when it has become obvious to the whole world that she is forever lost to Mexico, the United States is charged with deception and falsehood in all relating to the past, and condemnatory accusations are made against States which have had no special agency in the matter, because the Executive of the whole Union has negotiated with Texas, and independent of the interests of both countries.

AFTER NINE YEARS OF UNAVAILING WAR, Mexico now announces her intention, through her Secretary of Foreign Affairs, never to consent to the independence of Texas, or to abandon the effort to reconquer that republic. She thus announces a perpetual claim, which at the end of a century will furnish her as plausible a ground for discontent against any nation, which at the end of that time may enter into a Treaty with Texas, as she possesses at this moment against the States.

A COURSE OF CONDUCT such as has been described, on the part of Mexico, in violation of all friendly feeling, and of the courtesy, which should characterize the intercourse between the Nations of the Earth, might well justify the United States in a resort to any measure to vindicate their national honor; but actuated by a sincere desire to preserve the general peace, and in view of the present condition of Mexico, the Executive resting upon its integrity, and not fearing but that the judgment of the world will duly appreciate its motives, abstains from recommending to Congress a resort to measures of redress, and contents itself with re-urging upon that body prompt and immediate action on the subject of Annexation. By adopting that measure, the United States will be in the exercise of undoubted right; and if Mexico, not regarding that forbearance, shall aggravate the injuries of her conduct by a destruction of war against them, upon her head will rest the responsibility.

BARBAROUS.—One of the very coolest butcheries on record occurred a couple of weeks since, at Evansville, (Ark.) Two inoffensive Indians were sitting quietly in a grocery, where they were discovered by two Cherokees, named Ellis West and Jim Daniels, who entered the grocery, drew their knives, and without a word being spoken butchered both the Indians.

A DRUNKEN HUSBAND AND ITS EFFECTS.—On Sabbath morning, the 8th inst., Mrs. Lydia Vann, daughter of Mr. Barnett Sibley, in the township of Hardwick, Warren county, (N. J.) put an end to her life by means of a rope. She was found by her father soon after the fatal deed was perpetrated. No suspicions had been entertained of her designs. The cause is supposed to have been the cruel treatment of a drunken husband. She has left behind three infant children.

NOVEL MARRIAGE.—Yesterday afternoon toward nightfall, says the Philadelphia Sun of Saturday, while a marriage—tiding a wheelbarrow, in Pine street near Sixth, he was accosted by a female with whom he had a slight acquaintance, and a few moments passed in conversation between them. At length she caught hold of his apron, and he followed her, (at first rather reluctantly) to an Alderman's office in the neighborhood. Having arrived at the office, she told the Alderman that she wished to marry said man, and the latter consenting, the couple were soon made one.

COLD STARCH FOR LINEN.—There is economy in stiffening the collars and wristbands of shirts with unboiled starch. Take as much of the best raw starch as will fill half a common tumbler, or a half pint cup. Fill it nearly up with clear cold water, mix it well with a spoon, pressing out all the lumps, till you have it thoroughly dissolved. Next add a teaspoonful of salt, to prevent its sticking. Then pour it into a broad earthen pan, and add gradually a pint of clear cold water, and stir and mix it well. Do not boil.

THE SHIRTS HAVING BEEN WASHED AND DRIED, dip the wristbands into this starch, and then squeeze it out. Between each dipping stir it from the bottom with a spoon. Then sprinkle the shirts, and fold or roll them up with the collars and wristbands folded evenly, inside. They will be ready to iron in an hour.

CONSEQUENCES OF ADVERTISING.—The Boston Journal of the 11th inst., relates the following consequences of advertising: "Geo. W. Warren inserted an advertisement in our paper of Saturday, stating that he was about to dispose of his large stock of goods at very reduced prices; and his customers ever since—flooded—inundated with the enterprising proprietor and all his clerks, are actually exhausted with their continual labors in waiting upon their visitors. Indeed yesterday after about one hundred and fifty ladies were arranged along his counters, busily employed in examining and buying goods, he found himself under the necessity of closing the doors for a time, and preventing others from attempting to enter."

THE LYNN SHOEMAKERS.—The town of Lynn, Mass., gave at the Presidential election a majority of 800 votes for James K. Polk. What's the price of French boots.

Poetry.

From the New World. THE SLEEPING MAIDEN.

They that breathe pure air, that feel that know Things wrapt from us?—Hemans. Dead! dost thou tell me? Nay; she doth but sleep, Like sweetest mourners whom the night o'erakes; Or like the hushed and calmly slumbering deep, When from its bosom not a number breaks, To wake the night!

Dead! And she, whose soaring spirit—freed From the dim cloths and soiling mists of time, In the pangs that cause the heart to bleed, Wings, 'mid the radiance of its native clime, Its tireless flight!

Is it to die, to feel the conflicts cease To die, to waste the secret temple of the heart? To fold our pinions in a land of peace? Where earth's dark shadows have no more a part, To wake at last!

Is it to die, to breathe a holy air, Which fills the soul with bliss unknown before— To bask in light the spirit could not bear While drooping, faded, from this mortal shore, Its lingerer yet!

Then is she dead!—and it for her we'll grieve For grief great heavy at her youthful height, And may a shadow o'er her spirit fall, And slakes of gloom that would not thence depart, Around her met!

SELECTED FOR THE "SPIRIT OF JEFFERSON." On the Immortality of the Soul, by the Light of Nature.

Destined his future course sublime, Though nobler, lighter, course to run, With him the fatal end of Time In both Eternity begun.

MISCELLANEOUS. A NIGHT ON THE NILE.—These evenings on the Nile are the most beautiful I have ever enjoyed.

Importance of Religion to Woman. Religion is indeed a woman's panoply, and no one who wishes her happiness, would divest her of it; no one who appreciates her virtues would weaken her best security.

THE POOR.—There should be more sympathy for the poor. It is unfair as well as unsophisticated to stigmatize every one who bows to the pressure of pecuniary embarrassment as the architect of his own misery.

A BEAUTIFUL SENTIMENT.—Prayer is the peace of our spirit, the stillness of our thoughts, the evenness of the recollection, the state of meditation, a rest of our care, and the calm of our temper.

PURITY OF HEART, is of all virtues the most fortunate. A Greek maid being asked what fortune she could bring her husband, answered, "I will bring him what is more valuable than any treasure—a heart unspotted, and virtue without a stain, which is all that descended to me from my parents."

THE TRUANT HUSBAND.

"The painful vigil may I never know, That anxious watches o'er a wandering hour." (Mrs. TROTT.)

It was midnight, and she sat leaning her pale cheek on her hand, counting the dull ticking at the French clock, that stood on the marble chimney piece, and ever and anon lifting her weary eye to the dial to mark the lapse of another hour. It was past midnight, and yet he returned not! She rose, and taking up her lamp, whose pale rays alone illuminated the solitary chamber, proceeded with a noiseless step to a small inner apartment. The curtains of this little bed were drawn aside, and the young mother gazed upon her sleeping child!

THE MECHANIC.—The beautiful sentence subjoined is from the "Carpenter of Rouen," a popular play.—"The mechanic, sir, is one of God's noblemen. What have mechanics not done? Have they not opened the secret chambers of the mighty deep, and extracted its treasures, and made the raging billows their highway, on which they ride as on a tame steed? Are not the elements of fire and water chained to the crank, and at the mechanic's bidding, compelled to turn it?"

WHAT SAY YOU, BOYS?—The evenings are now nearly as long as they will be during the cold season; suppose you spend two hours of each in some useful study. This would make fourteen hours per week, that would make sixty hours per month, and three hundred hours by the first of April. Think of it. Lay out a system of studies, and pursue it faithfully, and if you do not know more, and are not wiser, and consequently better fitted for the practical duties of life, we shall be exceedingly disappointed. These two hours per diem will not at all encroach upon the time necessary to read the newspaper. The study of any of the sciences will, in fact, give increased zeal for the lighter and more practical contents which fills the columns of a well-conducted newspaper.

THE TRUANT HUSBAND continued. No reproaches met the truant husband, none—save those she could not spare him in her heavy eyes, and faded cheek—yet those spoke to his heart.

THE TRUANT HUSBAND continued. And all was well, for from that hour Charles Danvers became an altered man. Had his wife met him with frowns and sullen tears, he had become a hardened libertine; but her affectionate caresses, the joy that danced in her sunken eye, the hectic flush that lit up her pallid cheeks as she approached, were arguments he could not withstand.

THE TRUANT HUSBAND continued. Ten years have passed since that solitary midnight, when the young matron bent in tears over her sleeping boy. Behold her now! still in the pride of womanhood, surrounded by their cherub faces, who are listening ere they go to rest to her sweet voice, as it pours forth to the accompaniment of her harp an evening song of joy and melody; while a manly form, bending over the mat, seeks to hide the tear of happiness and triumph beneath the dark blue Libyan hilt, while his beams fall upon the Arabian summits as on a prism, clothing them with the hues of flowers, butterflies, and gems.

THE TRUANT HUSBAND continued. Religion is indeed a woman's panoply, and no one who wishes her happiness, would divest her of it; no one who appreciates her virtues would weaken her best security.

THE TRUANT HUSBAND continued. Resignation is not, as we are too apt to portray her, beauty bowed in willows, and bending over a sepulchral urn; neither is she a tragic queen, pathetic only in her weeps. She is an active, as well as passive virtue; an habitual, not an occasional sentiment. She should be as familiar to woman as her daily cross; for acquiescence in the detail of Providence is as much a duty as submission to its results.

THE TRUANT HUSBAND continued. And, if religion is such a blessing in the ordinary trials of life, what a soothing balm is it in graver sorrows! From these, woman is by no means exempt; on the contrary, as her susceptibility is great, afflictions press on her with peculiar heaviness.

THE TRUANT HUSBAND continued. Purity of heart, is of all virtues the most fortunate. A Greek maid being asked what fortune she could bring her husband, answered, "I will bring him what is more valuable than any treasure—a heart unspotted, and virtue without a stain, which is all that descended to me from my parents."

COMMERCE, MANUFACTURES, AGRICULTURE, Manufacturers and merchants are to the body politic what the digestive powers are to the human body. We could not exist without food; but the largest supplies of food cannot lengthen our days when the machinery by which nature prepares and adapts it for our use, and incorporate it with our body, is vitiated and deranged. Nothing, therefore, can be more silly and childish than the estimates so frequently put forth of the comparative advantages of agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial industry. They are all intimately connected, and depend upon and grow out of each other. "Land and trade," to borrow the just and forcible expressions of Sir Josiah Child, "are twins; and always, and ever will, wax and wane together. It cannot be ill with trade, but trade will fall." These reasonings cannot be controverted; and on its authority we are entitled to condemn every attempt to grant, on specialties of industry by giving it fictitious advantages at the expense of the rest, as being alike impolitic and pernicious. No preference can be given to agriculturists over manufacturers and merchants, or the latter over the former, without occasioning the most extensively ruinous consequences.

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