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Constitutional Convention. The State Journal of the 30th December contains an article on the subject of a constitutional convention, to some of the positions of which, we desire to record our objections. We quote one of them:
'We hold that where a people have adopted a constitution containing a provision for its own amendment, it must be amended in accordance with the mode thus prescribed. Where no mode is provided by the constitution itself, for its amendment, it must be accomplished by legislative enactment. To contend that the people have a right to alter or abolish a constitution "without law and against law," is the advocacy of revolution itself; a doctrine destructive of all the safeguards of popular constitutional liberty.'

Well, this is talking plainly, and is the kind of language which we like to see those who hold the reins of the Journal and its party. Let us say the test to this strongly expressed opinion, and see whether it accords with the principles of republican government as recognized by the American people.
What is a "revolution"? Is it not the overturning of the principles of an existing government? the putting an end to its existence? The measures of a government are constantly changing, yet it is not revolutionized. Its officers may be deposed and others appointed, still there is no revolution. The truth is that all governments recognize and presuppose, a legitimate, competent sovereignty; and so long as the supremacy of that sovereignty continues, so long there is not and cannot be, a revolution. In all monarchies and oligarchies, this sovereignty is understood to be lodged in the person of the monarch, or the nobility, as the case may be; and of consequence, if these be deposed, the act of deposition is revolution; because the sovereignty is ended, or subverted. In this country the case is varied, inasmuch as the seat of sovereignty is changed. The Declaration of Independence declares that all political sovereignty resides with the people. The declarations of rights of the different States of the Union declare the same fact.
This right by common consent, unless abridged by special provisions, is held for exercise by free white males of adult age, who are citizens of the country. The provision of our constitution and of others defining the exercise of political power by the people, is simply declaratory, and as such belongs and pertains to the declaration of rights.
Thus then, we have the sovereignty of our government defined; and so long as that sovereignty continues in the exercise of its legitimate functions, so long there can be no revolution. The people, for the sake of convenience alone, delegate to a small number of agents the exercise of political power on their behalf, and to avoid the necessity of too frequent powers of attorney, and to avoid misunderstanding, they give a general power of attorney to their agents, only in virtue of which those agents have any right to exercise political power as officers of the government. This power of attorney we call a constitution. Now it will not be denied that the creator is always greater than the creature. The people create the constitution, therefore they are greater than the constitution; and here the further rule of necessity applies, namely: that the power which delegates authority can at any and all times annul it. It therefore follows of necessity, that the people have a perfect right to annul their constitution at any and all times; and of course they have the right to do so in their place, by virtue of their inherent sovereignty. The people are the government, and if they should abrogate a constitution without substituting another in its place, the power of legislation "incapable of annihilation," would be returned to them for its exercise, and all the proper attributes of government would still remain in being and fully capable of exercise; the only drawback upon that exercise being the single fact of inconvenience. This then would be no revolution, nor would anything be so which leaves unimpaired the sovereignty and principles of our government.
Sec. 2 of Art. I of the constitution of Indiana, is a simple declaration of rights. It does not give being to those rights, but declares their existence anterior to and independent of the constitution. If the constitution had not asserted those rights, they would have existed none the less. But as long as they are asserted and thus endorsed by the constitution, the Journal cannot object to their authority. Let us see if the constitution does not assert that the people have the right to do what the Journal calls an act of "revolution." The section referred to declares, "That all power is inherent in the people; and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their peace, safety and happiness. For the advancement of these ends, they have at ALL TIMES an unalienable and indefeasible right to alter or reform their government in such manner as they may think proper." Not only does the constitution declare the right of the people to alter or reform their government at all times, but so careful is it to provide for the frequent exercise of this right, that it enjoins upon its officers the duty of opening a poll for that special purpose, once in twelve years. And now farsooth the Journal would have us believe that because the constitutional officers are compelled to offer the opportunity once in twelve years, as a matter of convenience only, that the people have not the right to take the opportunity when they please; although the constitution declares they have the right to do it at all times.
The fact then is simply this: that by virtue of this sovereign right, the people by their chosen representatives provided last winter that a vote should be taken to decide whether a convention should be called to revise the present constitution. A majority of the people by their silence said they did not care. Of those who had a choice, a majority decided that they were in favor of a convention. The calling of a convention in itself considered, is neither tantamount to an act of original sovereignty, nor is it even beyond the power of the legislature. By the vote of last August, the legislature have permission to provide for a convention, but are not compelled to do so. It is with them a question of expediency, with permission to act if they see fit. The vote of last August gives the legislature authority to make provision for a convention and that is all. The convention may agree upon a constitution, but the constitution will be of no validity whatever, unless afterwards adopted by the people. If a majority of the people should adopt it, it then becomes the supreme organic law for the time being, and completely supersedes the constitution which it takes; and the effect would be the same, whether the constitution so adopted were recommended by a convention or by a single individual.

Any person has a perfect right to draw up a constitution, and ask the people of the State to assemble on a given day and adopt it; and if a majority of them agree to adopt it, by the act of adoption it becomes the law paramount; or, the article of the constitution quoted above is a dead letter.
Again, the Journal argues that the framers of the constitution did not intend that a convention should be called at any other time than that mentioned. Well, suppose they did not, though the Journal falls far short of proving its assertion; still, if the right of the people exists as stated in the 2d section, it matters not what the framers of the constitution intended. If they intended to take away a right which, as they themselves declared, was in existence anterior to their constitution, an "unalienable and indefeasible right," they intended to perpetrate a gross act of usurpation; and their intention or any act in furtherance of it was a nullity.
But the Journal says, it is inexpedient to alter the Constitution. Ah, well! that is the question, neighbor, upon which the people are quite competent to decide. We are willing they should decide it. You have some feeling on the subject, no doubt. The new Constitution might come into operation before the expiration of the official terms of some of your friends; and then, biennial sessions of the Legislature might not agree with your plans entirely. Well, if the people of Indiana come to understand that it might discommodate you and your "three friends," they will doubtless forego their own welfare, for your accommodation.

The State Debt. The present is a most interesting crisis in the affairs of the State. A measure, upon the proper adjustment of which depends the financial prosperity of Indiana for generations to come, hangs upon the deliberations of the present Legislature. The attention of the people of the State is anxiously directed to the legislative proceedings now in progress, in the hope that they will result in such action as will effectually vindicate our State honor, and afford a guaranty of the liquidation and eventual payment of the public debt, without in the mean time crushing the energies of our people under too heavy a load of taxation. It is already demonstrated, that the arrangement now in progress contemplates a greater burden of taxation than the people are able to bear; and the burden imposed will be borne with cheerfulness, if the imposition of it is permitted to accomplish its proper object, the satisfaction of the just claims of our creditors.
The prospect of the result so much desired seems now to be presented. The proposals of our bondholders are of such a nature as to give promise of a satisfactory adjustment of our debt.
That honest differences of opinion will arise as to some of the terms of the arrangement, is to be expected. It would be strange indeed if such should not be the case; but we hope that members of the Legislature will address themselves to the subject under a full sense of the responsibility involved, and with a desire to accomplish the best possible result; and with such a disposition, we feel confident that success will crown their efforts.
The proposal to divide a debt of this kind, and to charge one half of it upon a public work, taking it as a specific security for so large an amount, running the risk of its producing that amount, and releasing the faith and obligation of the State forever to that extent, is a perfect novelty in stock transactions; and we venture to say, that such an offer was never before made to a State. Add to this that our creditors offer to advance the funds necessary to ensure the completion of the work, and the offer is certainly without precedent. It is the only practicable basis on which our debt can be arranged, and so long as this basis is preserved, there should be no insuperable obstacle found in the details of the business. These are in substance the views we expressed two years ago, and before our creditors made their offers; and we have seen nothing since, that does not tend to confirm us in them.
In the Senate, on Wednesday, a test vote was taken on the bill for the relief of the Walsh College, on a motion made to recommit with instructions. The vote on the question of recommitting was ayes 4, noes 15. This was so decisive, that the bill passed to its third reading without a division. It is understood that the present bill obviates the objection made to that of last session, that it would impair the contingent school fund, and that it now affords a better security to that fund than the property mortgaged to the State afforded. In addition to this, by the present bill the college offers a free scholarship, for five years, to one person from each county in the State, to be educated for a common school teacher. This would have the effect to elevate the standard of qualifications of teachers, and must, be, if appreciated, of inestimable benefit to the common schools of the State.

The vote in the Senate, confirming the appointment of SAMUEL E. PERKINS as one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, was as follows:
AYES—Messrs. Allison, Barbour, Beard, Berry of Franklin, Berry of Monroe, Coats, Conner, Cuppy, Day, Edmonston, Ellis, English, Green, Hamer, Handy, Hardin, Henry, Howell, Jackson, Logan, Merrill, Miller, Miligan, Miliken, Parks, Read, Rockhill, Stewart, Stockwell, Taber, Verbrake, Waters, and Zeeb—33.
NOES—Messrs. Bowers, Bradbury, Chenoweth, Clements, Coffin, Davis, Goodenow, Hamrick, Holloway, Morgan, Montgomery, Murphy, Orth, Osborn, Robinson, Simpson, and Wmchell—17.
We venture to say that no man who voted in the affirmative will ever have cause to regret it. Mr. Perkins will make one of the best judges which the Supreme Court has ever had.

Accident. On Tuesday morning a sad accident occurred in the north part of this town, under the following circumstances: Mr. In was shooting some hogs in his yard, and supposing that his rifle had missed fire, he was in the act of taking it from his shoulder, when it went off. The ball passed through the side of a house in the next yard, occupied by Mr. Samuel Morris. His daughter, a promising girl of fourteen years of age, was standing between her parents in the kitchen, and received the ball in her right arm, through which it passed, entered her right side, and came out near the back bone. She has been lying since Tuesday morning in a low state, and it is feared that she will not recover. This severe accident is another instance of the danger attending the use of fire arms in streets and about dwelling houses.

One of the editors has been confined by sickness for some days, and the imperative calls upon the attention of the other have been multiplied in consequence. We work as hard as possible all day and part of the night; yet our friends must pardon us if we are delinquent as Mr. Webster has done. Other writers say that Mr. Clay has advised otherwise.

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Erastus Root, who for many years occupied a prominent place among the politicians of New York, died at New York city on Thursday, Dec. 24th, in the 74th year of his age.

Three dollar bills on the Bank of Wooster, Ohio, now, letter A, dated Oct. 1, 1846, are in circulation. Plate rough and coarse; signature engraved, and filling up bad.

The value of the prizes taken at Tobacco and Tampico by the squadron amounts to \$220,000.

Heads of the House. BY NEMO. FRANCIS H. FRY, from Montgomery, is a gentleman of estimable character. His amiability and private worth are such, that although no speaker, he has repeatedly been returned to the Legislature, receiving more than the support of his own party at the polls. Mr. Fry is a trader, a business man of practical sense, and liberal views. He is not an ambitious man, nor one fond of display; and his selection to the office he holds is therefore a response to his merit, rather than his aspirations.

CYRUS L. DUNHAM, from Washington, is one of the leading characters in the House. He is one of those who never brings to his aid any factitious qualities. As a speaker he has no rhetorical flourish, no tinsel, no posturing; but with his head inclined forward and his eyes intently fixed on his auditory, he gives voice to a steady, cogent, and unbroken flow of argument, which always interests, and seldom fails to convince. Mr. D. is a young man, and with his talents and perseverance he promises to take rank among the first men in the State.

JAMES H. CRAVENS, the member from Ripley, is a gentleman of talent and standing, and of great experience in legislative business. He does not speak too often, and when he does, his address is to the reason of his hearers. He reasons with soundness and point, always keeping his premises clearly in view, going straight on to his conclusions, with at the same time a vigilant eye to the collateral bearings of his subject. Mr. C. was the favorite of many members for the Speakership, and if elected would have made a fine presiding officer. He is patient in investigation, and does not permit himself to a question until he understands its merits; but once collated, he pushes his object with unremitting perseverance.

CHARLES I. BATELL, the member from Vanderburg, is one of those who find considerable difficulty in becoming familiar with involved subjects. He cannot at a glance seize the strong points of a question, and comprehend all its bearings. This perfect mastery of questions is with him the result of elaborate and patient examination; yet he readily undertakes the task, and when he arrives at his conclusions, he illuminates his subject by the reflections of a mind singularly clear in its ultimate views. He is a sincere lover of truth, and when he elicits it, it never escapes him. His integrity of purpose and well disciplined judgment, have won for him a high degree of consideration among those who know him well. He is remarkable for absent-mindedness, and many anecdotes are given of his curious mistakes of this kind; but as this cannot detract from the worth or usefulness of the man, it is needless to refer to them.

While the resolution for the benefit of soldiers in the army was first under consideration in the U. S. Senate, a short time since, Mr. Benton remarked that the Senate "was a deliberative body, and when he first came here the fathers of the republic who he found here told him that some inconvenience or other had resulted was sure to follow the adoption of any measure passed principally upon an appeal to their feelings of generosity or sympathy, and without the customary forms of inquiry and discussion." There is a great deal of wisdom in this remark, and it should never be lost sight of. We know that most flagitious measures have sometimes been passed through legislative bodies under the pretence of sympathy for parties affected, but which were designed for the most wicked purposes.

On the same occasion, Mr. Benton said that "No man was more desirous that justice should be done the army than he was, and he wished to take advantage of the present season of its popularity for that purpose. He had often said, and he wished the fact remarked, that the men who fought at Monterey, at Palo Alto, and El Resaca, were the same who had contended so long amidst the horrors of the swamps and hammocks of Florida. There were times when the bravest could not command success. Mr. Benton then pointed out in a forcible manner the advantage which the navy had over the army in the matter of prize money. The officers and men in the former were entitled to the value of the public property they had captured, and it had often happened in the course of our history, that when a fortress was taken wholly by land forces, the officers and sailors of a squadron or fleet that might be in sight, received the value of it in prize money, though they had not fired a gun. He gave several instances of this as occurring during the last war.

IOWA SENATORS.—We learn by a gentleman direct from Iowa city, that the Legislature had, in Convention, gone into one balloting for the election of a U. S. Senator. The vote stood as follows:
Jonathan McCarty (possum) 29
Wilson (Democrat) 28
Mitchell (Whig) 1
Consequently there was no election, and the Convention adjourned. It is supposed that the Democrats will refuse to ballot further during this session, because of the refusal of certain Whigs representing Democratic districts, to obey instructions to vote for a Democratic candidate for the Senate; and also because they fear that by a union of the Whigs and the possum Democrats, McCarty might be elected. The last considerations ought alone to be sufficient; for the election of such a person as McCarty would be altogether infamous. We should very much prefer the election of any decent Whig to such a man as McCarty. The right course, however, under the circumstances, is to postpone; and this course will be adopted by the Democrats.

MEXICAN CRUELTY.—In December, 1835, a Mexican officer of the name of Jose Antonio Mexia, landed at Tampico with a body of men under the Mexican flag. His unfortunate associates had been inveigled into accompanying him by false representations as to their destination, and the object of the expedition.—Among them were several foreigners, the larger number of whom were Americans. They fell into the hands of Santa Anna. The foreigners, including eighteen citizens of the United States, were, without trial, ordered for execution, and inhumanly murdered, while the Mexican part of them were not punished. Two Frenchmen accompanied this expedition, and were among the victims; and for this illegal and inhuman murder, France exacted of Mexico such atonement as she thought proper to demand. None has ever been made to the government of the United States, or to the families of these unhappy victims of Mexican perfidy and Mexican cruelty. Is it not strange, now that we are making efforts to obtain reparation, that some whig leaders are arraying themselves on the Mexican side, and against their own country?

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Carrier's Address to the Patrons of the Sentinel.

WRITTEN BY MRS. SARAH T. BOLTON. I stood beneath a wintry sky, In musing mood alone, And as the chilling wind went by, With its low, solemn tone, I thought I heard, in every pause, A deep sepulchral groan. I turned—and lo, an aged form Was feebly bending there; The viewless spirit of the storm Frosted with his silvery hair; The frost-gems glittered on his feet All bloodless, cold, and bare. His brow was marred by lines of care, Death's hue was on his cheek; His trembling limbs could scarcely bear Their burden worn and weak; His voice was lost, in hollow groans, When he assayed to speak. Aside the sombre clouds were driven That veiled the brow of night; The far-off stars, like eyes in heaven, All solemn, pure, and bright, Looked coldly on the jewelled earth That sparkled in their light. He felt the change—a gleam of mirth Lit up his glazing eye; He gazed upon the lovely earth, Then on the starry sky, And said, "It is a glorious night, A blessed time to die. "Though wearing care and toil have wrought Deep furrows on my brow, Though many a weary day has taught This wasted form to bow, I was not once the feeble thing That you behold me now. "I grasped a sceptre, all my own, The night my father died, And sat me down upon my throne With all a monarch's pride; I knew my sway was glorious, And my dominion wide. "I journeyed forth, without a care, O'er many a land and sea; My path was in the viewless air, My footsteps wild and free; My heart was full of happy dreams, My voice was full of glee. "I saw the beauties of the earth, The wonders of the sky, And deemed, with such a place of birth, 'T was strange that men did sigh; Strange, they did weep, but stranger still, That they were doomed to die. "I had not then unveiled the heart, Or seen the secret springs From which in quick succession start Man's wayward wanderings, Nor did I know the lightning speed Of thought's unweary wings. "I've seen a happy little band Of children, in their play, Fling shining shells upon the strand, To gather blossoms gay; Then, if a butterfly came by, The flowers were thrown away. "Thus, full of vague imaginings, The mass of human kind, Striving to grasp the brightest things, Leave all the best behind; No earthly good can fill the soul, Or satisfy the mind. "I've seen the lord of wealth and power Beset with gloom and fear; The lady, in a palace tower, Sled many a burning tear— Men ever find that wealth and fame Are not what they appear. "The warmest, lightest hearts I found Beside the peasant's hearth, Where day in honest toil went on, The eye in sinless mirth— Such beings grace man's life, This beautiful bright one. "In every land beneath the sun, These restless feet have been; Strange things these shivered hands have done, And wondrous toils I've seen; And many a dark, mysterious sight These failing eyes have seen. "I've wrought a change in many a home, Where hearts were young and gay; I've stamped upon the proudest dome The impress of decay, And helped the little water-fall To wear the rocks away. "The forest, river, vale, and hill, Grey mound, and ivy tower; The broadest sea, the stillest rill, The palace, and the bower, Have felt alike my magic touch, And owned my wondrous power. "I sat, one lovely summer night, Beside a lady fair, And painted threads of silvery white Amidst her raven hair; She started, in the morning light, To see Time's way-marks there. "I stood within a dungeon cell, And saw the dreadful strife Of him who numbered long and well His last few hours of life; With hope, despair, fear, agony, Remorse, and anguish rife. "Within a hovel, cold and damp, A man, in seeming, poor, Lighted a feeble, flickering lamp, And doubly barred the door; Then raised his iron coffin-lid And glowered o'er his store. "I stood within that cheerless room, Beside a tattered bed, And heard, amidst the mid-night gloom, A murderer's stealing tread; I looked upon the miser's form, 'T was pale, and cold, and dead. "I saw Italia's moonlit seas, Britannia's lazy sky, The Ganges, with its devotees, Himalaya loar and high, And heard, along the Danube's shore, The perfumed zephyr's sigh. "I saw Mohammed's worshipped grave; The city of the Czar; I saw the crescent banner wave O'er Palestine afar, And stood on Waterloo, where fell Napoleon's guiding star. "I saw the frozen Arctic main; The waste, where Arabs roam; The lovely, dark-eyed maids of Spain; The Tartar's mountain home, And sat, in trembling awe, beside The monuments of Rome. "Twelve;

"There is a land, I marked it well, When last I journeyed there, Where valley, streamlet, hill, and dell, Sky, mountain, ocean, air, And all things, save her children's hearts, Are bright, and bland, and fair. "Her children are not abject slaves, And yet they are not free; Like some wrecked bark upon the waves Of a tumultuous sea, They ever toss upon the tide Of hopeless anarchy. "The petty chief, whom chance beguiled, And made their lord to-day, To-morrow's sun may see reviled, Outlawed, and driven away, That one, less fit to rule, perchance, May bear the short-lived sway. "From her Columbia had endured Insult and outrage long; Had seen her plundered sons immured In dungeons dark and strong, By lawless rulers, who delayed Atonement for the wrong. "At length, as though she had grown bold In lawless deeds before, Her blood-red banner was unrolled Upon Columbia's shore, And Freedom saw her own bright soil Stained with her children's gore. "Then heard I Freedom's rallying cry, And saw their weapons gleam, As warrior-bands swept proudly by, O'er valley, hill, and stream, Resolved their country's injured rights And honor to redeem. "When summer-zephyrs, rich and bland, Were whispering soft and low, Where bright and pure, fair Rio Grande, Thy sparkling waters flow, Thy freedom's ever glorious band Met the invading foe. "I stayed me, in my onward flight, Above the battle field, And gazing from my airy height, I saw the vanquished yield; And even then I knew the doom Of Mexico was sealed. "Where climbing vines and budding flowers Concealed a ruin grey, I sat and numbered out the hours That swiftly winged away, And heard the war alarm rung O'er fated Monterey. "Oh! there were trembling hearts, and sighs, And shrieks of deep despair, All bloodless cheeks and tearful eyes, And wild confusion there, When first the cannon tolled death's knell Upon the troubled air. "On, on they came, the free and brave; I saw their ranks advance; Their starry-banners proudly wave, Their war-steeds gaily prance, And all along the solid lines The unsheathed weapons glance. "There was a sound that seemed to rend The strong old earth in twain, And then the battle-smoke did bend Its wings above the plain, As though it strove to hide from Heaven The gory, ghastly slain. "Among the wounded and the dead, Along the crimson street, I heard the soldier's measured tread, The sound of flying feet, And words of bitter parting said By friends no more to meet. "Amid the conflict's fiercest swell, Where swiftest blows were given, Where first the foe's banner fell, And solid ranks were riven, Columbia's rainbow-flag arose, Decked with the stars of heaven. "The acts of daring, bravery, might, I saw amidst the fray, Will make fair Freedom's annals bright, In many a coming day, And send an echo through all time Till earth shall pass away. "While yet I tarried, at the place, A shining Goddess came; I saw her flying fingers trace, In characters of flame, Immortal names and deeds that grace The burning scroll of fame. "When Glory threw a chaplet o'er The banner of the free, High, high above the cannon's roar, I shouted Victory! Long wave Columbia's stripes and stars, Long live her chivalry!" He ceased, gazed round upon the night, And closed his garments' fold; His glazing eyes had lost their light, His lips were blue and cold. The clock struck TWELVE, I heard a sigh— The old year's tale was told.

Death of the Old Year. BY TENNYSON. Full knee-deep lies the winter snow, And the wind whistles wearily sighing; Tell ye the church-bell sad and slow, And tread softly, and speak low, For the old year lies a-dying. Old year, you must not die, You came to us so readily, You lived with us so steadily, Old year, you must not die. He lies still; he doth not move; He will not see the dawn of day, He hath no other life above, And the New-year will take 'em away. Old year, you must not go, So long as you have been with us, Such joy as you have seen with us, Old year, you shall not go! He frothed his bumpers to the brim; A jollier year we shall not see; But tho' his eyes are waxing dim, And tho' his feet speak ill of him, He is a friend to me! Old year, you shall not die, We did so laugh and say with you, I've half a mind to die with you, Old year, if you must die. He was full of jibe and jest, But all his merry quips are o'er; To see him die, across the waste His son and heir doth ride post haste; But he'll be dead before Every one for his own! The night is starry and cold, my friend, And the New Year, blithe and bold, my friend, Comes up to take his own. How hard he breathes!—over the snow I heard just now the crowing cock. The shadows flicker to and fro; The cricket chirps; the light burns low; 'T is nearly "one o'clock. Old year, we'll dearly love you, Shake hands before you die, What is it we can do for you? Speak out, before you die! His face is growing sharp and thin, Attack! our friend is gone! Close up your eyes; tie up his chin; Step from the corpse, and get him in That standeth there alone, And waiteth at the door. There's a new foot on the floor, my friend, And a new face at the door, my friend, A new face at the door!

WASHINGTON CITY, Dec. 2, 1846. MESSRS. CHAPMAN & SPANN.—A duel has been talked of here for some days past, as being likely to come off between Garrett Davis of Ky. and Mr. Bailey of Va., growing out of a late controversy between them on the floor of Congress. It is understood today that the challenge passed yesterday, and that Mr. Bailey has been arrested and held to bail by the Police, and that Mr. Davis has left the city to avoid a like fate. In haste, Respectfully Yours, E.

CAMP BELKNAP, TEXAS, Dec. 2, 1846. DEAR CHAPMAN:—It is not because I think that I shall communicate anything new or interesting that I now write to you, but more for the purpose of informing you of our whereabouts—as you are doubtless aware we have been rather quiet since we landed this side of the Gulf. Since the battle of Monterey everything has remained perfectly in statu quo. We are daily expecting orders from head quarters. Since the taking of Tampico, our arrangements about being in that light is all knocked into a cocked-hat. A few regulars have been sent there for the purpose of garrisoning the place. Gen. Patterson who will have command of our division is looked for at Matamoros daily; so soon as he arrives we will doubtless learn our destination. It is rumored, and believed by many of our officers, that our whole Brigade will receive marching orders; that the 1st Regiment (Col. Drake's) will go to Tampico, by way of the Gulf; that the 2d and 3rd will march through by land, a portion of them halt and garrison at Victoria, the Captain of the State of Tamaulipas, the remainder proceed to Tampico. We are assured of one thing, and that is, that we will be en route for some place in a very few days; and you may be certain that there are many conjectures as to our destination. We are perfectly submissive, and will obey orders. If none are received, we will stay where we are our twelve months out, and thus secure our good intentions.

The Regular Army has this war all their own way. Nothing can be done unless the Regular Army is foremost. Everything that can be done to discourage the Volunteers and place the soldiers of the "Regular line" in advance of the Volunteers is done. The officers of the "Regular line" would not be sorry if the war would last ten years—there would be more promotions. I feel proud of the American soldier; but after this war is over the voluptuous poor-house of the nation (West Point) will stand upon very tottering foundations. It will certainly go down. The conduct of the officers of the Regular Army is such as to disgust every Volunteer that comes in contact with them. My own opinion is that we will have little or no fighting to do. My reasons are these: Gen. Butler has been declared Governor of New Leon, established head quarters at Monterey, and apprehends no difficulty in that quarter. Gen. Worth is in possession of Saltillo. We have a sufficient number of troops in the Regular Army to garrison all important points from Tampico to Monterey. Thus we have our possession of all the States of New Leon and Tamaulipas, together with Gen. Kearney's "possessions," will more than defray the expenses of the war, and gives us more territory than we at first desired.

As was anticipated Gen. Ampudia has been relieved of the command of the Mexican forces. Gen. Mejia takes his place—but the whole will soon be under the control of Santa Anna, who is now concentrating the Mexican army at San Louis Potosi. That place is strongly fortified by nature—and everything will be done to make it impregnable. I do not think that Gen. Taylor will decide to march against that place—not that he would anticipate defeat, that is almost impossible, the battles of the 8th and 9th of May show that the Mexican army is not invincible. But what would it profit us if we were to take the place? Perhaps nothing but the glory that would attach to our arms.

We can attack Vera Cruz by the Gulf and land; take that place and press by it. If we fortify all the posts from Tampico to Monterey, and have Vera Cruz, we have Mexico shut out from all commercial advantages, and she will soon be willing to come to terms. If they should occasionally break out and retake some of the places now in our possession we can amuse ourselves by driving them back into the interior. Thus posted we can garrison the posts with the Regular Army with but little additional expense, and hold them at quite a respectable distance from the front. The health of the Volunteers is very good at the present time; the climate is quite agreeable. More anon. Yours truly, T. B. KINDER.

The Paris correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger thus speaks of the proceedings in relation to the "Spanish marriage question," in the consummation of which King Louis Philippe has outwitted the British government. Republicans can derive a useful lesson from this contemptible matter: "The Spanish marriage question has become a public scandal to the whole civilized world. There never was such bargaining and selling of husbands and wives, nor such indecent exposures as connected with this sad affair. The question of legitimacy have never been exhibited in so forcible a light. The French government first sends a physician, M. Orfila—the celebrated chemist—to Spain to ascertain whether Isabella II. is likely to have children, and he prescribes a regimen which the Spanish physicians in attendance on the Queen pronounce "killing," without hesitation. The learned gentleman nevertheless assures his government that the Queen is out of danger—as regards the line of succession, and that her offspring, if she should chance to have any, which is doubtful, are not likely to live. Then comes the diplomatic intrigue for the best chance in regard to her Duke; and the last question which is to be settled is whether the marriage of Infanta Louisa with the Duke of Montpensier, shall take place after the Queen has issued, and that issue, or to live, or simply after she is in a way which promises issue. The King consults the Chemist, and the latter gives it as his opinion that neither case is likely to occur. He describes the hereditary disease of the Queen as shocking and disgusting in the extreme, and advises the King not to let a day interfere between the two marriages. Accordingly the two marriages are solemnized on the same day—the Spanish Prince takes a crown which is not fitted to his head and the French the cash, and both shut their eyes as to the rest of the bargain. And by such means as these, people are garrisoned in Europe. England knew this, and did not protest so much against the marriage as against the probable consequences. Revolution and bloodshed will probably be entailed by this act; and a pretext for an armed interference on the part of France, and by such means Spain may be ultimately subjugated as Poland was by her unprincipled neighbor."

In a letter written by the Editor of the Vincennes Sun, and dated from Indianapolis, we find the following allusion to an incident said to have occurred here a short time since: "A short time after Mr. Biddle was elected Judge, R. A. Lockwood, Esq., of Lafayette, had the presumption to strike him in the face. Mr. B. then drew a pair of tongs and made at Mr. L., whereupon Mr. L. drew a spear from a cane, and it was said that he would have killed Mr. B. but for the interference of friends. The cause of the difference is said to be as follows: Mr. Lockwood filed an affidavit before the Supreme Court in a certain case which Mr. B. pronounced false in every particular; afterwards Mr. L. substantiated its correctness by a witness, and then, after the adjournment of court, Mr. L. commenced the attack."

NAVAL EXAMINATION.—The following young men have passed the examination required of them, and been admitted into the Navy as acting midshipmen, since the 10th of October. Their names are placed in the order of merit as exhibited at the examinations:— Beverly Kennon, Indiana; Edwin O. Carnes, Ohio; James Broden, Pennsylvania; F. W. Robinson, Mass.; James P. Foster, Tennessee; A. J. Dallas, Pennsylvania; Augustus Lodge, Indiana; James Waters, Michigan; K. R. Dreesse, Rhode Island; P. C. Johnson, Maine; O. P. Allen, Ohio; Charles L. Smith, do.; Lewis C. Sawyer, do.; John D. Raney, Mississippi.

A JOURNALISTIC INCIDENT IN ROME.—The new Pope amongst other acts which will ever signalize his accession to the Pontificate, has authorized the establishment of a paper which shall publish the account of all proceedings before the legal tribunals. Up to the present time the investigations before those bodies have been secret, the public never knowing what passed there except when a judgment was published. The Pope is determined to give publicity to all acts of the government.