

UNITED STATES.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE to Congress was communicated on the 24th ultimo, three weeks after the meeting of both Houses. It is dated on the 2d, at which time it was no doubt ready for delivery. We give that part of this lengthy document, which relates to the relations of the United States with foreign countries, being about one-sixth part of it.

Follow Citizens of the Senate, and House of Representatives;—

I regret that I cannot on this occasion congratulate you that the past year has been one of unalloyed prosperity. The ravages of fire and disease have painfully afflicted otherwise flourishing portions of our country, and serious embarrassments yet derange the trade of many of our cities. But notwithstanding these adverse circumstances, that general prosperity which has been heretofore so bountifully bestowed upon us by the Author of all good, still continues to call for our warmest gratitude. Especially have we reason to rejoice in the exuberant harvests which have lavishly recompensed well directed industry, and given to it that sure reward which is vainly sought in visionary speculations. I cannot indeed view without peculiar satisfaction, the evidences afforded by the past season of the benefits that spring from the steady devotion of the husbandman to his honorable pursuit. No means of individual comfort is more certain, and no source of national prosperity is so sure.—Nothing can compensate a people for a dependence upon others for the bread they eat; and that cheerful abundance on which the happiness of every one so much depends, is to be looked for no where with such sure reliance as in the industry of the agriculturist and the bounties of the earth.

With foreign countries our relations exhibit the same favourable aspect which was presented in my last annual message, and afford continual proof of the wisdom of the pacific, just and forbearing policy adopted by the first Administration of the Federal Government, and pursued by its successors.—The extraordinary powers vested in me by an Act of Congress, for the defence of the country in an emergency considered so far probable as to require that the Executive should possess ample means to meet it, have not been exerted. They have, therefore, been attended with no other result than to increase, by the confidence thus reposed in me, my obligations to maintain, with religious exactness, the cardinal principles that govern our intercourse with other nations. Happily, in our pending questions with Great Britain, out of which this unusual grant of authority arose, nothing has occurred to require its exertion; and, as it is about to return to the Legislature, I trust that no future necessity may call for its exercise by them or its delegation to another department of the Government.

For the settlement of our North Eastern Boundary, the proposition promised by Great Britain for a commission of exploration and survey, has been received, and a counter project, including also a provision for a certain and final adjustment of the limits in dispute, is now before the British Government for its consideration. A just regard to the delicate state of this question, and a proper respect for the natural impatience of the State of Maine, not less than a conviction that the negotiation has been already protracted longer than is prudent on the part of either Government, have led me to believe that the present favourable moment should on no account be suffered to pass without putting the question forever to rest. I feel confident that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty will take the same view of this subject, as I am persuaded it is governed by desires equally strong and sincere, for the amicable termination of the controversy.

To the intrinsic difficulties of questions of boundary lines, especially those described in regions unoccupied and but partially known, is to be added in our country the embarrassment necessarily arising out of our Constitution, by which the General Government is made the organ of negotiating, and deciding upon the particular interests of the States on whose frontiers these lines are to be traced. To avoid another controversy, in which a State Government might rightfully claim to have her wishes consulted, previously to the conclusion of the conventional arrangements concerning her right of jurisdiction or territory, I have thought it necessary to call the attention of the Government of Great Britain to another portion of our conterminous dominion, of which the division still remains to be adjusted. I refer to the line from the entrance of Lake Superior to the most north-western point of the Lake of the Woods, stipulations for the settlement of which are to be found in the 7th article of the Treaty of Ghent. The commissioners appointed under that article by the two Governments having differed in their opinions, made separate reports, according to its stipulations, upon the points of disagreement, and these differences are now to be submitted to the arbitration of some friendly Sovereign or State. The disputed points should be settled and the line designated, before the Territorial Government, of which it is one of the boundaries, takes its place in the Union as a State; and I rely upon the cordial co-operation of the British Government to effect that object.

There is every reason to believe that disturbances like those which lately agitated the neighbouring British Provinces will not again prove the sources of border contention, or interpose the obstacles to the continuance of that good understanding which it is the mutual interest of Great Britain and the United States to preserve and maintain.

Within the Provinces themselves tranquillity is restored, and on our frontier that misguided sympathy in favour of what was presumed to be a general effort in behalf of popular rights, and which in some instances misled a few of our more inexperienced citizens, has subsided into a ra-

tional conviction strongly opposed to all intermeddling with the internal affairs of our neighbours. The people of the United States feel, as it is hoped they always will, a warm solicitude for the success of all who are sincerely endeavouring to improve the political condition of mankind. This generous feeling they cherish towards the most distant nations, and it was natural, therefore, that it should be awakened with more than common warmth in behalf of immediate neighbours. But it does not belong to their character as a community to seek the gratification of those feelings in acts which violate their duty as citizens, endanger the peace of their country, and tend to bring upon it the stain of a violated faith towards foreign nations. If, zealous to confer benefits upon others, they appear for a moment to lose sight of the permanent obligations imposed upon them as citizens, they are seldom long misled. From all the information I receive, confirmed to some extent by personal observation, I am satisfied that no one can now hope to engage in such enterprises, without encountering public indignation, in addition to the severest penalties of the law.

Recent information also leads me to hope that the emigrants from Her Majesty's Provinces who have sought refuge within our boundaries are disposed to become peaceable residents, and to abstain from all attempts to endanger the peace of that country which has afforded them an asylum. On a review of the occurrences on both sides of the line, it is satisfactory to reflect that in almost every complaint against our country, the offence may be traced to emigrants from the Provinces who have sought refuge here. In the few instances in which they were aided by citizens of the United States, the acts of these misguided men were not only in direct contravention of the laws and well known wishes of their own Government, but met with the decided disapprobation of the people of the United States.

I regret to state the appearance of a different spirit among Her Majesty's subjects in the Canadas. The sentiments of hostility to our people and institutions, which have been so frequently expressed there, and the disregard of our rights which have been manifested on some occasions, have, I am sorry to say, been applauded and encouraged by the people, and even by some of the subordinate authorities of the Provinces. The chief officers in Canada fortunately have not entertained the same feeling, and have probably prevented excesses, that must have been fatal to the peace of the two countries.

I look forward anxiously to a period when all the transactions which have grown out of this condition of our affairs, and which have been made the subjects of complaints and remonstrance by the Governments respectively, shall be fully examined, and the proper satisfaction given where it is due from either side.

Nothing has occurred to disturb the harmony of our intercourse with Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Naples, Portugal, Prussia, Russia or Sweden. The internal state of Spain has sensibly improved, and a well grounded hope exists that the return of peace will restore to the people of that country their former prosperity, and enable the Government to fulfil all its obligations at home and abroad. The Government of Portugal, I have the satisfaction to state, has paid in full the eleventh and last instalment due to our citizens for the claim embraced in the settlement made with it on the 3d of March, 1837.

I lay before you treaties of commerce negotiated, the ratifications of which have been exchanged with the Kings of Sardinia and the Netherlands, since the adjournment of Congress. The liberal principles of the treaties will recommend them to your approbation. That with Sardinia is the first treaty of commerce formed with that kingdom, and it will, I trust, answer the expectations of the present Sovereign, by aiding the development of the resources of his country, and stimulating the enterprise of his people. That with the Netherlands happily terminates a long existing subject of dispute, and removes from our future commercial intercourse all apprehension of embarrassment. The King of the Netherlands has also, in future illustration of his character for justice, and of his desire to remove every cause of dissatisfaction, made compensation for an American vessel captured in 1800 by a French privateer, and carried into Curacao, where the proceeds were appropriated to the use of the Colony, then, and for a short time after, under the dominion of Holland.

The death of the Sultan has produced no alteration in our relations with Turkey. Our newly appointed Minister Resident has reached Constantinople, and I have received assurances from the present Ruler that the obligations of our treaty, and those of friendship, will be fulfilled by himself in the same spirit that actuated his illustrious father.

I regret to be obliged to inform you that no convention for the settlement of the claims of our citizens upon Mexico has yet been ratified by the Government of that country. The first convention formed for that purpose was not presented by the President of Mexico for the approbation of its Congress, from the belief that the King of Prussia, the arbitrator in case of disagreement in the joint commission to be appointed by the United States and Mexico, would not consent to take upon himself that friendly office. Although not entirely satisfied with the course pursued by Mexico, I felt no hesitation in receiving in the most conciliatory spirit the explanation offered, and also cheerfully consented to a new convention, in order to arrange the payments proposed to be made to our citizens, in a manner which, while equally just to them, was deemed less onerous and inconvenient to the Mexican Government. Relying confidently upon the intentions of that Government, Mr. Ellis was directed to repair to Mexico, and diplomatic intercourse has been resumed between the two countries. The

new convention has, he informs us, been recently submitted by the President of that Republic to its Congress, under circumstances which promise a speedy ratification; a result which I cannot allow myself to doubt.

Instructions have been given to the Commissioners of the United States under our Convention with Texas, for the demarcation of the line which separates us from that Republic. The Commissioners of both Governments met in New Orleans, in August last. The joint commission was organized, and adjourned to convene at the same place on the 12th of October. It is presumed to be now in the performance of its duties.

The new government of Texas has shewn its desire to cultivate friendly relations with us, by a prompt reparation for injuries complained of in the case of two vessels of the United States.

With Central America a convention has been concluded for the renewal of its former treaty with the United States. This was not ratified before the departure of our late Charge d'Affaires from that country, and the copy of it brought by him was not received before the adjournment of the Senate at the last session. In the meanwhile, the period limited for the exchange of ratifications having expired, I deemed it expedient, in consequence of the death of the Charge d'Affaires, to send a special agent to Central America, to close the affairs of our mission there, and to arrange with the Government an extension of the time for the exchange of ratifications.

The commission created by the States which formerly composed the republic of Columbia, for adjusting the claims against that Government, has, by a very unexpected construction of the treaty under which it acts, decided that no provision was made for those claims of citizens of the United States which arose from captures by Columbian privateers and were adjudged against the claimants in the judicial tribunals. This decision will compel the United States to apply to the several Governments formerly united for redress. With all these—New Grenada, Venezuela, and Ecuador, a perfectly good understanding exists. Our treaty with Venezuela is faithfully carried into execution, and that country, in the enjoyment of tranquillity, is advancing in prosperity under the guidance of its present distinguished President, General Paez. With Ecuador, a liberal commercial convention has been lately concluded, which will be transmitted to the Senate at an early day.

With the great American Empire of Brazil our relations continue unchanged, as does our friendly intercourse with the other Governments of South America—the Argentine Republic, and the Republics of Uruguay, Chili, Peru, and Bolivia. The dissolution of the Peru Bolivian Confederation may occasion some temporary inconvenience to our citizens in that quarter, but the obligations on the new Governments which have arisen out of that Confederation to observe its treaty stipulations, will no doubt be soon understood, and it is presumed no indisposition will exist to fulfil those which it contracted with the United States.

The present condition of the defences of our principal seaports and navy yards, as represented by the accompanying report of the Secretary of War, calls for the early and serious attention of Congress; and, as connecting itself intimately with this subject, I cannot recommend too strongly to your consideration the plan submitted by that officer for the organization of the militia of the United States.

The leading topics of the remaining part of the Message are Banking and the Sub-Treasury.

The financial operations of the year are stated to have been very successful. The expenditure, it is computed, will not exceed twenty-six millions. No estimate is given of the produce of the revenue.

The Message alludes briefly to the continuance of hostilities in Florida, and recommends to the consideration of Congress a plan submitted by the Secretary of War for putting an end to them. It recommends a revision of the laws relating to the transfer of American vessels, and such an alteration of that law that when vessels are sold abroad to foreigners, advantage may not be taken of their apparent American character for carrying on the slave trade under that disguise.

The Post Office Department is represented as in a flourishing condition—the routes have been extended during the year, and the revenue increased by the sum of \$241,560. The expenditures of the Department, however, which amount to \$4,624,117, exceeded the revenue by \$147,679. This excess was defrayed out of the previously accumulated surplus of resources.

In the Senate, on Wednesday, Dec. 17, a message was received from the President of the United States; when, on motion, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of Executive business, and after some time spent therein, the doors were again opened, when

Mr. Linn introduced the following resolutions: Resolved, That it is the opinion of the Senate that the title of the United States to the Territory of Oregon is indisputable, and never will be abandoned.

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to give notice to the British Government that the conventions of 1818 and 1827, which gave the right to use and occupy the Oregon Territory, its bays, rivers, harbours, &c. to both parties indiscriminately, shall cease in twelve months after such notification.

Resolved, That it is both expedient and proper to extend such portions of the laws of the United States over the Territory of Oregon as may be necessary to secure the lives, liberty and property of our citizens who may reside in said Territory.

Resolved, That it is expedient to raise an additional regiment of infantry (rifle) for the purpose of overawing and keeping in check

various Indian tribes, or any foreign forces who may be in said Territory, or on its borders: and at the same time give ample protection to our citizens engaged in legitimate occupations.

Resolved, That 640 acres of land should be granted to every white male inhabitant of said Territory, of the age of eighteen years, who shall cultivate and use the same for five consecutive years, and to his heirs at law in the event of his death.

LEGISLATURE OF UPPER CANADA.

The Resolutions in favour of uniting the two Provinces were brought forward in the Legislative Council on the 10th December, by the Hon. Mr. Sullivan. They are five in number, as follows:—

Resolved, 1.—That the events which have already marked the history of Lower Canada—the consequent necessity for a suspension of her constitution, and the inadequacy of the powers of government existing there, for the enactment of permanent laws, such as are required for the benefit of the people, present a state of public affairs in the Sister Province, deeply to be deplored by this House, as well from a disinterested anxiety for the welfare of a people so nearly connected with Upper Canada, as in consideration of the injurious consequences resulting to this community, from a continuance of the unsettled political condition of the Lower Province.

Resolved, 2.—That the present derangement of the Finances of Upper Canada—the total suspension of her public improvements—the paralyzed condition of private enterprise—the cessation of immigration, and the apparent impossibility of the removal of these evils, without the united efforts of both the Canadian Provinces—make the adoption of some great measure necessary, which will restore prosperity to the Canadas, and renew confidence at home and abroad in the stability of their political institutions.

Resolved, 3.—That considering the hopelessness, arising from past experience, and from a view of the political condition of Lower Canada, of ever realizing, in separate Legislatures, the unity of feeling or action in matters affecting equally the interests of both Provinces, on which the prosperity or safety of either may especially depend, a re-union of the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada has, in the opinion of this House, become indispensable for the restoration of good Government within these Colonies, and for the preservation of their institutions in connection with the Parent State.

Resolved, 4.—That for these urgent reasons, the assent of this House be expressed to the enactment of the important measure of re-union of the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, recommended by Her Majesty to both Houses of Parliament, and to the Houses of the Provincial Legislature by His Excellency the Governor-General; and that such assent, on the part of this House, be given on the following terms:

First—That there be an equal representation of each Province in the United Legislature.

Secondly—That a sufficient permanent Civil List be granted to Her Majesty, to enable Her Majesty to render the Judicial Bench independent alike of Executive power and popular influence, and to carry on the indispensable services of Government.

Thirdly—That the public debt of this Province, contracted for public works of a general nature, shall, after the union, be charged on the joint revenue of the United Province.

Resolved—That in yielding this ready concurrence to the measure of re-union of the Provinces, strongly recommended by Her Majesty, the Legislative Council of Upper Canada rely upon the wisdom and justice of their most gracious Sovereign, and Her Majesty's Parliament, for devising the details of a plan of re-union, and for the establishment of such a system of Government in the United Province, as will tend to the development of its natural resources, and enable it, with the blessings of Divine Providence, to pursue steadily, and free from the distractions by which the country has lately been divided, the course of prosperity and happiness, which the best interests of the people of Canada, and of the empire, alike, require not to be longer impeded.

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF  
The Right Hon. Lady Mary Fitz Roy.  
THE BAZAR for the Sale of Ladies' FANCY WORK, in aid of the Funds for clothing and relieving the Poor, will be opened in one of the vacant rooms of the Academy, on FRIDAY, the Fourteenth of February next.  
Contributions will be received at Government House, on the 11th and 12th February.

Now ready, price 9d.  
THE PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND FARMERS' ALMANACK, FOR 1840.

CONTENTS:—Latitude and Longitude of the principal Headlands, &c. on the coast of North America—Light Houses in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton—Instructions for entering Charlottetown harbour—Time of Highwater at Halifax, Charlottetown, &c.—Equation Table—Table for calculating Interest, for any period from one month to one year, at 6 per cent.—The usual Chronological, Astronomical and Ecclesiastical Calendar, with predictions of the weather, founded on the time the Moon enters her several quadratures.—List of Public Officers—Sittings of the different Courts, &c.—Office Bearers of the various Literary, Commercial, Agricultural, Charitable, and other Institutions, with the years of their establishment.—Officers of the Garrison—Militia List—Counting-house Calendar, &c. &c.

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CHARLOTTETOWN: J. B. COOPER & Co.  
CHARLOTTETOWN: Printed and published by J. B. COOPER & Co., at their Office, corner of Pownal and Water Streets. Terms, 15s. per annum, payable half yearly in advance.