THE TRIBUNE.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 5, 1845.

WHIG NOMINATION.

FOR MAYOR,

DUDLEY SELDEN.

The New Cabinet.

Correspondence of The Tribune.

WASHINGTON, March 4, 1845.
2 o'clock, A. M.

The Cabinet, it is now conceded, has been finally arranged, and is as follows:

JAMES BUCHANAN, of Penn. Secretary of State.
R. J. WALKER, of Mississippi, Secretary of Treasury.
GEORGE BANCROFT, of Mass. Secretary of Navy.
WM. L. MARCY, of New-York, Secretary of War.
CAVE JOHNSON, of Tennessee, Postmaster General.
JOHN W. JONES, of Virginia, Attorney General.

This will be the Cabinet, without much doubt. If there is any doubt about it, it is concerning the office of Attorney General. Mr. Mason of Virginia, the present Secretary of the Navy, has had it tendered to him and many are of the opinion that he will be the man. I have it from reliable authority, however, that he feels somewhat hurt at being disturbed in his present office and will not accept. In case of his refusal, Speaker Jones will have it, as above.

The Cabinet is a curious one. It is understood that Bancroft is peculiarly in favor of Mr. Van Buren; while Mr. Marcy, who is from Van Buren's own State, is looked upon with distrust by Van's friends. *The history of Marcy's appointment may form an interesting paragraph for some future letter.*

☞ Mr. POLK'S INAUGURAL embodies more direct untruth than it is usual to crowd into a document of this nature. His broad assertion that "*Texas was once ours,*" is contradicted by facts of the most palpable notoriety. His assertion that our Government secures liberty and opportunity to all, stands out in glaring contrast with the fact that Three Millions of our People are by law denied the right to their own bodies, may be hard worked, badly fed, cruelly treated and not paid at all, in perfect accordance with Law, and their very wives and children sold where they can never see them again. Mr. Polk is himself the owner of something like a hundred of these unfortunate beings. Now, whether it be right or wrong that they should be thus owned, it is certainly wrong to falsify it, by asserting that *all* are protected in their natural rights by our institutions and laws, as Mr. Polk does.

His poor sophistry about Annexation will deceive no one who is not grossly ignorant of the means by which that Annexation has been effected and the purposes,—so manfully avowed by Calhoun, McDuffie, James Hamilton, &c. &c.—for which it was sought. Has not all aggression, from the beginning of time, been just as innocent and peaceful as this—taking the aggressors' word for it?

On the Tariff, Mr. Polk proves himself the same low demagogue he has ever been. Think of a man who *owns* a hundred laborers, paying them no wages, and keeping them poorly fed and coarsely clad, insinuating *his* especial love for "the toiling millions," and his fear that legislation may benefit "the wealthy few!" The impudence of this cant almost denudes it of hypocrisy. The attempt of Polk to use over again the juggling phrases of his letter to Kane, shows him of narrower intellect than we had supposed. These phrases answered the turn of the candidate, but they are sadly out of place in the mouth of the President. The People expected some declaration of his sentiments on the Tariff question, and not a new shift for concealing them. The poor stuff about not "taxing one section or one class for the benefit of another," &c., elucidates nothing, advances nothing. It only proves the author incapable of comprehending the bases of a true National policy. To array and balance one thing against another—to harm one interest as little as another is the limit of his vision. A policy which shall regard, embrace, and positively benefit *all* interests, is an idea too vast for his little soul. An equal distribution of '*burdens*' is the hight of his ambition. If his policy of putting low duties on all the coarse and common necessaries of life, had prevailed hitherto, we should be annually importing many millions' worth of Hats, Boots, Shoes, Axes, Cloths, &c. &c. which are now made much cheaper and better by our own workmen at home.

The mixture of verbal piety and practical knavery in this Inaugural cannot fail to disgust the right-thinking reader.—But we have no room to speak farther this morning.

Texas and Our Duty.

It is made a matter of grave reproach to us, by the exemplary moralists of the *Sun*, *Herald* and *Morning News*, that we still indulge forebodings of evil to our Country by the Annexation of Texas—that we are anxious and sad amid the uproar and revel of the Annexationists—and that we do not propose to fall in with the current cant of 'taking the side of our own Country' on this matter. Annexation is carried, after a fashion—in our judgment, a most guilty and unconstitutional fashion—and still we stand up and refuse to do it reverence. Of course, all manner of ingenious parallels are run between our course and that of the Tories, the Hartford Convention, &c. We see all this—we foresaw it—but what of it?

When, years ago, the lotty and pure-hearted WILLIAM ELLERY CHANNING lifted his voice in warning against the Texas conspirators, and the scheme, not then avowed, of adding Texas to this Country—not a murmur was heard in reply. There was no man in the Union so brazen as to justify the prospective Annexation of Texas, or deny that the acquisition of that territory by us, in defiance of Mexico, would be a flagrant wrong. Years afterward, when the first open overture for Annexation was made by Texas to this Country, and Mr. Secretary Forsyth replied that "so long as the war between Texas and Mexico shall continue, the question of Annexation *necessarily* involves that of *War* between the United States and Mexico," and that our Government therefore declined to take Texas, the whole Country acquiesced in the justice and force of the statement. The same sentiment was substantially re-asserted by Messrs. Van Buren, Benton, &c. a short year ago. Down to a very recent period, it was admitted, all over the Union, that Annexation implied either the previous assent of Mexico or an immediate War with her—that, by annexing in defiance of her claims and remonstrances, we *made* war upon her. This is just as true to-day as it was then. It may be that Mexico knows herself too weak to contend against us, and will succumb, though we think otherwise. In that case, she is simply coerced into submission by our overwhelming power. But that she feels herself wronged and robbed by us, no man can doubt. Her public documents, her journals, her uniform language, establish this beyond doubt. And why should not the whole truth be spoken? We *have* consummated, in intent if not in act, a long series of aggressions and outrages upon her—consummated it by the open seizure of a large portion of her territory. It is hers, certainly, as between her and us; for so we have solemnly declared it in the most sacred manner known to nations. Our people have wrested it from her, and now we take them into partnership with their spoils in their hands. Who does not see that we have made their conduct from first to last our own? We may bury our heads ever so deep in the sand, but the world will see that we have been despoiling our constant friend and ally, while solemnly assuring her that we were neither doing nor intending any such thing.

But the News cites to us the toast of the gallant Lawrence: "Our Country: May she be always right; but right or wrong, Our Country!"—Most heartily do we respond to the sentiment, though our application of it is probably different from that of the class who are hired to hack souls out of bodies to order. We say, Stand by Our Country; but stand by to keep her ever in the Right and win her back, if need be, from the Wrong. No acquisition tainted by injustice, no victory won against the Right, can possibly do us any real good.

'But suppose War ensue, would you not stand up for your Country?' We answer, we would *defend* our Country, if need be, and repel invaders. But we should not countenance and cheer on the prosecution of an unjust War. Deeply as we desire the well being of our Country in all things, we dare not be on one side when the God of Justice is on the other. We dare not insult Him by asking His blessing on a cause stained by Aggression and Rapacity.

"*Do the People wish War?*" was the significant inquiry of the Albany Argus last year, in direct reference to the Annexation movement. The question is as pertinent now as then; the answer as momentous. All through the Free States, Annexation was denounced *by Loco-Focos*, little more than a year since, as a project of monstrous wrong and iniquity. The Legislature of Massachusetts was *unanimous* in denouncing it, and in declaring that there was *no constitutional power in the Government* to annex a Foreign State to this Country. The New-Hampshire oracles, which are now crucifying Hale for his manly utterance, denounced Annexation in 1843 in language as severe and sweeping as we have ever applied to it. The Friends or Quakers, in their Yearly Meetings and otherwise, universally condemned and still condemn it.—Like us,

'They keep their old, unmoving station yet.'

What means it that nobody can see how peaceful, meek, and inoffensive a proceeding this Annexation is, but those who are under a party necessity to commend it?

Are we right or wrong in saying that, in adopting Texas and her War, we have given *cause* of alarm and hostility to other nations? This is a question of Public Law and of fact. The *Herald*, which yesterday characterized our forebodings as "the *cant* and *slang* of partisanship," had in the same paper the following:

"We must at once take our position and announce to the world, and to Great Britain in particular, our fixed and unalterable purpose to remain supreme on the continent of North America. That any seizure of California or Cuba by England, will not only meet our solemn protest, but will be considered a *casus belli*. This is the platform on which all true American patriots must make up their minds to stand.

"Our march is *onward* for centuries to come, *still onward*—and they who do not keep up with us, must fall behind and be forgotten. That's all."

Here is the whole matter decided in our behalf by our adversaries—for the Plebeian and other papers have said the same thing. *We* pronounce the acquisition of California or Cuba by England a cause of War by us upon her; how, then, must she and other nations regard *our* appropriation of Texas? By what law, human or Divine, do we make ourselves '*supreme*' on all the rest of this Continent as well as our own territory? Of course, whoever disputes our *supremacy* gives us cause of War! Who, then, we submit, are the real panic-makers—those who insist on or those who oppose the placing our Country in a state of hostility and defiance to all its neighbors?

—'But,' asks some Annexationist, 'is not Texas independent? May she not do what she likes with herself and her territory?'—Why, sir! Texas *has no* defined territory. Over one-half that she claims, her flag has never floated and dare not now be unfurled. Included in what she claims is the rich City and most of the Province of Santa Fè, which was never seen by a Texan, except as a spy or a prisoner, which was Spanish territory before Texas was ever explored, and has been in unbroken Spanish-Mexican possession ever since. How, then, can Texas pretend to give us this City and province? And if not this, how much *can* she give? We say, none at all, until her independence is acknowledged by Mexico. Until then, all attempt on her part to cede and on ours to accept from her territory, are premature and preposterous.

Relations with Mexico.

There is no room to doubt that Col. ALMONTE, the Mexican Minister at Washington, has express orders to demand his passports and leave the country as soon as he has official notice of the triumph of Annexation, though illness may delay his departure. This will suspend all Diplomatic intercourse between the two Governments. Still, it does not follow that overt hostilities will be resorted to by Mexico, though it is certain that she will protest against our acquisition of Texas, and utterly refuse her assent to it. A suspension of *all* intercourse between the two countries is very probable. England, it is currently insisted in Wall-street, will do nothing in the premises. We shall see.

☞ The POSTAGE REFORM bill has been *signed* by John Tyler, and is now a law. It will take effect on and after the 1st of July. Although less thorough than we think it should be, it embraces many excellent provisions, and will do great good. If faithfully carried into execution, it will reduce the cost of Mail Transportation between Half a Million and a Million of Dollars per annum, while it will hardly reduce the receipts after a year or two, and may increase them. The outrageous Franking Privilege of Congress is not cut down, as it should be, nor is a discrimination made in favor of pay in advance; but let us be thankful for what we have, and take care to secure farther improvement at the next session.

The Cabinet.

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot.

WASHINGTON, March 3d.

"The leaders of the Empire Club are here, and, true to their vocation, they are to be found in all the "hells," bar-rooms and groggeries, proposing bets on the composition of the Cabinet. They take the following named persons at 80 to 100 against the field:

JAMES BUCHANAN, of Pa. Secretary of State.
R. J. WALKER, of Miss. " Treasury.
WM. L. MARCY, of N. Y. " War.
J. Y. MASON, of Va. " Navy.
CAVE JOHNSON, of Tenn. Postmaster General.

"In detail, they propose three to one on Buchanan and Mason; one to three on Walker and Johnson, and two to one against any named man for the Attorney Generalship. They have succeeded in "laying out," as their slang calls it, large sums on these points. Gaming had got to a very low ebb here, and but for the "happy thought" of the "sportsmen" in proposing, as ventures, the race for the new Cabinet, the gentlemen from New-York would have scarcely made their expenses."

☞ We are informed in the *New-Haven Courier* that the appointment of JONATHAN STODDARD as U. S. District Attorney for the District of Connecticut has been confirmed by the Senate.

JOHN SLOSSON, Esq., has been appointed School Commissioner for the First Ward, vice William Castle, deceased. Mr. Slosson is President of the New York Bible Society, and one of the managers of the American Bible Society.

To-Day's Outside.

First Page.—Notices of New Publications; The Mineral Wealth of Wisconsin; Aqueduct across the Allegheny; Cotton up Stream; Mercantile Library Association; Mr. Burritt's Lecture; Offices and Dirt; the Books; New-York Legislature; A Voice from Madison County; Congressional Proceedings; News Items.

Last Page.—Dirge for a Child; Proceedings of the Farmers' Club; Commercial and Money Matters; Marine Journal.

ANTI-RENT EXCITEMENT.—On Saturday last Deputy Sheriff Bagby of Columbia Co. intended to make a sale under an execution, of the personal property of a man named Finkle who lived at Tachkanic, and had failed to pay his rent. The sale was, however, (there being two other executions on the same property) stopped. Nevertheless a company of some 150 persons assembled, among whom were seven disguised Indians, with weapons, tar and feathers, &c.—also a party of 20 more Indians were near at hand, evidently expecting the Sheriff's Deputy. As it happened there was no violence committed.

THE NEW STATES.—Iowa and Florida being admitted into the Union, increases the number of States in our Confederacy to TWENTY-EIGHT, without including Texas. The Senate will hereafter comprise 56 members, or 58 including those from Texas; and the House 225, or including those from Texas, 227. The six new Senators to be chosen will doubtless be Loco-Foco.

The Legislature of Iowa does not meet until January next, and will comprise 17 Senators and 39 Representatives. The seat of government is at the city of Iowa, in Johnson County. [Express.

☞ REV. E. H. CHAPIN has been induced to repeat his Oration before the Marshall and Prospect Societies *at the Tabernacle this evening*, to give those an opportunity to hear who were prevented by the storm on the former occasion. Mr. CHAPIN is one of the most pleasing and popular Orators of our time, and will be heard with delight by thousands. The presence of the Melodeons and many other well-known vocalists will make the House very attractive. Look in if you can; for you will rarely get so much for a shilling.

BY EXPRESS.

The Express of the Post Office Department left Washington with President Polk's Inaugural Address yesterday at 12 o'clock. It had reached 12 miles this side of Baltimore, when the car ran off the track, and the carrier was obliged to walk three miles, thus losing nearly two hours. The cars arrived at Jersey City at half past 9 last evening, and the Address was delivered from the Post Office in this City at precisely 10 o'clock.

PRESIDENT POLK'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

March 4, 1845.

FELLOW-CITIZENS:—Without solicitation on my part, I have been chosen by the free and voluntary suffrages of my countrymen to the most honorable and most responsible office on earth. I am deeply impressed with gratitude for the confidence reposed in me. Honored with this distinguished consideration at an earlier period of life than any of my predecessors, I cannot disguise the diffidence with which I am about to enter on the discharge of my official duties.

If the more aged and experienced men who have filled the office of President of the United States, even in the infancy of the republic, distrusted their ability to discharge the duties of that exalted station, what ought not to be the apprehensions of one so much younger and less endowed, now that our domain extends from ocean to ocean, that our people have so greatly increased in numbers, and at a time when so great diversity of opinion prevails in regard to the principles and policy which should characterize the administration of our government? Well may the boldest fear, and the wisest tremble, when incurring responsibilities on which may depend our country's peace and prosperity, and, in some degree, the hopes and happiness of the whole human family.

In assuming responsibilities so vast, I fervently invoke the aid of that Almighty Ruler of the universe, in whose hands are the destinies of nations and of men, to guard this heaven-favored land against the mischiefs which, without His guidance, might arise from an unwise public policy. With a firm reliance upon the wisdom of Omnipotence to sustain and direct me in the path of duty which I am appointed to pursue, I stand in the presence of this assembled multitude of my countrymen, to take upon myself the solemn obligation, "to the best of my ability, to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States."

A concise enumeration of the principles which will guide me in the administrative policy of the government, is not only in accordance with the examples set me by all my predecessors, but is eminently befitting the occasion.

The constitution itself, plainly written as it is, the safeguard of our federative compact, the offspring of concession and compromise, binding together in the bonds of peace and union this great and increasing family of free and independent States, will be the chart by which I shall be directed.

It will be my first care to administer the government in the true spirit of that instrument, and to assume no powers not expressly granted, or clearly implied in its terms. The government of the United States is one of delegated and limited powers; and it is by a strict adherence to the clearly granted powers, and by abstaining from the exercise of doubtful or unauthorized implied powers, that we have the only sure guaranty against the recurrence of those unfortunate collisions between the Federal and State authorities, which have occasionally so much disturbed the harmony of our system, and even threatened the perpetuity of our glorious Union.

"To the States respectively, or to the people," have been reserved "the powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States." Each State is a complete sovereignty within the sphere of its reserved powers. The Government of the Union, acting within the sphere of its delegated authority, is also a complete sovereignty. While the General Government should abstain from the exercise of authority not clearly delegated to it, the States should be equally careful that, in the maintenance of their rights, they do not overstep the limits of powers reserved to them. One of the most distinguished of my predecessors attached deserved importance to "the support of the State Governments in all their rights, as the most competent administration for our domestic concerns, and the surest bulwark against anti-republican tendencies;" and to the "preservation of the General Government in its whole constitutional vigor, as the sheet-anchor of our peace at home, and safety abroad."

To the Government of the United States has been intrusted the exclusive management of our Foreign Affairs. Beyond that, it wields a few general enumerated powers. It does not force reform on the States. It leaves individuals, over whom it casts its protecting influence, entirely free to improve their own condition by the legitimate exercise of all their mental and physical powers. It is a common protector of each and all the States; of every man who lives upon our soil, whether of native or foreign birth; of every religious sect, in their worship of the Almighty according to the dictates of their own conscience; of every shade of opinion, and the most free inquiry; of every art, trade and occupation, consistent with the laws of the States. And we rejoice in the general happiness, prosperity and advancement of our Country, which have been the offspring of Freedom, not of Power.

This most admirable and wisest system of well-regulated self government among men, ever devised by human minds, has been tested by its successful operation for more than half a century; and, if preserved from the usurpations of the Federal Government on the one hand and the exercise by the States of powers not reserved to them on the other, will, I fervently hope and believe, endure for ages to come, and dispense the blessings of civil and religious liberty to distant generations. To effect objects so dear to every patriot, I shall devote myself with anxious solicitude. It will be my desire to guard against that most fruitful source of danger to the harmonious action of our system, which consists in substituting the mere discretion and caprice of the Executive, or of majorities in the legislative department of the Government, for powers which have been withheld from the Federal Government by the Constitution. By the theory of our Government, majorities rule; but this right is not an arbitrary or unlimited one. It is a right to be exercised in subordination to the Constitution, and in conformity to it. One great object of the Constitution was to restrain majorities from oppressing minorities, or encroaching upon their just rights. Minorities have a right to appeal to the Constitution, as a shield against such oppression.

That the blessings of liberty which our Constitution secures may be enjoyed alike by minorities and majorities, the Executive has been wisely invested with a qualified veto upon the acts of the Legislature. It is a negative power, and is conservative in its character. It arrests for the time hasty, inconsiderate, or unconstitutional legislation; invites reconsideration, and transfers questions at issue between the Legislative and Executive departments of the tribunal of the people. Like all other powers, it is subject to be abused. When judiciously and properly exercised, the Constitution itself may be saved from infraction, and the rights of all preserved and protected.

The inestimable value of our federal Union is felt and acknowledged by all. By this system of united and confederated States, our people are permitted, collectively and individually, to seek their own happiness in their own way; and the consequences have been most auspicious. Since the Union was formed, the number of States has increased from thirteen to twenty-eight; two of these have taken their position as members of the confederacy within the last week. Our population has increased from three to twenty millions. New communities and states are seeking protection under its ægis, and multitudes from the Old World are flocking to our shores to participate in its blessings. Beneath its benign sway, peace and prosperity prevail. Freed from the burdens and miseries of war, our trade and intercourse have extended throughout the world. Mind, no longer tasked in devising means to accomplish or resist schemes of ambition, usurpation, or conquest, is devoting itself to man's true interests, in developing his faculties and powers, and the capacity of nature to minister to his enjoyments. Genius is free to announce its inventions and discoveries: and the hand is free to accomplish whatever the head conceives, not incompatible with the rights of a fellow-being. All distinctions of birth or of rank have been abolished.—All citizens, whether native or adopted, are placed upon terms of precise equality. All are entitled to equal rights and equal protection. No union exists between church and state; and perfect freedom of opinion is guarantied to all sects and creeds.

These are some of the blessings secured to our happy land by our federal Union. To perpetuate them, it is our sacred duty to preserve it. Who shall assign limits to the achievements of free minds and free hands, under the protection of this glorious Union? No treason to mankind since the organization of society, would be equal in atrocity to that of him who would lift his hand to destroy it. He would overthrow the noblest structure of human wisdom, which protects himself and his fellow-man. He would stop the progress of free government, and involve his country either in anarchy or despotism. He would extinguish the fire of liberty which warms and animates the hearts of happy millions, and invites all the nations of the earth to imitate our example. If he say that error and wrong are committed in the administration of the government, let him remember that nothing human can be perfect; and that under no other system of government revealed by Heaven, or devised by man, has reason been allowed so free and broad a scope to combat error. Has the swords of despots proved to be a safer or surer instrument of reform in government, than enlightened reason? Does he expect to find among the ruins of this Union a happier abode for our swarming millions than they now have under it? Every lover of his country must shudder at the thought of the possibility of its dissolution, and will be ready to adopt the patriotic sentiment, "Our federal Union—it must be preserved." To preserve it, the compromises which alone enabled our fathers to form a common constitution for the government and protection of so many States and distinct communities, of such diversified habits, interests, and domestic institutions, must be sacredly and religiously observed. Any attempt to disturb or destroy these compromises, being terms of the compact of Union, can lead to none other than the most ruinous and disastrous consequences.

It is a source of deep regret that, in some sections of our country, misguided persons have occasionally indulged in schemes and agitations, whose object is the destruction of domestic institutions existing in other sections—institutions which existed at the adoption of the Constitution, and were recognised and protected by it. All must see that if it were possible for them to be successful in attaining their object, the dissolution of the Union, and the consequent destruction of our happy form of government, must speedily follow.

I am happy to believe that at every period of our existence as a nation, there has existed, and continues to exist, among the great mass of our people, a devotion to the Union of the States, which will shield and protect it against the moral treason of any who would seriously contemplate its destruction. To secure a continuance of that devotion, the compromises of the Constitution must not only be preserved, but sectional jealousies and heartburnings must be discountenanced; and all should remember that they are members of the same political family, having a common destiny. To increase the attachment of our people to the Union, our laws should be just. Any policy which shall tend to favor monopolies, or the peculiar interests of sections or classes, must operate to the prejudice of the interests of their fellow-citizens, and should be avoided. If the compromises of the Constitution be preserved,—if sectional jealousies and heartburnings, be discontenanced,—if our laws be just, and the government be practically administered strictly within the limits of power prescribed to it,—we may discard all apprehensions for the safety of the Union.

With these views of the nature, character, and objects of the Government, and the value of the Union, I shall steadily oppose the creation of those institutions and systems which, in their nature, tend to pervert it from its legitimate purposes, and make it the instrument of sections, classes, and individuals. We need no National Banks, or other extraneous institutions, planted around the Government to control or strengthen it in opposition to the will of its authors. Experience has taught us how unnecessary they are as auxiliaries of the public authorities, how impotent for good, and how powerful for mischief.

Ours was intended to be a plain and frugal government; and I shall regard it to be my duty to recommend to Congress, and, as far as the Executive is concerned, to enforce by all the means within my power, the strictest economy in the expenditure of the public money, which may be compatible with the public interests.

A National Debt has become almost an institution of European monarchies. It is viewed, in some of them, as an essential prop to existing governments. Melancholy is the condition of that people whose government can be sustained only by a system which periodically transfers large amounts from the labor of the many to the coffers of the few. Such a system is incompatible with the ends for which our Republican Government was instituted. Under a wise policy, the debts contracted in our Revolution, and during the war of 1812, have been happily extinguished. By a judicious application of the revenues, not required for other necessary purposes, it is not doubted that the debt which has grown out of the circumstances of the last few years may be speedily paid off.

I congratulate my fellow citizens on the entire restoration of the credit of the General Government of the Union, and that of many of the States. Happy would it be for the indebted States if they were freed from their liabilities, many of which were incautiously contracted. Although the Government of the Union is neither in a legal nor a moral sense bound for the debts of the States, and it would be a violation of our compact of Union to assume them, yet we cannot but feel a deep interest in seeing all the States meet their public liabilities, and pay off their just debts, at the earliest practicable period. That they will do so as soon as it can be done without imposing too heavy burdens on their citizens, there is no reason to doubt. The sound, moral and honorable feeling of the people of the indebted States cannot be questioned; and we are happy to perceive a settled disposition on their part, as their ability returns, after a season of unexampled pecuniary embarrassment, to pay off all just demands, and to acquiesce in any reasonable measures to accomplish that object.

One of the difficulties which we have had to encounter in the practical administration of the government, consists in the adjustment of our revenue laws, and the levy of the taxes necessary for the support of government. In the general proposition, that no more money shall be collected than the necessities of an economical administration shall require, all parties seem to acquiesce. Nor does there seem to be any material difference of opinion as to the absence of right in the government to tax one section of country, or one class of citizens, or one occupation, for the mere profit of another. "Justice and sound policy forbid the federal government to foster one branch of industry to the detriment of another, or to cherish the interests of one portion to the injury of another portion of our common country." I have heretofore declared to my fellow-citizens that, in "my judgement, it is the duty of the government, so extend, as far as it may be practicable to do so, by its revenue laws, and all other means within its power, fair and just protection to all the great interests of the whole Union, embracing agriculture, manufactures, the mechanic arts, commerce and navigation." I have also declared my opinion to be "in favor of a tariff for revenue," and that "in adjusting the details of such a tariff, I have sanctioned such moderate discriminating duties as would produce the amount of revenue needed, and, at the same time, afford reasonable incidental protection to our home industry," and that I was "opposed to a tariff for protection merely, and not for revenue."

The power "to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises," was an indispensable one to be conferred on the Federal Government, which, without it, would possess no means of providing for its own support. In executing this power, by levying a Tariff of duties for the support of Government, the raising of *revenue* should be the *object*, and *protection* the *incident*. To reverse this principle, and make *protection* the *object*, and revenue the *incident*, would be to inflict manifest injustice upon all other than the protected interests. In levying duties for revenue, it is doubtless proper to make such discriminations within the *revenue principle*, as will afford incidental protection to our home interests. Within the revenue limit, there is a discretion to discriminate; beyond that limit, the rightful exercise of the power is not conceded. The incidental protection afforded to our home interests by discriminations within the revenue range, it is believed will be ample. In making discriminations, all our home interests should, as far as practicable, be equally protected. The largest portion of our people are agriculturists. Others are employed in manufactures, commerce, navigation, and the mechanic arts. They are all engaged in their respective pursuits, and their joint labors constitute the National or home industry. To tax one branch of this home industry for the benefit of another, would be unjust. No one of these interests can rightfully claim an advantage over the others, or to be enriched by impoverishing the others. All are equally entitled to the fostering care and protection of the Government. In exercising a sound discretion in levying discriminating duties within the limit prescribed, care should be taken that it be done in a manner not to benefit the wealthy few, at the expense of the toiling millions, by taxing *lowest* the luxuries of life, or articles of superior quality and high price, which can only be consumed by the wealthy; and *highest* the necessaries of life, or articles of coarse quality and low price, which the poor and great mass of our people must consume. The burdens of Government should, as far as practicable, be distributed justly and equally among all classes of our population. These general views, long entertained on this subject, I have deemed it proper to reiterate. It is a subject upon which conflicting interests of sections and occupations are supposed to exist, and a spirit of mutual concession and compromise in adjusting its details should be cherished by every part of our wide-spread country as the only means of preserving harmony and a cheerful acquiescence of all in the operation of our revenue laws. Our patriotic citizens in every part of the Union will readily submit to the payment of such taxes as shall be needed for the support of their Government, whether in peace or in war, if they are so levied as to distribute the burdens as equally as possible among them.

The republic of Texas has made known her desire to come into our Union, to form a part of our confederacy, and enjoy with us the blessings of liberty, secured and guarantied by our constitution. Texas was once a part of our country—was unwisely ceded away to a foreign power—is now independent, and possesses an undoubted right to dispose of a part or the whole of her territory, and to merge her sovereignty, as a separate and independent State, in ours. I congratulate my country that, by an act of the late Congress of the United States, the assent of this government has been given to the re-union; and it only remains for the two countries to agree upon the terms, to consummate an object so important to both.

I regard the question of Annexation as belonging exclusively to the United States and Texas—They are independent powers, competent to contract; and foreign nations have no right to interfere with them, or to take exceptions to their re-union. Foreign powers do not seem to appreciate the true character of our Government. Our Union is a confederation of independent States, whose policy is peace with each other and all the world.—To enlarge its limits, is to extend the dominions of peace over additional territories and increasing millions. The world has nothing to fear from military ambition in our Government. While the Chief Magistrate and the popular branch of Congress are elected for short terms by the suffrages of those millions who must, in their own persons, bear all the burdens and miseries of war, our Government cannot be otherwise than pacific. Foreign powers should, therefore, look on the Annexation of Texas to the United States, not as the conquest of a nation seeking to extend her dominions by arms and violence, but as the peaceful acquisition of a territory once her own, by adding another member to our confederation with the consent of that member—thereby diminishing the chances of war, and opening to them new and ever-increasing markets for their products.

To Texas the reunion is important, because the strong protecting arm of our Government would be extended over her, and the vast resources of her fertile soil and genial climate would be speedily developed; while the safety of New-Orleans and of our whole south-western frontier against hostile aggression, as well as the interests of the whole Union, would be promoted by it.

In the earlier stages of our National existence, the opinion prevailed with some, that our system of confederated States could not operate successfully over an extended territory, and serious objections have, at different times, been made to the enlargement of our boundaries. These objections were earnestly urged when we acquired Louisiana. Experience has shown that they were not well founded. The title of numerous Indian tribes to vast tracts of country has been extinguished. New States have been admitted into the Union. New Territories have been created, and our jurisdiction and laws extended over them. As our population has expanded, the Union has been cemented and strengthened. As our boundaries have been enlarged, and our agricultural population has been spread over a large surface, our federative system has acquired additional strength and security. It may well be doubted whether it would not be in greater danger of overthrow, if our present population were confined to the comparatively narrow limits of the original thirteen States, than it is, now that they are sparsely settled over a more expanded territory. It is confidently believed that our system may be safely extended to the utmost bounds of our territorial limits: and that, as it shall be extended, the bonds of our Union, so far from being weakened, will become stronger.

None can fail to see the danger to our safety and future peace, if Texas remains an independent State, or becomes an ally or dependency of some foreign nation more powerful than herself. Is there one among our citizens who would not prefer perpetual peace with Texas, to occasional wars, which so often occur between bordering independent nations? Is there one who would not prefer free intercourse with her, to high duties on all our products and manufactures which enter her ports or cross her frontiers? Is there one who would not prefer an unrestricted communication with her citizens, to the frontier obstructions which must occur if she remains out of the Union? Whatever is good or evil in the local institutions of Texas, will remain her own, whether annexed to the United States or not. None of the present States will be responsible for them, any more than they are for the local institutions of each other. They have confederated together for certain specified objects. Upon the same principle that they would refuse to form a perpetual union with Texas because of her local institutions, our forefathers would have been prevented from forming our present Union. Perceiving no valid objection to the measure, and many reasons for its adoption, vitally affecting the peace, the safety, and the prosperity of both countries, I shall, on the broad principle which formed the basis and produced the adoption of our constitution, and not in any narrow spirit of sectional policy, endeavor, by all constitutional, honorable, and appropriate means, to consummate the expressed will of the people and government of the United States, by the re-annexation of Texas to our Union at the earliest practicable period.

Nor will it become in a less degree my duty to assert and maintain, by all constitutional means, the right of the United States to that portion of our territory which lies beyond the Rocky Mountains. Our title to the country of the Oregon is "clear and unquestionable," and already are our people preparing to perfect that title, by occupying it with their wives and children. But eighty years ago, our population was confined on the West by the ridge of the Alleghanies. Within that period—within the lifetime, I might say, of some my hearers—our people, increasing to many millions, have filled the Eastern valley of the Mississippi; adventurously ascended the Missouri to its head springs; and are already engaged in establishing the blessings of self-government in valleys, of which the rivers flow to the Pacific. The world beholds the peaceful triumphs of the industry of our emigrants. To us belongs the duty of protecting them, adequately, wherever they may be upon our soil. The jurisdiction of our laws, and the benefits of our republican institutions, should be extended over them in the distant regions which they have selected for their homes. The increasing facilities of intercourse will easily bring the States, of which the formation in that part of our territory cannot be long delayed, within the sphere of our federative Union. In the mean time, every obligation imposed by treaty or conventional stipulations should be sacredly respected.

In the management of our foreign relations, it will be my aim to observe a careful respect for the rights of other nations, while our own will be the subject of constant watchfulness. Equal and exact justice should characterize all our intercourse with foreign countries. All alliances having a tendency to jeopard the welfare and honor of our country, or sacrifice any one of the national interests, will be studiously avoided; and yet no opportunity will be lost to cultivate a favorable understanding with foreign governments, by which our navigation and commerce may be extended, and the ample products of our fertile soil, as well as the manufactures of our skillful artisans, find a ready market and remunerating prices in foreign countries.

In taking "care that the laws be faithfully executed," a strict performance of duty will be exacted from all public officers. From those officers, especially, who are charged with the collection and disbursement of the public revenue, will prompt and rigid accountability be required. Any culpable failure or delay on their part to account for the moneys intrusted to them, at the times and in the manner required by law, will, in every instance, terminate the official connexion of such defaulting officer with the government.

Although, in our country, the chief magistrate must almost of necessity be chosen by a party, and stand pledged to its principles and measures, yet, in his official action, he should not be the President of a part only, but of the whole people of the United States. While he executes the laws with an impartial hand, shrinks from no proper responsibility, and faithfully carries out in the Executive Department of the Government the principles and policy of those who have chosen him, he should not be unmindful that our fellow-citizens who have differed from him in opinion are entitled to the full and free exercise of their opinions and judgments, and that the rights of all are entitled to respect and regard.

Confidently relying upon the aid and assistance of the co-ordinate departments of the government in conducting our public affairs, I enter upon the discharge of the high duties which have been assigned me by the people, again humbly supplicating that Divine Being who has watched over and protected our beloved country from its infancy to the present hour, to continue His gracious benedictions upon us, that we may continue to be a prosperous and happy people.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.—The New-York Society for the Abolition of the Punishment of Death will meet again this evening in the Hall on the corner of Broadway and Lispenard-street (entrance from Lispenard-street.) The discussion of the question of Capital Punishment will be resumed, and opportunity will be afforded to persons on both sides to express their opinions. We hope there will be a full attendance as usual.

☞ LOWELL, Mass. elected Charter Officers on Monday—all Whig, of course. E. Huntington, Mayor, by about 600 majority.

☞ Subscriptions for '*The True American*,' by CASSIUS M. CLAY, will be received at this office and promptly forwarded to the publisher. Persons remitting to us, who can more conveniently do so than send to Kentucky, may enclose the pay for The True American, and we will send it to Lexington. The experiment of a perfectly Free Press in a Slave State, ably and temperately advocating the termination of Slavery, must be sustained. Price $2 50.

☞ We call attention to Dr. BANNING'S commencement of a *free* lecture this evening in Mr. Burchard's Church, corner of Houston and Thompson sts. on Dyspepsia and General Debility as reliievable by mechanical support.

☞ For real amusement, the American Museum still takes the lead among all places of entertainment, presenting a bill of performance as full of talent as it is varied in character; and the consequence is that the spacious Saloon is thronged nightly with a delighted and discriminating audience. The Manager may well be proud of this overflowing patronage—for to his successful catering may it all be ascribed. The "Laughing Gas" is as ludicrous in its influence as it is singular, and forms a most saveable feature; while Miss Orville, Great Western and others complete a truly rich bill. Go this evening and take your lady with you. The Afternoon Performance, at 3 o'clock, is worthy the attention of ladies.

☞ The news of the passage of the Texas Annexation resolutions arrived four hours too late to go out in the Hibernia. [Boston Transcript.

It is rumored that the British Minister forwarded this news by Express, to go out in the steamer.

BY THIS MORNING'S MAIL.

Things at Washington.

Correspondence of The Tribune.

WASHINGTON, March 3d, 1845.

I have just heard from Mr. Calhoun that as late as last evening, Almonte had not asked for his passport.

Tyler and his Cabinet had a meeting yesterday (Sunday) morning, and have sent a messenger to Texas, for what purpose is not exactly known, but it is believed that they have proposed to annex on the terms of Brown's Resolution. This will sadly disappoint certain Senators who voted for Walker's amendment and the bill, on the pledge of Polk that negotiations should be adopted, upon certain conditions.

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The Third of March in Washington—Closing Scenes in Congress.

Correspondence of the Tribune.

WASHINGTON, March 4—3 A. M.

The Exportation Bill, allowing a draw-back on goods imported, to be exported again to Canada and other places, passed both Houses to-day. This bill, which is of so much importance to New York City and State, owes its passage principally to Mr. Phœnix, of your city, aided by others from New York. Had Mr. P. done nothing but this one act, it would be sufficient to secure him the gratitude of your city and State. It will add to the commerce of your city, the business of your canals and the general prosperity of your State.

There was a kind of farewell meeting at the White House this afternoon. A speech was delivered to the outgoing President by Gen. Van Ness, (your Collector's brother,) to which Mr. Tyler responded. The President and family have removed to Fuller's Hotel, which is in the neighborhood of the White House. The Empire Club, numbering about 150, were present. The President, I understand, was not very well pleased with their presence. They came into the city this morning, bringing with them, I believe, a cannon, which they fired opposite Mr. Polk's lodgings. Mr. Polk did not deign to notice them, which has made him rather unpopular with these superfine Loco-Focos.

The White Eagle Club is also here. They and the Empires are dressed in their appropriate uniforms.

Judge Nelson of New-York, took his seat to day on the Bench of the Supreme Court of the United States. He is a good looking man.

A number of distinguished strangers have recently arrived in town. The new Senators are almost all here to take their seats to-morrow. I notice also that Mr. T. C. Grattan, the British Consul at Boston, has arrived. John L. O'Sullivan, Editor of the Morning News is here; but it would be impossible to enumerate all the distinguished men present. The *loaling* Loco Focos from all parts of the