



MESSAGE

President of the United States.

Follow-Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives.

It is to me a source of unfeigned satisfaction to meet the Representatives of the States and the people in Congress assembled, as it will be to receive the aid of their combined wisdom in the administration of public affairs.

With our unexampled advancement in all the elements of national greatness, the welfare of the people is confirmed, and the States, and for the doctrines of popular liberty, which lie at the foundation of our government.

It becomes us, in humanity, to seek our dearest interests, for the instrumentalities and religious blessings with which we are favored.

In calling the attention of Congress to our relations with foreign Powers, I am gratified to be able to state, with truth, with some of them there have existed and still exist serious causes of irritation and misunderstanding, yet no actual hostilities have taken place.

In pursuance of the joint resolution of Congress, for annexing Texas to the United States, my predecessor, on the third day of March, 1845, selected to submit the first and second sections of that resolution to the public.

I communicate to Congress the correspondence between the Secretary of State and our charge d'affaires in Texas; and also the correspondence of the latter with the authorities of Texas; together with the documents transmitted by him to his own government.

The terms of annexation which were offered by the United States having been accepted by Texas, the public faith of both parties is solemnly pledged to the compact of their union.

As soon as the act of Congress for the admission of Texas into the Union upon an equal footing with the original States, strong reasons exist why this should be done at an early period of the session.

It will be observed that, by the constitution of the United States, the President is only temporarily till Congress can act; and that the third Monday of the present month is the day appointed for holding the first general election.

Since that time Mexico has, until recently, occupied an attitude of hostility towards the United States—has been marshaling and organizing armies, issuing proclamations, and avowing the intention to make war on the United States, and to declare war by invading Texas.

When I came into office, I found this to be the state of the negotiation. Though entering the settled conviction, that the British pretensions of title could not be maintained to the Oregon territory upon any principle of public law or equity, yet, in deference to what had been done by my predecessors, and especially in consideration that propositions of compromise had been made by two preceding administrations, I determined to adjust the question by a friendly negotiation.

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It requires several months to perform the voyage by sea from the Atlantic States to Oregon; and although we have a large number of sailing vessels in the Pacific, but few of them afford an opportunity of interchanging intelligence with great facility between our settlements in that distant region and the United States.

It is submitted to the wisdom of Congress to determine whether, at their present session, and until after the expiration of the year's session, any other measure may be adopted, for the security of our rights, and the government and protection of our citizens in Oregon.

At the end of the year's notice should Congress think it expedient to make provision for giving that notice, we shall have reached a period when the national rights in Oregon must either be abandoned or firmly maintained.

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observed. I have deemed it proper, therefore, to lay the subject before Congress, and to recommend such legislation as may be necessary by virtue of an arrangement made between the Spanish government and that of the United States, in December, 1831, American vessels, since the twenty-ninth of April, 1833, have been admitted to entry in the ports of Spain, including those of the same tonnage duty of five cents per ton, as though they had been Spanish vessels; and this, whether our vessels arrive in Spain directly from the United States, or indirectly from any other country.

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The three hundred and four thousand and six hundred and twenty-five...

classes constitute the aggregate of the "domestic industry" of the nation, and they are equally entitled to the "protection" of the law. No one of them can justify claim to the exclusive recipients of "protection," which can only be afforded by increasing burdens on the "domestic industry" of the others.

It is these latter, however, that remain to inquire how far the tariff act of 1842 is consistent with them. That many of the provisions of that act are in violation of the cardinal principles here laid down, all must concede. The rates of duty imposed by it on some articles are prohibitory, and on others so high as to diminish importations, and to produce less amount of revenue than would be derived from lower rates. They operate as "protection merely," to one branch of "domestic industry" by taxing other branches.

By the imposition of minimums, or assumed and false values, and by the imposition of specific duties, the injustice and inequalities of the act of 1842, in its practical operations on different classes and pursuits, are seen and felt. Many of the oppressive duties imposed by it under the operation of these principles, range from one per cent. to more than two hundred per cent. They are prohibitory on some articles, and partially so on others, and bear most heavily on articles of common necessity, and but lightly on articles of luxury. It is so framed that much the greatest burden which it imposes is thrown on labor and on poorer classes who are least able to bear it, while it protects capital and exempts the rich from paying their just proportion of the taxation required for the support of government. While it protects the capital of the wealthy manufacturer, and increases his profits, it does not benefit the operative or laborer in his employment, whose wages have not been increased by it. Articles of prime necessity or of coarse quality and low price, used by the masses of the people, are, in many instances, subjected by it to heavy taxes, while articles of finer quality, of higher price, or of luxury, which can be sold only to the opulent are lightly taxed. It imposes heavy and unjust burdens on the farmer, the planter, the commercial man, and those of all other pursuits except the capitalist who has made his investments in the stock of the nation, and whose interests of the country are not, in any way, as may be practically, equally protected by it.

Public Sale. WILL be sold, on TUESDAY the 15th day of the month (December), on the Farm lately owned by Daniel Snyder, lying on the Shick's Run River, near the Millville Mills, the following valuable property, to-wit: 10 Work Horses, 8 Mule Cows, 1 Large Blooded Bull, 28 Steers, 5 Brand Sows, 1 Large Road Wagon, 1 Running Car, 4 Tons Timothy Hay, 50 Bbls. new Corn, 15 or 20 old do, 18 or 20 Fat Hogs, A variety of Farming Utensils—such as Ploughs, Harrows, Grain Cradles, Mowing Scythes, Rakes, &c. 1st rate Wheat Fan, 1 Corn Shelter, and many other articles in use among Farmers. TERMS—A credit of nine months upon all cash advances made on consignments. A discount of 10% on the balance due on the 1st day of January next. For Sale by J. H. BEARD, Dec 4, 1845.

