POLITICAL.

From the Dover (N. H.) Gazette, June 14.

TEXAS.

Prospect of annexation—Intrigues of the British and French—Mexico uniting with European monarchies to prevent the extension of republican institutions on the American continent—Rights and duties of the American people at this crisis.

Accounts from Texas continue favorable to the prospect of immediate annexation to the United States, and we may depend upon the certain success of that great and popular measure unless it shall be prevented by foreign intrigue, contrary to the almost unanimous wishes of the people of Texas. Never could there be a measure of such vast importance to the present prosperity and future welfare of the citizens of two adjoining countries, advocated with more heartfelt enthusiasm, and with greater unanimity of sentiment, by those most immediately and most especially interested, than is annexation to the United States, by the greater portion of the citizens of Texas. Every arrival from that country brings accounts of large and enthusiastic meetings, called for the purpose of considering and discussing the measure, in which approbatory resolutions, couched in the strongest language, are adopted as the decided sentiment of all present. There in fact seems o be but one opinion on the subject prevailing among the people of Texas; and that is, that the resolutions passed by our last Congress, and submitted by the President to the government of Texas for consideration, should be accepted, and a State constitution immediately formed, to be laid before Congress at the commencement of next session. True, there are objections with some to the terms of the resolutions, as being less favorable to the interests of Texas than they had reason to expect, or than strict reciprocal justice would require; but then the opinion of a large majority of the Texians appears to be that those objections should be waived, annexation secured, and the honor and justice of the people and government of the United States trusted for a wise and equitable modification of the terms of union. President Jones, who has been generally represented as adverse to annexation, or at least to the terms offered, has been compelled, by this strong unanimity of the popular sentiment in its favor, to withdraw his objections, and lend the aid of his high official station to the promotion of measures for an early consummation of the union of the two countries. He, some weeks since, issued his proclamation, calling a meeting of the Texian Congress on the 16th of June—Monday next—to consider the terms proposed by the annexation resolutions of our Congress, and subsequently he has issued another proclamation for the assembling of a convention of delegates of the people, on the 4th of July, for the purpose of forming, if thought advisable, a State constitution, on republican principles, as a member elect of our great national confederacy. But while the work of annexation is thus steadily progressing among the Texians, the British and French emissaries in that country are using every possible artifice to prevent its completion. These efforts of foreigners are not confined to private individuals, or emissaries of abolition societies, but the accredited ministers of the governments of England and of France are doing their utmost, in their official capacities, to defeat the union of Texas to our government. Captain Elliott, the British minister, is a man of intrigue and of talents, and wholly unscrupulous of the means through which he furthers the interests or the views of his own government. He is the same Captain Elliott, who, as British agent in China, acquired an unenviable notoriety in provoking the opium war, and forcing the Chinese at the point of the bayonet to admit into their country as an article of commerce a drug which a parental regard for the health, the happiness, and the morals of its people, the government of China had found necessary to prohibit. This man is a suitable representative of the views and intentions of the British government towards Texas; and he, in conjunction with M. Saligny, the French minister, is, as before said, using every possible artifice to defeat the measure of annexation. There can be no doubt that it was through the influence of the British and French that Mexico assumed her high attitude and threatening tone on this subject; while late accounts represent her as having agreed to relinquish all claims to Texas, and to acknowledge the independence of that country upon the single condition that Texas should refuse to be annexed to the United States. In this we again see the handiwork of the British emissary, Elliott. That functionary has recently left his post at the seat of government of Texas, and been on a flying excursion to Mexico, for the purpose of securing the formation of a treaty between the governments of Mexico and Texas, calculated to defeat American annexation, by establishing peace between the contracting parties under the guaranty of Britain and France. These two rival European powers appear to be acting in perfect concert in this business, and doing their utmost to prevent the growth and extension of republican America. Not content with subjecting to their dominion the weak and the defenceless in every part of the three divisions of the old continent, they cross the broad Atlantic and attempt to dictate to the people of this Western hemisphere what shall be the extent of their respective territories, and what the nature of the relations they maintain towards each other. They characterize the people of the United States as overreaching and grasping, and as ambitious to enlarge their dominions without regarding the rights of other countries; and this, too, before the ink which records the French conquest and subjugation of Algiers is scarce dry on the historian's page, and while every mail from the East brings new accounts of British conquests and British usurpations among the defenceless inhabitants of southern Asia. It is evident that the British are determined, if possible, to prevent the annexation of Texas, and to limit the further extension of the United States and further progress of republican institutions. If the intrigues, secret negotiations, and mysterious movements of Captain Elliott fail to produce the intended effect, the next movement will probably be to induce poor, imbecile, misguided Mexico to declare war against the United States, under a promise of the countenance and support of England and of France. In this contingency the duty of our government is plain and unmistakable, as is that also of every individual citizen of our republic. The arrogant claims and pretensions of European monarchies to regulate the internal affairs of the people of this continent, and to check the growth or limit the extension of republican institutions, must be resisted to the utmost; and Britain must be taught to be either content with her present possessions in Canada, Nova Scotia, and the more northern regions of America, or she must be driven entirely from the continent. No citizen of our country, worthy the name of American, will hesitate to declare this the bounden duty of our government, or will refuse to contribute of his wealth, his personal services, or his blood, if necessary, to maintain the honor, the independence, and the just rights of the American Union. If the people of Texas accept the propositions of annexation contained in the joint resolutions of our last Congress, she becomes a part of our territory, to be protected and defended by us against all claims or pretensions of every other power under heaven. The question whether she remain an independent republic, or unite her destinies with those of her more powerful sister, is one to be determined by her own people, and with which the powers of Europe have nothing to do, and no right to interfere. If she decide for annexation, annexation it is! She becomes at once a part of our confederacy, and the first hostile foot that crosses her borders commits an act of war against the people of the United States which must be resisted upon the offender in a manner becoming the power and dignity of the government of a great and powerful people. It is the proper policy of our government to maintain peace so long as it can be done without a sacrifice of national honor; and when it can be no longer maintained on those terms, the patriotism of our people will support the government in repelling all hostile attacks, and in visiting upon our country's foes the just punishment of all aggressions.

ENGLAND AND THE OREGON.

The Antwerp correspondent of the United States Gazette takes such a view of the position of England and her ministry, respecting Oregon, as we conceive is fully disclosed to any intelligent observer of the matter in dispute, its value to that country, and the dangers which must involve her in contending for it by force of arms:

"I have told you in my last that the admission of Texas into the Union was one of the severest blows England has received for the last two centuries. It is for the first time, for a long period, that England openly avowed her opposition to a measure, and accepted it without a trial of strength. 'A word and a blow,' has hitherto been her maxim; but she evidently temporises with America—the only quarter of the globe in which she feels her weakness. Should any of your readers differ with me in this respect, I can only assure them that this is the light in which the conduct of England toward America is viewed generally in Europe; and that the independent manner in which the American Congress has acted, joined to the determined energy with which the United States have rejected the right of search, have, in a great measure, destroyed the belief in British supremacy—one of the chief elements of her power. It is owing to the consciousness of this fact, that Sir Robert Peel's declaration in regard to Oregon went forth to the world; not so much as a means of intimidating the United States, as to quiet Sir Robert Peel's friends in Europe—or, to use a very plain phrase, to show that England was not afraid. 'The Standard,' Sir Robert Peel's organ, however, explained the premier's declaration, so as not to create any unnecessary alarm among the stockholders. 'Not that Oregon has any value,' said that imperial paper. 'It is worthless either to England or the United States; but because Mr. Polk claims it *in such a manner!* If England were to allow such claims, her title to Canada or the West India islands would become insecure, and there is no knowing what would be annexed or taken possession of.' Now, what does such a declaration mean but this: 'I am unwilling to sacrifice much for the possession of Oregon; but I don't like to have the appearance of being bullied out of it; especially as I commenced that process myself toward the United States. I have tried to bully America out of Texas, and I failed. Now, if America turn the tables upon me, and bullies me out of Oregon, how will I stand before the world?' Already the French journals observe that the only way of treating with England is *a l'Americaine*—'take all you can, and surrender nothing.' The example is dangerous; but England, I repeat it, would be too glad to avail itself of a pretext to get rid of Oregon, since Brother Jonathan is *determined* to have it, in a *decent* manner. England wants but to cover her position; she is desirous of playing propriety on one hand, and to save her reputation on the other—that is all.

"But with this I am far from saying that England would not be glad to go to war with the United States if she could do so with a reasonable chance of success; and this explains the plaudits with which Sir Robert Peel's declaration has been received by the House. The disposition for a war exists in England; but, very fortunately, not the means of gratifying it. England does not wish to give up her American commerce, or to enable the French, the Germans, or the Belgians, to enrich themselves by manufactures at her expense. She cannot, without great inconvenience to herself, throw twenty thousand troops on any one point as long as *Ireland* is not quieted, and France at least kept neutral."

That is the opinion of an intelligent looker-on on the other side of the Atlantic. Now let's see what is ours—what the *Americans* say, and what they will do. We find the following in the leader of the Washington Union of the 4th instant; and as it speaks the opinion of the country on the great question before it, we may consider it as almost an official declaration:

"Sir Robert Peel is very much deceived, indeed, if he expects to intimidate or by blustering bravado on the floor of the House of Commons. The English prints have fallen into an extraordinary error. It is true, that the United States have not burst into a violent volcano on the receipt of his declarations. It is equally true, that our government has not changed its determination to reopen the negotiation at Washington about Oregon. It is true, that they are anxious to preserve the peace of the world, by another attempt to settle the controversy on honorable terms. But let not the British minister deceive himself about the spirit of our people, or the purposes of our government. We desire peace; but it must be an honorable peace. We would avoid war, if consistent with our rights and our honor; but every American says, 'Let war come, sooner than sacrifice our sacred rights, and still more sacred honor.' This is the calm, settled, unalterable decision of our countrymen.

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"The public sentiment of this country would scarcely consent to divide the territory by the line of the Columbia. The concession of the navigation of that river to the English, seems likewise to be forbidden by the spirit of our people. We venture upon this theme with some reluctance; but we venture to make this declaration upon our own impulse. It is certainly most desirable, if the question can be amicably adjusted, that ministers should bring to its consideration a spirit that may admit of a wiser and more conciliatory and practicable adjustment.

"Independently of the intrinsic difficulties of the subject, we must state that there are adventitious circumstances which throw new stumbling-blocks in the way. The threatening tone of the British ministry, the insulting and opprobrious terms in which many of the British prints indulge towards the people, and the institutions of our republic, are kindling an indignant feeling in the bosoms of many of our people, which is to be regretted, as well for the causes which provoke it, as for the effect which is produced. At this exciting moment, too, a new element of great power comes into operation. Oregon is not alone concerned. Texas blends its influence with it. The alleged interference of the British government—the active and indelicate tampering of Mr. Commissioner Elliott with our interests—is exciting a flame in the bosoms of our people, which is calculated to affect every patriot in the country. Already the question is coming to be mooted—Shall we submit to this impertinent aggression? We desire honorable peace; but if war comes, let it come, and then let us sweep the British from the face of the continent."

CIRCULAR TO PUBLIC OFFICERS ACTING UNDER DIRECTIONS OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, June 13, 1845.

THE provisions of the act of 3d March, 1845, requiring that all letters, packages, and other matters, received through the mail by officers of the government after the first proximo shall be charged with postage, makes it desirable that a retrenchment be effected in the mass of papers heretofore transmitted to this department. Much may be done in this respect, with advantage to the public service, by compressing the statements and returns required by law or regulation, so as not to lessen their distinctness; and whenever more than one is made on the same day to the same office, to include them all upon one sheet, if their extent and character will allow. In making communications to any officer of the department, care should be taken to condense them, so as to bring the postages thereon within the lowest possible limits.

In regard to postages charged on the letters, packages, and other matters, received by you through the mail touching the duties or business of your office, you will be pleased to keep an account of the same in detail, showing from whom each letter, &c., is received, and the amount of postage thereon; which account, verified by oath, you will transmit to this department at the close of each quarter, and the proper order will be immediately given respecting its payment.

R. J. WALKER,
Secretary of the Treasury.

June 13—d1wif

[Constitution, United States Journal, and National Intelligencer.]

FAUQUIER WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS.

THIS establishment, so favorably known for the curative qualities of its water and the elegance and comfort of its accommodations, was opened for the reception of visiters on the 1st of June. It is situated 50 miles from Alexandria, 35 miles from Fredericksburg, and 20 miles east of the Blue Ridge, in one of the most healthy and delightful climates in Virginia. The direction and management will be the same as heretofore, and the same attention paid to the comfort and accommodation of their guests.

Lovers of music will find the band unsurpassed.

The season, commencing the 1st of June, will end the 1st of October.

Board, $9 per week for 1 week; $8 per week for 2 weeks; $30 per month; $80 for the season; for more than 1 day, $1 50 per day; 50 cents for single meal; 25 cents for lodging; children under 12 years of age, and servants, half price; horses, 50 cents per day; per week, $2 50; per month, $8.

Tri-weekly stages will run from Washington city until 1st of July; after that time, daily. There will be a daily line of stages from Fredericksburg after the 1st of July; previous to which, conveyances will be furnished on accommodating terms.

DANL. WARD, Agent.

June 7—1awtlJ&2awtl5J

RAN AWAY from Ossian Hall, Fairfax county, Virginia, on the night of Saturday, the 7th inst., a negro girl named JANE LEE, aged 13 years. At about half-past nine o'clock she was sent to a quarter, a few yards from the house, with a message, which she delivered, and has never been heard of since. At 10 minutes before 10 o'clock, she could nowhere be found. When she was sent to the quarter, there were some negroes from the neighborhood there, who left within a few minutes. She is probably either concealed in the neighborhood or in Washington. At the time she left, she had on an old cotton plaid frock, very much faded, and check apron. No shoes or bonnet. She moves remarkably slow, and stoops forward very much in walking; had her hair cut very close to her head. I will give the following reward on her being returned to me, viz: $25 if taken in Washington county, $15, if taken in Alexandria county, and $10 if in Fairfax county.

FRANCIS A. DICKINS.

June 11—eod3t

TRADE SALE OF PARA AND MANUFACTURED INDIA RUBBER SHOES, in New York—James M. Miller, auctioneer.—Bishop & Breeden, 12 Gold street, will sell at their store, on Wednesday, July 16th, 100,000 pairs of Para and manufactured India rubber shoes, consisting of—

Men's and women's sheet rubber overshoes
" sheet rubber and cloth-strapped overshoes
" finished Para shoes
Women's " " "
Misses' " " "
Women's furred and lined boots and shoes
" galloon, bound Grecians
" manufactured buskins
" sheet rubber sandals
Men's " " "

Dealers from abroad are invited to attend this sale. Terms of sale will be, under $150 cash, under $300 four months, under $900 six months, over $1,000 eight months.

June 12—ts

CARRIAGES! CARRIAGES! CARRIAGES!—I have on hand a large and handsome assortment of carriages, which must be positively closed, to cover advances and make room for fresh consignments. They are from some of the best northern manufacturers, and the assortment is not inferior to any in the city, viz:

Falling top buggies and barouches
Standing and falling top rockaways
Square and standing top jury wagons
Close carriages, new styles, &c., &c.

WM. MARSHALL,
Auction and commission store,
Penn. avenue, between 9th and 10th streets.

June 12—3t

A CARD.—The undersigned, at his office of General Agency, attends to the collection of claims, public and private.

Judgments, obligations, and land scrip purchased.

Official and notarial translations executed.

Money procured on securities.

JAS. RIORDAN,
Corner of 3d and B streets, near railroad depot.

June 13—3t

COMMUNICATIONS.

Communicated.

WASHINGTON, June 16, 1845.

I have been for some time perplexed to discover the true definition of the term "young democracy," and the object of those who make such frequent use of it. Surely they cannot suppose that the youth of the country who aided in the election of President Polk have any desire to be separated, by any term whatever, from their time-honored leaders; that they desire to be a distinct and separate party from that party whose principles have been advocated by a Buchanan, a Walker, a Polk, and the old hero of Orleans—a star which has just set below the horizon of life—in its last rays casting a brilliant light over the whole universe. Surely the young men of the party cannot desire to be the advocates of any other principles than those of republicanism; so long, so faithfully, and so ably supported by heads and hearts like these. And still more surely, they cannot have forgotten the services and aid of their old friends in the late triumph they have achieved in the election of their choice for the presidential chair. They cannot have forgotten that Buchanan, though with the splendid wreaths of many years upon his brow, has spent the whole of that life in the cause of their principles; that Walker, though not yet what might be termed an aged man, is old in the cause of democracy. No; such is not the desire of the youth of the party; nor can they be lured from the line of their duty by the use of terms like this, which bear a semblance of being applicable and complimentary to them, but the real object of which is easily understood to be to save the grain of the public crib to the friends of a former administration, who may indeed and with truth be termed the "young democracy"—many of them having been born (as to their democracy) after the late election; and who, had Mr. Clay been the choice of the people, would have been the firmest and oldest whigs, and the loudest in their denunciations of the party now in power. This is already understood by the young as well as the older members of the democratic party, to be the true object of those who have taken unto themselves this cognomen; and the youth of that party will soon teach this clique that they are possessed of too much intelligence to be caught by so flimsy a device; and that no such schemes can induce them to abandon the support of patriots who have grown gray in the cause of republican *principles*.

The great objection to these new titles and divisions of our party is, that they are calculated to break into the continuity, union, and power of the republican party. Like the cliques of the anti-masons, or of native Americans, it cuts up this great party into sections; producing jealousy, alienation, and a want of co-operation and energy in its movements, in the bosom of our own party; whilst it encourages our political opponents with the hopes of our divisions. Let us, then, discard those mischievous and dangerous designations of "old hunkers" and "young democracy;" which are so much harped upon by the enemy for the purpose of putting us by the ears; and adhere to our old, venerated and rallying names of *republicans* or *democrats*.

Yours, &c., LEX.

FOR THE UNION.

To C. W. D.

You have appeared in the columns of the National Intelligencer of May 29th, in a letter dated on the 24th. In that letter, you gravely tell us, an American army cannot sustain itself in Mexico, because the provisions of this army have all to be conveyed from New Orleans; for "nowhere else can they be procured." The Mexican troops now stationed in Matamoras are, and have always been, supplied from New Orleans. It then appears in time of peace, that the Mexican troops are supplied with provisions from the United States, and they cannot be procured *anywhere* else but at New Orleans. This is a strange reason *why* an American army could not now be sustained in Matamoras. Admitting your premises to be correct, it would be only necessary for the United States to cut off the transportation of provisions from New Orleans to Matamoras by a small blockading squadron, and the Mexican army would be starved out. Yet, sir, is it a very difficult matter to transport provisions and stores to support an army? Does C. W. D. know we are in the habit of transporting provisions and stores daily across the Atlantic, and also eight thousand miles to the Pacific station, for the support of our squadrons? And would it be a more difficult matter to transport them a much shorter distance?

"I have lived (so you say) some years in that country, and pretend to know something of its products. I passed through Matamoras in March, where there were two regiments supplied entirely from New Orleans. If the Mexicans have been obliged to buy from New Orleans all those articles, how much more necessary will it not be for us to supply an army in the same manner?"

To this, I reply, a small squadron and a few store ships will overcome all the difficulties. *You* "think that we have calculated too lightly on the resistance which Mexico will offer to our occupation of Texas. Mexico has a very considerable army on the frontier, and the officer in command (General Arista) is active and brave, and can cross the intervening desert with his light cavalry, and commit immense injuries and retire again, without our presenting any obstacle to his advance and retreat." We are gravely told that the Mexicans have a *considerable army* of light cavalry and infantry; and they can advance upon us, without our having the means, or probably the will, to meet them. I would ask you where has this army been since the disgraceful defeat of the Mexican troops at San Jacinto? Why have they not already marched into Texas, and at once subjugated it? Why has General Woll, with a well equipped force, been so long dilly-dallying on the borders of Texas, without co-operating with this efficient force, and at once do this damage in Texas that you expect it to do when that country becomes a part of the United States? Let me tell you, sir, the army under Santa Anna was well equipped, well drilled, and well prepared to march into Texas; and that it was met by an *Anglo-Saxon* army of only a third of its force—badly clothed, worse fed, and still worse armed—not disciplined, and hastily collected; and this well drilled Mexican army, headed by their Napoleon of the South, was scattered before them with greater rapidity than the sands of the desert before the sirocco.

Again you tell us, "*the Anglo-Saxon race will do well enough so long as they have plenty of provisions and water, but no longer.*" Have you, Mr. C. W. D. ever read the history of your country? Let me then, sir, refer you to the revolution, when your countrymen separated from Great Britain—remember their privations—half clothed, without shoes, short of provisions, hemmed in on every side by the well-trained, well-clothed, and well-equipped army of Great Britain; and, under all these difficulties, *we were victorious*. And, at a later day, when haughty and overbearing England pressed our seamen, insulted our flag, and we had internal enemies (whig federalists) to contend with, the stripes and stars, both on land and sea, waved in the breeze bright and resplendent with victory.

Once more, you tell us, "I think General Jackson's campaign and the Seminole war will prove this.' Yes, General Jackson's campaign and battle of New Orleans has shed a halo around the American eagle, which never can be dimmed by the miserable scribblings of a son of a federal whig. General Jackson's victory in the Seminole war gave the savages a salutary lesson; and, in that war, the Anglo-Saxon had difficulties to contend with which only could have been overcome by the Anglo-Saxon race. I hope this short reply will be sufficient; and if it is necessary for me to appear in answer to another, it will be shown that your motives are not those of patriotism; and that your first appearance in a federal whig paper is from interested motives, and not a desire to give proper information to your country.

Yours affectionately,
ONE WHO HAS VISITED MEXICO.

For the Union.

PORTRAIT FROM THE WEST.

SIR: I shall take the liberty of furnishing you, from time to time, with some curious extracts from the correspondence of an *old gentleman*, who has resided many years in one of our western States, and who, though little known, even in his own neighborhood, is one of the most singular and erudite men in America. The rude but simple hearted settlers amongst whom he lives, look upon him with mysterious veneration, and always speak of "the old gentleman," as they call him, with reverence and respect. His style of living is simple and elegant; and, though rarely seen in public, he is always accessible at home, and dispenses the most courteous hospitality to every human being who visits his residence. The residence itself is singular. The house is constructed on the mode of an Italian villa, tastefully furnished, and surrounded with all the rare and beautiful trees, and shrubs, and plants, and flowers, which can be found in the broad, luxuriant West. His library is a valuable collection of books in the ancient and most of the modern languages; and the standard works on history, poetry, philosophy, and literature, in Italian, German, French and English, are to be found in that collection. Newspapers in various languages are brought to him weekly from the village post office, by his old taciturn servant, an odd looking person, in a broad brimmed hat, sky-blue coat, and black breeches. These papers are read for him by his lovely grand-daughter, a black-haired, black-eyed girl, whose glowing complexion, sparkling look, mellifluous voice and ardent nature, indicate her as the child of Italy, or some other bright southern land. "The old gentleman" himself is a true and stout-hearted American, proud of his country and her past history, and filled with prophetic faith in the greatness of her future destiny. His garb is uniformly the same, both in winter and summer, the blue and buff of our glorious revolution. Foreign travel and foreign residence have given him a foreign look, but he is still a republican and an American in heart. I have dwelt thus long upon the description of this interesting family, owing to its mysterious and remarkable character, and to the circumstance that it is my present intention to give the public, from time to time, the benefit of "the old gentleman's" experience and opinions through the medium of your truly national paper.

The following extracts are taken from his last letter:

"Your description of the President conforms exactly to my previously formed conception of his appearance and character. He possesses strict integrity, moral firmness, and well-regulated energy. These are admirable qualities in a democratic President. He also possesses the necessary qualities of decision, promptitude, and vigor. These will make him the true representative of the democratic party. It was the combination of all these strong and masculine qualities, that made Gen. Jackson the idol of the people. The prevailing spirit of democracy is the spirit of development and progression. All the influences now at work to extend the territory of the country, and to widen the basis of human liberty within the limits of that territory, are practical results of this powerful and progressive spirit."

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"The whigs are the party of retardation—the clogs upon the political machine. Their spirit is opposed to the extension of territory as well as to the extension of human liberty. They are dissatisfied with their political condition, and wage fierce contest with their national destiny. They forget that the stern law of human necessity, which has built up this great social and political fabric, will continue to extend and develop it; and that all those who oppose its progress will sink overwhelmed in the struggle. Webster, by not acting in harmony with the national spirit, has sunk into comparative insignificance and neglect; and perhaps no State in the Union, except Massachusetts, would at this time give him a hearty support. Clay gave the ardor and enthusiasm of youth to democracy. The bright and dazzling period of his life was that in which he devoted his fine talents to advance his nation's destiny; but, swerving from that course, neither his splendid talents, nor his former services, could save him from sinking under the indignant frown of the injured spirit of his country. Numerous other instances might be adduced to illustrate the truth of this position, but it is needless. Its truth is visible to all but the wilfully blind, and they can never be enlightend by either reason or arguments."

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"The public patronage in the gift of every new administration, exercises a powerful influence in our political contests. Timid democrats and hypocritical whigs call the exercise of the power of removal '*proscription*;' but you may depend upon it, that the whigs who now exclaim loudest against proscription would be the persons to exercise it most remorselessly in power. But as a principle of policy, it is essentially necessary to the perpetuation of a party. Henry Clay, the only great leader that whigery has been able to boast of, understood the full force and value of this principle to his party, when he used the arrogant and triumphant threat, that every democrat in the nation should be hurled out of office upon the accession of whigery to power. You cannot preserve the ardent zeal of a party while you retain the opponents of your principles in office. Enthusiasm, in such case, is damped by disappointment. Men will soon cease to make sacrifices, if they are to redound to the benefit of their opponents. But what most disgusts the mass, is to see a man who has profited by the exercise of this power himself, turn gravely round and denounce '*proscription for opinion's sake.*' The people are not in the habit of refining in such cases; on the contrary, they are apt to think that the policy which demands the removal of a secretary, requires also the removal of a clerk. I hope your secretaries will think of this in Washington, where, I see by the papers, that rampant whigery still predominates in all the offices under a democratic administration. They will find it difficult to satisfy the people that they have any great regard for either democrats or democracy, except to provide themselves and friends with places, while they keep their rooms and antechambers filled with the scions of whigery. But there is a still higher consideration, and that is this: if there is any truth in democracy, the machinery of government will be better worked by agents imbued with its generous spirit, than by those who, if honest in their convictions, are conscientiously opposed to its movements and action. No moral truth can be more certain than that all attempts to carry out great political measures into practical operation, by agents firmly opposed to such measures, will prove a miserable and contemptible failure."

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"The nation is deeply interested in the success of the present administration. The young energy of America made Col. Polk President; and this energy must not be lamped. There was no peculiar halo around his name when selected as the democratic candidate; but he possesses excellent qualities of head and heart, and the leaders in whom they had been accustomed to confide, hesitated and wavered in their course. To a man of my age, it is curious to look back and gather from a long experience of the past this admonitory truth—that the democratic leader who hesitates, is lost. The spirit of the nation is always in advance of its political leaders; and it continues to advance with the same ardent zeal and intrepid spirit after its tried leaders have abandoned and deserted it. The President has called able and efficient men around him in his cabinet. Upon the minds of those, his counsellors, he should take pains to impress his own bold, generous, and general views; and then impose upon them the burden and responsibility of appointments. This is due to the dignity of his station; and to depart from it, except in special instances, to prevent wrong or injury, favoritism or nepotism, would be to degrade the presidency. I am gratified to learn that the present incumbent avoids the silly, but well-meant attempt to do everything himself—the never-failing error of imbecility or mediocrity. I again repeat, that firmness, energy, and decision, in the removals and appointments—the annexation of Texas—the settlement of the Oregon question—the adjustment of the tariff—and the establishment of the independent treasury,—will make the present a powerful and popular administration; but if the cabinet shrinks from any one of them, and hesitates to march up boldly to each and all of them, then its members will sink into comparative unpopularity, and the old leaders will be once more called forward by the nation."

Communicated.

TO "AMICUS—SOUTHSIDE."

SIR: Permit me respectfully to address you the following interrogatories:

Are you not, at this time, an office-holder? Were you not appointed under the last administration? Were you not acting with the whigs in 1840? Were you not in favor of Clay last summer? And did not a fear of losing your office dictate your article in the "Union" of Saturday evening?

On the answer to these questions will depend very much what weight is to be attached to your remarks about removals in that article. Please give an explicit answer to each of the above questions.

[As it would be some time before the querist could receive an "explicit" answer from "Amicus," because he lives on the "south side" of James river, Virginia, more than one hundred miles from Washington, we beg leave to reply that "Amicus" is no office-holder, and, what is more, no office-seeker; that he was as much opposed to Mr. Clay as any man in Virginia—as much in favor of Mr Polk; and is one of the most high-minded men in the Old Dominion.—UNION.)

A DIGEST OF THE LAWS OF TEXAS: containing a full and complete compilation of the land laws, together with the opinions of the supreme court of Texas. The subscriber—formerly member of the Baltimore bar, and for six years past a resident and practitioner of law in the republic of Texas—takes this mode of advertising the community of the publication of the foregoing work. The interest which of late has been awakened towards every thing connected with Texas; the importance which a knowledge of her laws must possess with each one who partakes of that interest; and their permanency (without any material alteration) in the event either of her independence or annexation to the American Union, cannot fail, it is believed, to create a necessity and demand for such a work as the above.

The book will be issued about the last of July next, in octavo form, and handsomely bound. It will comprise the period of legislation in the republic of Texas, since the formation of the government to the close of the last Congress in January, 1845; with all the opinions of the supreme court at length; and the land laws which still govern and have governed since the first settlement of the country in 1824.

Respectfully,
JAMES WILMER DALLAM.

BALTIMORE, June 12, 1845.

The author refers to the following gentlemen:
Hon. STEVENSON ARCHER,
Chief Judge Court of Appeals, Maryland.
Hon. REVERDY JOHNSON,
U. S. Senator, Maryland.
DAVID STEWART, esq., Baltimore.
Hon. M. B. LAMAR, Texas.
Hon. DAVID S. KAUFFMAN,
Chargé d'Affaires from Texas.

June 16—d4t

By A. Green, Auctioneer.

VALUABLE BUILDING LOTS AND HOUSE AND LOT AT AUCTION.—On Saturday, the 21st inst., I shall expose to sale on the premises—

Lot No. 13, in square No. 319, with the improvement, viz: a good two-story frame house. This property fronts on 11th street, between G and H streets.

Also, half lot No. 3, in square No. 289, fronting on F street, north side, between 12th and 13th streets.

Also, half lot No. 2, in square 518, fronting 88 feet on G street; and part lot No. 6, in the same square, fronting 68 feet on H street; the two latter lying between 4th and 5th streets, within a short walk of the General Post and Patent offices.

Terms: One-fifth cash; balance in six, twelve, eighteen, and twenty-four months, for notes bearing interest; a deed given and a deed of trust taken; title unquestionable.

The sale will take place, on the first named property, at 5 o'clock, p. m. Immediately thereafter I will proceed to sell the property on F street, and at half past 6 o'clock I will sell the property in square 518.

A. GREEN,
June 16 Auctioneer.

NOTICE.—Persons having claims against a balance due from the Navy Department to the estate of Edward Farthing, late a quarter gunner in the United States service, are hereby notified to present them at the office of the Fourth Auditor of the treasury within two months from this date.

June 13—3t

EDITOR'S CORRESPONDENCE.

NEW YORK, June 14, 1845.

One of the brightest spots in the civilization of the 19th century, is the improvement and extension of common schools.

No State in the Union has set a more noble example in the organization and support of common schools, than New York. The school revenues are immense, and applied in a manner to prove highly beneficial to the rising generation.

This city sustains common schools with a noble liberality. A substantial, good, and convenient brick school-house has been erected in each of the seventeen wards of the city. They are built most commonly of two stories, well lighted and ventilated, being arranged with all the new improvements introduced into such buildings. In addition to the ward schools, there are public schools in various districts.

We believe this city paid last year, on account of ward schools alone, over *three hundred thousand dollars*. To introduce uniformity and proper management into these schools, they are placed under the control of commissioners elected annually by the city voters for the purpose. There is also a county superintendent of common schools, the present incumbent being Dr. Reese, a Methodist local preacher, who is for rigidly enforcing the reading of the Bible in all schools without exception. He is an extreme follower of John Wesley, not remarkable for superior intellect or liberality; yet he is acknowledged to be a good and well meaning man. Extremes in all things, however, gives rise to contention; and hence the doctor has carried on a severe war with the Catholics and Jews on the subject of making the Bible a common-school book.

The $300,000 expended for the support of common schools in this city, is raised by taxation on the people at large, of whom about 18,000 are Jews, and probably upwards of 50,000 Catholics. As these schools are free to all children of every sect, the two latter denominations contend that they do not want the Protestant Bible forced upon their children as a common-school book—that they are willing to let the teaching at schools be strictly educational, without reference to the Protestant, Catholic, or Jewish Bible. Or, if this cannot be done, they ask for their portion of the school fund contributed by them for the support of common schools, in the way of taxation, to be set off to them, giving them the privilege of expending it for the education of their children, in a manner they may consider most conducive to their intellectual advancement.

We do not perceive that there is any thing monstrous or unnatural in a feeling of this character. If Christians were in a Jewish country, or Protestants in a Catholic country, they would probably have similar feelings, if taxed to support free schools, in which the Jewish Old Testament alone, or the Catholic version of the Bible, were forced upon their children as a common-school book.

When Dr. Reese entered upon his office as school superintendent, there were 39 schools in which the Bible was omitted as a school book. He has pushed forward in his plan, till only 13 remain conducted simply upon the educational plan, leaving the religious culture of the children's minds to the care of the parents, to Sunday schools, and to the ministrations of the churches. By forcing the mind of a child to the daily reading of a book, which, however valuable, it cannot understand without comment, (and, if with comment, it must be sectarian,) it has the effect either to drive the child into dogged indifference and irreverence for its truths, or spreads a pall of gloomy fanaticism over its imagination, that may endure through life.

Dr. Reese, no doubt, has acted from benevolent motives; but the effect of his rigid policy has been to drive a great many children from the threshold of these schools. An Irish Catholic thinks it a great deal less harmless to let his children run wild and half naked in the streets, than to place them in a school where they would be compelled to read, or hear read, daily, the Protestant Bible. Which is most likely, therefore, to convert Jewish children to Christianity, or Catholic children to Protestantism, to admit them to free schools with Christian and Protestant children, where all the elements of a useful education are taught, or to drive them away by narrow and contracted views of the question? Forcing them into idleness, vagrancy, and neglect, on one hand, or into schools founded by the Catholics and Jews on strictly sectarian principles, on the other?

The difficulties arising in this city about the application of the school fund, and government of common schools, does not, however, prevail to any great extent beyond its limits; and notwithstanding these squabbles, the institution of the common schools is the noblest of our free and happy country, and most nobly has New York come forward to their support. The blessings dispensed by them are like the genial showers and dews of heaven; they fall alike upon the rich and the poor, the just and the unjust. The teachers employed in them are paid out of the public fund. The best school books are distributed among them, and great facilities for communicating knowledge in pleasing forms to the youthful mind, are adopted. Writing, reading, and arithmetic, are more perfectly taught.

Great improvements have also been made in the arts of teaching children geography, the rudiments of chemistry, astronomy, natural history, &c. All this is accessible to the children of the newest arrived emigrant, with the descendants of the oldest American families.

I know an Irish family of some twelve or thirteen children, all of whom have received education at one of these public schools. One of the daughters became so far advanced that she was ultimately employed as a teacher at a respectable salary. As the family were very poor, the sons went to the public school till they were old enough to be bound out as apprentices to useful trades. They made so much the better and more intelligent apprentices for having been to the free school. Some of them are now earning handsome wages of journeymen, and will soon be in a condition to commence business for themselves, in which they will no doubt prosper, and make useful members of society.

How infinitely superior are the advantages for obtaining knowledge in the present day, to what it used to be! Ignorance, if not a crime, is grossly culpable in those who neglect to learn. Books are not only better adapted for teaching children, but, on account of the great improvements made in the manufacture of paper, and in the art of printing, they are much cheaper.

Once a boy learns to read, write, and cipher, he holds in his hands a key (by proper study and persevering application) with which he can, by his self-dependence alone, unlock all other sources and stores of knowledge.

It is said that a gentleman, once travelling in an obscure district of England, found a poor peasant youth, who had made the most surprising advances in learning. He had mastered several of the dead languages, besides every thing else of knowledge that had come in his way. He was asked who had been his teacher? He replied, all the teaching he had ever had, was, that somebody had taught him the letters of the alphabet, which he thought was all that was necessary, from which to learn everything else without a master, if one could only procure books! The boy was right; only I would give them a little better start, by teaching them something of writing, grammar, reading, arithmetic, and geography; and, if he had sufficient self-reliance, to go on from that platform, *master* or *no master*, without which he would never rise to be anything extraordinary with all that masters could give him.

Who have been, and are now, the great and leading men—the master spirits of this republic? Are they not, and have they not been, self-educated men?

I care not how, or where, a man has been educated; if he does not educate himself afterwards, he will never rise above ordinary mediocrity. A wise and prudent young man will find more to learn out of school than in it. What he learns in the walls of a school-house amounts to nothing more than a preparation for beginning to learn things and men as they are; and he will find them, and be compelled to mingle daily among them, either for good or evil to himself and others.

This is a glorious, new, and bright era for school children. How strongly its advantages contrast with the meagre opportunities children enjoyed in my early boyhood.

I can remember, that when quite a small boy, living on my father's country farm, in the backwoods of North Carolina, I had daily to walk three miles to what is termed, in that part of the world, "an old-field school," kept by a tall, straight, old Virginian, of the old school order in everything, whose knowledge extended no farther than to embrace reading, writing, and arithmetic, with some knowledge of surveying. He was deeply attached to the church of England, and made us read the Psalter and learn the Episcopal catechism, and repeating us, by turn, to say a very profound grace before meals. On the approach of a holyday, we never failed, without serious opposition on his part, "to turn him out," and thus gain some additional days to the holydays. At that day, Dilworth's spelling book was just about being superseded by that of Noah Webster, with his own likeness, fables, wood cuts, and all "to match." The only arithmetic we had was an old one on the English pl