NEW YORK HERALD.

New York, Sunday, April 12, 1846.

The Foreign News.

The steamer Unicorn has not yet arrived. She is now in her twenty-fourth day at sea. It appears to be the opinion of those last in England, that she sailed on the 19th ult. If not anticipated by a packet ship, she will bring nine days later intelligence.

Defeat of the Whigs in Connecticut and here—The Causes.

It is a fact well known and admitted by the politicians of the two great parties into which this country is divided, that the whigs throughout the Union are decidedly in a majority, and can, under favorable auspices, succeed in getting the control of the national government, and likewise of most of the State governments. The question then naturally arises, how is it that they so rarely succeed, and allow a party that is admitted to be in the minority to get control of the affairs of the country, and succeed in retaining it.

We have frequently answered this question in the columns of this journal, and pointed out, in the clearest manner, the causes that have brought about this anomalous state of things.

The principal, or indeed, the only one, is the conduct and mismanagement of the whig leaders and whig editors, throughout the country.

If ever a party was cursed and ruined by the folly and imprudence of its leaders and editors, none was ever so completely ruined as the whig party in this country has been. There never has been unanimity or concert of action among them. They have kept their party in a continued state of fermentation, by their bickerings and animosities; and instead of devoting their time and talents to the advancement of the interests of their party, they have been eternally discussing extraneous subjects, with a ferocity and malignity that have reflected disgrace upon themselves, and brought ruin and defeat upon their party.

The whig party, with the exception of one brief month, have not had possession of the general government since the year 1828. In 1840 a whig President was elected, but not by the whig party. Gen. Harrison went into office by general acclamation, which was brought about by the corruption of the Jackson and Van Buren dynasties, and the state of the country at the time. But were he trusting to the efforts of his party—to the exertions of the thinkers and editors of his party—he never would have sat in the Presidential chair.

After the whirlwind which carried Gen'l Harrison before it, had subsided, and the equanimity of the people had been restored, the year 1844 rolled on, and Henry Clay was nominated by the whigs for the Presidency. Mr. Clay had personally more of the elements of popularity, than any other man in the country; the times, too, were favorable for his election, and up to within about three months of the day of election, his success was certain and beyond doubt. But the same unfortunate influences which had, in other days, defeated the whig party, were again brought into operation. The same bickerings and discussions about extraneous matters, that characterized the whig press, were again indulged in, the same personalities and billingsgate were employed, the same ruin and disaster were brought about, and, of course, Mr. Clay was defeated.

We have a more recent instance of this unfortunate conduct, in the election in Connecticut.—This state has been for a number of years, one of the greatest strong holds of the whig party; but in it, as well as in this and other States, the whig editors and leaders have been in a state of warfare with each other. They have kept up a discussion concerning the merits and demerits of all the fanciful *isms* of which this day and generation are so prolific. They have seized hold of all these fanciful doctrines, pulled each other to pieces in their discussions, created divisions in the ranks of their followers, until the whig party is disintegrated, and split into innumerable *cliques*, factions and parcels, that can't be united, and offer easy victory to the democrats.

We see the same results, produced by the same causes, in Connecticut, as well as in other places, and the probability is that at the next election in that State, the democratic party will have an easy and a complete triumph.

The present distracted condition of the party in this city and State, has been brought about by the same means. There is no question that if the whigs of this city had been united, in readiness for the ensuing charter election, they would be returned by a greater majority than was ever given to any party. The wilful and unprecedented corruption that has marked the party at present in power, has disgusted the honest portion of the community; and a marked determination existed to drive them from office. But at the time of election, we see the whigs disjointed and separated, with separate candidates for offices, and their strength frittered away, so as to ensure the election of their opponents, and another year of profligacy and corruption.

It is lamentable that the whigs will confide their interests to such men as they do. Surely they have had bitter experience, and ought to know better.

The truth of the matter is, as long as the whig party allow themselves to be used and misled by their leading men, they need not expect to succeed.

JUSTICE TAYLOR.—The conduct of this gentleman, since his nomination by the whig and native parties, for the office of Mayor, is a riddle that we can't unravel. At the time he was nominated by the natives, he wrote a public and a private letter. In the former he declined being their candidate, because his private business would not admit of being sacrificed. He stated privately that he was about to engage in the coal business, which would require all his time; in fact, that he could not afford to be Mayor.

Now the same obstacles that prevented him accepting the nomination of the natives, are as strong to prevent him accepting the nomination of the whigs. Indeed, we understand that he has not formally accepted the nomination yet.

If this be the case, what a farce it was to call a meeting confirming the whig nominations. It certainly could not have been any thing but a trap—a locofoco meeting in disguise—and all the speechifying and hurras, nothing but providing ammunition for the locos.

FIRST GUN FOR OREGON.—By the report of the meeting of the democracy at Tammany Hall on Friday last, published in the *Herald* of yesterday it appears that a resolution was submitted to the locofoco multitude, declaring the right of the United States to the Oregon territory, as far as the Russian line, and that the resolution was carried by acclamation, and in the most enthusiastic manner. This is a sign of the times that ought to receive the attention of the British and American governments.

We predicted some time since, that, if this question were not brought to a settlement one way or the other, within a year, it never would be settled. We predicted that the people, the almighty people of both countries, would take it out of the hands of the diplomats, and settle it in their own way. We repeat now what we then said. If the Oregon question be not brought to a point soon, by diplomacy, the two governments will never settle it. What would be the result, if the people of both countries took it in hand? The result would certainly be, that the two people would engage in a contest of words, which would end in force, and of course draw in the governments of both countries. A long and bloody war would ensue, which would deluge the world with blood before it was finished.

How important, then, it is to have this question, comparatively insignificant in one respect, but momentous in others, settled by the governments of England and the United States, at the earliest possible moment.

MAIL FOR BOSTON.—The steamer Narragansett will leave this morning at 9 o'clock, for Providence, and the Oregon leaves at 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

ARRIVAL
OF THE
OCEAN EXPRESS PACKET SHIP
QUEEN OF THE WEST,
CAPTAIN WOODHOUSE.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT
FROM EUROPE.

THE REVOLUTION IN POLAND.
THE WHOLE COUNTRY IN ARMS.

THE OREGON QUESTION
IN ENGLAND.

The Semi-Official View of the British Government.

ANOTHER REDUCTION CONTEMPLATED IN THE CORN LAWS.

The Probable Free Admission of Indian Corn.

Activity and Improvement in the Corn Markets.

NAVAL PREPARATIONS IN ENGLAND.

STATE OF THE MARKETS.
&c., &c., &c.

The ocean express packet ship Queen of the West, Capt. Woodhouse, arrived early yesterday morning, from Liverpool, with advices to the 10th ult., inclusive.

She brings news later than we have received by the ship Adirondack, although the A. sailed from Cork, on the 13th ult., one day after the Wm. J. Romer, and arrived here one day before her.

The intelligence is important.

The insurrection has spread throughout Poland. The whole country is lit up with one revolutionary flame.

The cotton market had improved.

The London *Times* of the 9th ult. contains a long article on the Oregon Question. It is a sort of demi-semi-official opinion of the British Government.

The corn markets are active and improving.

There are to be great reductions in the Russian tariff.

It is said that the French funds had declined.

The English government were active in sending out re-inforcements to India.

Free-trade Associations have been formed at Paris, Lyons, Bordeaux, and other places in France, on the principle of the English Anti-Corn-Law League.

The number of seamen required by the English Navy estimates, is 27,500, boys 2,000; marines afloat 5,500; ashore 5,000—total 40,000.

It is said that the artillery, turned with such fatal effect against the British troops in India, was purchased in England about five years ago, by General Ventura, for the late Rajah Runjeet Singh.

A reduction equivalent to 2s 3d per ton, has been made in the charges for stowage of British ships, at St. Petersburgh.

Commercial treaties have been entered into between Naples, Sweden, Norway, and Sardinia.

The *Dublin Evening Packet* says, that at a late meeting of the members of the '82 club, Mr. Barrett, proprietor of the *Pilot*, (Mr. O'Connell's organ,) was proposed as a member of committee, and was blackballed.

One of the Liverpool papers says:—From the Queen of the West, New York packet-ship, consigned to Fielden, Brothers & Co., there were this week landed and weighed in thirty-seven and a half hours, 8,070 packages, weighing 1,400 tons.

A commercial and navigation treaty, upon a perfect system of reciprocity, has been entered into between Russia and Sardinia. All differential duties upon both sides are done away with.

We have received advices from Paris to the 6th ult., inclusive.

At the sitting of the Chamber of Deputies, the debate on the grants for improving the navigation of the rivers of France was resumed, and the sums demanded for the Yonne, the Marne, and the Sarthe, respectively, were agreed to.

In our extraordinary express of Saturday we anticipated the news from South America, which had the effect of depressing the funds in the Paris Bourse.

The steamer Charlemagne, which reached Marseilles on the evening of the 2nd inst., brings news from Algeria to the 28th instant.

The cavalry, 600 strong, under the orders of General Yusuf, had encamped between Blidah and Joinville.

Blidah had been strengthened by the arrival of 200 troop of the line.

At Dellys, on the 26th, all was perfectly tranquil.

Three hundred infantry and two hundred *tirailleurs* left Bona on the 21st, under the command M. de Chambriere, for the camp at Bathna.

NAVAL PREPARATIONS.—The extraordinary activity which prevails in all the dock yards, in overhauling and bringing forward frigates of the heaviest class, is very ominous, as these are precisely the vessels which will be required in a war with America. In addition to the 44 and 50 gun frigates already in commission, the following vessels of the same class are either preparing for commission or undergoing careful examination, namely—the Gloucester, a line-of-battle ship razeed to a 50-gun frigate; the Raleigh, 50; the Southampton, 50; the Isis, 44; the Cornwall, 50; the Conquestador, 50; the Horatio, 44; the Constance, 50; the Portland, 50; the Java, 50; and the Alfred, 50. There are already at sea the following vessels of this class:—The Grampus, 50; the Eagle, 50; the Melampus, 44; the Vindictive, 50; the Warspite, 50; the Vernon, 50; the Endymion, 44; the President, 50; the Winchester, 50; and the America, 50.

The Oregon Question in England—Semi-Official View of the British Government—Opinions of the English Press.

[From the London Times, March 9.]

In the way of concession and argument on the Oregon question, little now remains to be said or done by the British government. The strongest desire has been repeatedly expressed on our side to terminate this controversy. Our case has been stated with such moderation, and our claims confined to such narrow limits, that nothing but extreme presumption, or rather a species of hostile infatuation, on the part of the American democrats, could lead them to suppose we could make any further abatement of our rights. We are in actual possession of rather more of the Oregon territory than we have ever claimed as our own, because, as long as the joint occupation lasts, the concurrent rights of both parties extend over the whole country. We have at our disposal ample means of defending our rights. We had never, at any period in the history of our country, less reason to recoil from a war, or to fear the result of a contest with any power, but more especially with the United States. Yet we, on our side, have strenuously and sincerely labored to effect a compromise. We have not alluded to the superiority of our maritime strength; from a misplaced respect for the American government, no use has been made of those blunt arguments to which alone they now appear to be accessible; until at length we learn, with more contempt than surprise, that Mr. Polk and his advisers are embarking in a course which can only lead, if they are allowed to persevere in it, to aggressive hostilities.

In our zeal for the maintenance of peace, and our deference for a nation with which we have so much in common, we have gone so far as to admit that the claim to the Oregon territory is equal to our own, and to argue that a partition is the fairest solution of the difficulty. The Americans, however, are not to be satisfied until they convert this concession of a part into a surrender of the whole. Their claim is, to say the most of it, no better than our own, since they themselves do not dare to submit to the arbitration of a third party, knowing that the public opinion of the world has already pronounced against it. Yet from this most imperfect and controvertible claim they seek to extract twice as much as we contend for—nay, they raise their own pretensions to absolute and total sovereignty, whilst they altogether annihilate the rights we have practically enjoyed for more than half a century. Thus, in fact, the question in dispute has never been brought to a true issue. The two quantities have not been reduced to a common denomination; they differ in their very nature; and whilst our position not only admits of a compromise, but suggests and requires it, their's is utterly at variance with the first principle of such an arrangement. Mr. Buchanan's last note says too much, unless indeed it says inadvertently what is the truth; for the arguments by which he endeavours to show that the United States cannot submit their claim to arbitration, are equally cogent to prove that their claim will not admit even of negotiation. Mr. Buchanan appears to forget that the United States have negotiated; that he himself, by his last proposal, for the fourth or fifth time conceded that point; that the House of Representatives, by their second resolution, have in fact sanctioned the principle of negotiation, which is, in other words, the principle of mutual concession. When the American Secretary of State says he cannot do what the manifest interest and dignity of the two countries require, he must either mean that the Government to which he belongs will not do it, or that that Government is acting under the compulsion of the party, excited to madness on this question, which carried Mr. Polk's election. The practical question for us is to ascertain the intentions of the American Government. If Mr. Polk and his advisers are sincerely pacific, they cannot but succeed: there is no obstacle, no impediment, no difficulty in the way, except those which they have themselves created. To bring about a war with us under such circumstances, they must be the worst statesmen in the world if they do not seek it; or the most rash and unprincipled, if they deliberately intend it. The time is, however, come when we are forced to judge of their real motives by their conduct; and, as they have not encouraged further argument, it may not be premature to inquire into the amount of their forces.

We are informed by the prodigious volume of American statistics recently prepared for both Houses of Parliament by the diligence of Mr. Macgregor, that the standing army of the United States consists of one regiment of dragoons, one regiment of riflemen, four companies of artillery, and eight regiments of infantry. The whole number of troops now in the service is 9,847, exclusive of 781 commissioned officers. An act of Congress of 1842 reduced the rank and file of the army 3,920 men; this reduction is now proceeding, and when it is completed the standing army will consist of 7,590 non-commissioned officers, musicians, artificers, and privates. It is true, that if this corps should appear rather small for the defence of the United States, and the invasion of a region situated 2,000 miles off, on the other side of the American continent, the militia force of the United States might by, its numbers at least, have excited the envy of Xerxes or Bonaparte. The *Army Register* for 1843, contains the appalling announcement that this multitudinous host is commanded by 627 generals, 2,670 general staff officers, 13,813 field officers, 44,938 company officers, being in all 62,205 officers; nor are these numbers at all excessive, when we learn that the forces under their command consist of 1,385,645 men! For the purposes of defence against a foreign invasion we have no doubt that these American citizens would exert themselves creditably. A considerable number of the younger men may even volunteer to take a part in offensive operations. But we have no hesitation in saying; that to bring an efficient army of even 30,000 men into the field, prepared to march beyond their own frontiers, is the most arduous task which has ever devolved upon the Federal Government of the United States, and with its present power and resources we believe it to be absolutely impracticable.

The navy of the United States consists of 11 ships of the line, two of which are afloat, three are receiving ships, and six on the stocks, or under repairs. The 14 first class frigates of 44 guns, are the best part of the fleet; of these four are on the stocks and three in ordinary. The two 36-gun frigates are old. The small vessels are, 17 sloops of war, 8 brigs, 9 schooners, and 6 steamers. The navy list contains 67 captains, 94 commanders, 324 lieutenants, and 133 passed midshipmen, 416 midshipmen, and 31 masters. No estimate can be formed of the real strength of the crews of the American navy, because it is well known that a considerable portion of this fleet is manned by British seamen, who are attracted by the high pay of the American navy in time of peace. But that very circumstance shows the extreme difficulty of manning an American fleet in war, and especially in a war with England. Their ships are, in fact, worked to a great extent by English mercenaries, a large proportion of whom would unquestionably return to their own colors on the outbreak of hostilities.

We content ourselves with this simple enumeration of the forces of the United States by land and by sea, which we hope is correct. We know not what course Mr. Polk may intend to pursue after the notice for the abrogation of the treaty for joint occupation has been duly given; and we shall await with more curiosity than alarm the enterprises which may be projected for the purpose of expelling British subjects from a district where we happen to command the coast and the interior, the Indians and the forts. The world is perfectly aware that England is not the attacking party, and that we are content to leave matters in Oregon as they now are. If the Americans mean any thing, they mean to dispossess us of what we hold. At the same time, if this intention be avowed by the cabinet of Washington, or if it be disclosed by votes of money and warlike preparations which imply a fixed determination to engage in this absurd and flagitious contest, no state is bound to wait to be attacked. Mr. Polk has already instructed the American Minister in London to ask for an explanation of the activity in our dockyards. His own conscience might have given it to him; his own language has put us upon the defensive; and although the termination of the convention of 1827 by notice is no *casus belli*, yet the disposition indicated by that notice, and the means which may be taken to carry that disposition into effect, may hereafter furnish ample ground of suspicion, of remonstrance, and finally of hostilities. A bold and manly course on the part of the British government will probably not be without a good effect in the United States; and it will undoubtedly command the unanimous support of the people of England.

[From the London Examiner, March 7.]

The Americans seem determined to be original—with moral, political, and international laws, all and exclusively their own. Their standard of right, of logic, and of honour, are quite new; quite different from anything of the kind received or admitted by anterior, and of course inferior races of men. Our diplomatists seem sadly puzzled how to meet or deal with arguments so novel, which at bottom are neither more nor less than an appeal to war, and a reckless, though sophistical provocation of it. After failing, for a second or third time, in negotiation, our envoy, Mr. Pakenham, proposed to refer the partition of the territory to arbitration—to any arbitration—that of a sovereign, that of any body of jurists, or eminent men. The answer of the American is a curious specimen of evasion. Mr. Buchanan says he could never refer the question to arbitration. He might, indeed, refer the question of title, provided the decision of that title ended in nothing, or was in favor of America. But to put it in the power of any foreign arbiter to take away a territory from the United States, that was impossible. In fact, the only principle on which the American minister would negotiate upon, or submit to arbitration, was the old and well-known one of "I win, you lose." According to Mr. Buchanan's rule, the United States can never submit to arbitration a question of territory. Where land is concerned, the Americans reserve exclusive to themselves the office of deciding on their own right, as well as that of their antagonist's. Why confine this principle to territory? If it be rational and sound, it equally applies to all rights and interests as well as to land. If we submit to it in one way, we must accept it in all.—The result would be to place the people of the United States in an exceptional position, to place them beyond the pale of civilization, and quite above the beggarly elements of religion and morality. Differences we must have with such a wide spread and powerful and bordering nation. But differences can never be settled with the present governing party in America, unless by our submission to their wishes, for reasoning is out of the question. With a country where political conscience and reasoning are of this kind, war, we fear, is inevitable, sooner or later; if not for the Oregon, for some such question. In the society of a mere bully a man is never safe. How can our relations with America be ever secure when her language and logic are of this kind, and whilst the feelings which dictate both are so undisguisedly insolent as almost to reach the burlesque? The great difficulty in this question is, and has been, not to discover what the American or the English right is, but simply to make out what the Americans want. We English are anxious to satisfy them, and give up all we can with honor. But American pretensions have always so regularly and impudently advanced as our claims receded, that our statesmen begin to think, with much reason, that all the Americans seek (we allude, of course, to the mad and dominant portion of them) is war. Some years past they were contented to give the free navigation of the Columbia in common, and to take the 49th degree. Now they repudiate this, and, as they say, "Go for all the Oregon." The danger to peace on this side of the Atlantic has certainly been caused by this slipperiness of American statesmen. If Mr. Polk was bent upon producing war, he could have taken no other path and adopted no better means. Open, undisguised, unreasonable war he had not a majority to support him in declaring and prosecuting; but he has manœuvred and provoked, and set every engine at work to create and work up a majority in the Congress to insist on the whole of Oregon, which is inevitably war. The House of Representatives have done his bidding in the matter of ordaining that notice to suspend the convention with us be given. The whig votes were evenly divided on the question. The House of Representatives have accompanied its vote by the declaration that it considers it by no means a bar to the renewal of negotiations. When the lower House of Representatives have said this, the Senate cannot be less courteous; and thus disappears the fear that any measure of the legislature might lead to an immediate interruption of our relations. But the difficulties of negotiation still remain, and unfortunately they remain in the hands of Mr. Polk, who may with much reason be suspected of a wish to precipitate and provoke war, and to drag his, in a great measure, unwilling countrymen into it. If he told us exactly what he wants, we could take counsel, and make every effort to satisfy him. If his *sine qua non* was the Columbia river, because of its being the great road of ingress and egress to Central America from the Pacific—if his wish was not only to monopolize this, but also to grasp the best part in Fuca's Straits—here, too, we might know, at least, how far we could go to meet him. But whilst English diplomatists play down their cards, and are frank in their proposals, Mr. Polk covers his face and purpose with one defiant mask of demanding the whole of Oregon to the 54th degree; and we have not yet arrived at the certitude of even a good conjecture as to what will satisfy him. As to the American people, there is a majority against war, and a considerable portion is favorable to amicable relations with us. But there is a minority, formidable from its energy and its influence over the ignorant, which decidedly desire a quarrel with us; and Mr. Polk, if not exactly of this party, makes use of it, and identifies himself with it, in order to force the more reluctant and wavering majority to support him in bolder risks and more dangerous pretensions. Mr. Polk then ventures forth, like a civilian field-marshal, probably in search of no more than a diplomatic victory over the Britishers. He may, however, venture too far, and convert a diplomatic into a military struggle. Never, certainly, were the fortunes and the peace of two great countries so perilled by what strikes us to be more political coxcombry than either patriotism or generous ambition.

[From Bell's Life in London, March 8.]

The last advices from the United States bring us the most unquestionable proof of the bad state of feeling which influences their Government. Mr. Polk, a perfect nonentity so far as a reputation for statesmanship was concerned, was thrust into office by a party determined to carry out a war policy, and being in office he still acts as the tool of the party which gave him a political existence. He may fancy this to be a duty of gratitude to those who made him President. But he forgets that he owes a higher duty, a more solemn obligation to his country and to his God. His utter unfitness for office is proved by the fact that he seems wholly ignorant or regardless of the responsibilities which attend it. He looks not to the interests of the millions over whom he has a temporary sway—his care is directed to the wishes of the faction that by adroitness hoisted him into the Presidential office. To the behests of a faction he sacrifices his country and wantonly offends the laws of humanity. Let it not be deemed that this faction is banded together by motives of a pure and disinterested kind. The love of place and power is as great in the United States as it ever has been in any of the oldest and most corrupt governments of Europe—much greater than we believe it to be in England or France at the present moment. And there seems to be among the party of Mr. Polk less of the spirit of a gentleman to check and restrain, to reduce within proper bounds, this inordinate love of place. The tenure of office by the Polk party is deemed possible of much extension, if the chances of war are adroitly taken advantage of—and the income from the sale of the lands of Oregon would supply an ample fund with which to feed and gratify official desires. The mild and temperate behavior, the gentlemanly forbearance and courtesy of the British government are therefore disregarded and misinterpreted—and English reluctance to engage in war is insolently assumed to be the proof of English weakness or fear. This is not the construction we put on the acts and speeches of the United States Ministers. With the omission of the word "insolently," the description we have given of the conduct of the American Ministers might also be taken as their own. They have again and again declared that if the United States claim is resolutely pressed, England must and will give way—that the whole claim must and will be conceded, because England will not go to war. If this supposition was true, it would be little to the honor of the United States government to act upon it. It would be insulting and wronging a nation, merely because that nation was too weak to punish the insult and avenge the wrong, or because, for some reasons of principle or prudence it chose to forbear doing so. Let the United States people be warned in time. The desire of the English Government for peace is that which most honors it. England is much too powerful to fear war or its results, but Englishmen shun it as an evil, which not without a great necessity, ought to be inflicted on mankind. So far as the Oregon territory is alone concerned, great as our concessions have been, they might have been much greater had we been met in a different spirit. But an honorable man insists on strict right when intimidation is attempted and insult offered. Like the traveller in the fable, he may be overcome by the potent geniality of the sun, and may readily and willingly yield to its influence, but will firmly gird his cloak around him, and resolutely stand up against the threatening storm. The United States government does not seem to be learned in such wisdom. It had better take a lesson. It will more fitly discharge its duties and more truly represent the people over whom it happens to preside. We do not believe that the people of the States desire a war with England. Their comforts would be sacrificed, and their best interests most seriously injured by it. Those of the Polk faction would alone receive benefit. By the rules of the Constitution, the people are now unable to control the Legislature, and the active and daring faction having possessed itself of power, determines by the mad use of it to justify the proverb about the riding of certain people not accustomed to such an exercise. Lord Aberdeen's answer to the demands for explanation as to the increase of our military and naval forces may touch a moderation hitherto not displayed by Mr. Polk or his party, and may save that party from imitating the course of the Sikhs, who were resolved upon war, though policy, as well as justice, forbade their engaging in it.

[From the Liverpool Times, March 10.]

It will be seen that the American House of Representatives has authorised President Polk to give notice to the British government that the government of the United States will consider the treaty for the joint occupation of the Oregon territory at an end, at the expiration of a twelve months' notice.—This is in itself nothing more than was expected, but great surprise has been created by the largeness of the majority by which this unfriendly, if not hostile, vote has been carried, and the support given to it by many members of the conservative or whig party. The latter circumstance proves that they, like the democrats, are more anxious to maintain a contemptible popularity with a rash and unthinking class of voters, than to preserve peace, or to save their country and the world from the evils of war. After such a majority in the popular House, it is hardly probable that the Senate will reject the motion of Mr. Allen, for effecting the same object. To do so would require a greater degree of moral courage and of superiority to party interests, than we can venture to expect from the leaders of the democratic party, in that assembly. As party politicians, President Polk and Mr. Buchanan, the Foreign Secretary, have played their cards with remarkable skill.—Whatever the Senate may do, they at least can boast of having bearded the English government, and of having maintained the right of America to every inch of the Oregon territory without flinching, at the same time that they have placed Mr. Calhoun, Mr. Benton, and their other democratic rivals, in the position of either sacrificing their claims to popularity by opposing their measures, or their claims to consistency and common sense, by supporting them. Looking at the interests of the United States and at the peace of the world, this is contemptible enough, but nevertheless it greatly improves Mr. Polk's chance at the next Presidential election, and Mr. Buchanan's at the election following, and this is evidently considered "the main chance" by those gentlemen. Although the giving of this notice would have been an unfriendly act under any circumstances, it might have produced no great mischief if its effect had been merely to transfer the decision of the question into the hands of persons disposed to settle it on reasonable grounds. Instead of this, however, it gives full powers to men pledged by their past declarations against every reasonable settlement of the question, and to a great extent sanctions any follies which they may commit in future. The persons who have surrendered the whole matter into the hands of those who have brought it to its present alarming position, are either men who are themselves willing to push the question to extremities, or men who do not possess moral courage to resist those who are disposed to do so—and thus the violence of some and the weakness of others both tend to the same result. We see that some persons are of opinion that the second resolution, in which further negotiations are authorized, takes the venom out of the first. The slightest consideration, however, will show that this second resolution gives the American government no powers of negotiating which it does not now possess, whilst the first gives it powers of forcing on a war which have never been granted before to it or to any American Executive. It is true that the President can again open negociations, but after the indirect sanction which his conduct has now received from the House of Representatives, and which it seems likely to receive from the Senate, it is not likely that he will do so, and still less that he will propose conditions to the British government even as favorable as those which it has so often rejected. The authorizing further negociations is therefore no concession, whilst the authorizing the notice entitles the American Executive to take whatever course it may think fit at the expiration of that term. Supposing that the Senate should concur in the vote of the lower House; that the notice should be given by President Polk, in April or May next; and that the American government, during the interval between the giving and the expiring of the notice, should either decline to renew negociations on any terms, or offer terms which the British goverment cannot accept; then the whole of the Oregon territory will become part and parcel of the United States, at least in the opinion of the American Executive, in April or May, 1847. Now we leave it to any one to decide what is the course which is likely to be taken by President Polk, when the expiration of the notice has removed the only obstacle which now exists to the carrying out of the views. Who can doubt that a government which has recommended the forming of a line of military posts from the United States to the Oregon, the raising of regiments of mounted riflemen to protect emigrants on their way there, and the granting allotments of land to all emigrants who will go to that country, with a view to defend the claims of the United States, will exercise its right of ownership in the Oregon territory, at the expiration of the notice, in a manner which will immediately lead to war between the two countries? To us we acknowledge it appears to be a mere delusion to expect any thing else. *The sole choice left to the British government, if the Senate should concur with the House of Representatives, will be between submission during the next twelve months to worse terms than those which it has already refused—submission, at the end of twelve months, to all the claims of the United States—or armed resistance.* We fear, then, that there is now little hope that the peace between the two countries will be preserved. * * *

* * What course the British government will take, now that arbitration has been refused, and that negotiation has failed, remains to be seen. It will probably wait until the American Government gives it formal notice of its intention to seize on the whole of the Oregon territory. That notice being given will produce an *ultimatum*, in which the claims of England will again be asserted, and some fair method of settling the question of right will be again proposed; *and if that should be refused, nothing remains but* WAR!

[From the Liverpool Mercury, March 6.]

The friends of peace, humanity, and civilization will have read with sorrow and indignation the latest accounts from America, of which we give a summary in another column. One more chance of a pacific settlement of the territorial dispute now existing between this country and the United States has been cast contemptuously aside, by the reckless party that are now doing what is in them to dishonor democratic institutions and principles, by exhibiting them in practical alliance with what were once deemed the characteristic vices of arbitrary governments. The proposal of a joint submission of the Oregon question to arbitration, twice made by Mr. Pakenham on behalf of Great Britain (27th December and 16th January)—first, to the arbitration of some friendly sovereign or state, and next, to that of a mixed commission of jurists and civilians—has been twice rejected. * * *

The President, it is but too plain, does not rest on the point of right, but on something else. The full practical import and probable consequences of these proceedings, will better appear when we are in possession of the debates in Congress, immediately subsequent to the communication of the above intelligence to that body. For the present, we can only say, that a government which, on such grounds, rejects the civilized, humane, and Christian mode of adjusting an international dispute, and refuses to "assume" the possibility of a doubt or limitation attaching to claims that have been the subject of diplomatic litigation from the earliest recollection of the oldest living statesman in either country, renders itself answerable, before God and man, for whatever may follow. Of course, in the meanwhile, until we receive tidings of a very different complexion from the last, there is nothing for Great Britain to do but to act on the principle announced by Lord Aberdeen to Mr. M'Lane, that "it is wise in peace to prepare for the exigencies of war"—leaving the responsibility of all acts and measures tending to war, to rest on the shoulders of those who adopt them. We are not going to begin any war. Any disturbance of the *status quo* must be the doing of the government and the people of the United States. We may add, that we do not, by any means, regard the case as practically closed against a pacific settlement. *The healing and peace-cementing powers of free commercial intercourse between the two countries yet remain to be tried*; and we are much mistaken if the intelligence of the approaching repeal of our corn and provision laws do not prove efficacious in disposing the public mind of America to rational and peaceful councils. Mr. Polk may, perhaps, by and by, make the unwelcome discovery, that his desperate plunges for popularity, and for a renewed term of Presidency, have been more energetic than judicious. In any case, it is by no means clear that the United States will be prepared, at the expiration of the contemplated twelvemonths' notice, to take the step of forcible appropriation of a territory in which England has always had practically recognised, though undefined, rights of occupancy and possession. Perhaps, after all, the whole business is but a bold experiment in the art of bullying. The experiment will not answer. England abominates war—has no excessive fondness for "national honour"—but England would deem it hardly prudent to surrender clear and unquestionable rights to the threats of any power on earth.

Since the above was written, there has been another arrival from America, via London, bringing intelligence to the 12th ultimo. From this, we learn, that on the 9th, the following resolution was passed in the House of Representatives by a majority of 163 to 54. * * * * * *

According to the Executive, the object of this saving clause can only be accomplished by an entire surrender of all the questions in dispute on the part of Great Britain, in fact, by a second edition of the Ashburton capitulation, making still more complete concessions to America. Now, although it may be true that the territory in dispute is comparatively valueless, and not worth the expense of the first six months of war—to say nothing of the death and bloodshed attending it—still, the encroachments of the United States must be stopped somewhere. If not in this arrogant and unjust assumption respecting Oregon, the next demand may be for Canada, Newfoundland, the British West Indies, the Channel Islands, ay, or even for Ireland, in the spirit of the resolution recently submitted to Congress by one of the representatives of the people. We still hope that the giving of this notice may only serve to expedite the negotiations and bring about an amicable settlement, and that the bulk of the American people are too wise and too honest to sympathize with their thrasonical President and his Ministers; *but in the meanwhile we are glad to see that the British Government has prepared, and is preparing, for the worst.* In such case perfect preparation for war, and war upon the most effective scale, is the best possible security for the preservation of peace. Such preparation has been made by Great Britain, and if America, misled by the results of former contests, should now court and compel a war by perseverance in the course upon which her Executive has entered, it will be the greatest and most awful mistake into which any nation has ever fallen, and generations yet unborn may have to rue the consequences. Whatever these be, justice and reason are now clearly on the side of Great Britain, and America will look in vain for sympathy or approval from any civilized community on the face of the globe.

The Cloud in the West.

[From the Dublin University Magazine.]

A cloud is on the western sky,
There's tempest o'er the sea,
And bankrupt states are blustering high,
But not a whit care we.
Our guns shall roar, our steel shall gleam,
Before Columbia's distant stream
Shall own another's sway;
We'll take our stand,
And draw the brand,
As in the ancient day.

They count on feuds within the isle,
They think the sword is broke,
They look to Ireland, and they smile—
But let them bide the stroke.
When rendered one in hand and heart
By robber war, and swindler art,
Home griefs all cast away;
We'll take our stand,
And draw the brand,
As in the ancient day.

Oh, let them look to where in bonds
For help their bondsmen cry—
Oh, let them look ere British hands
Wipe out that living lie.
Beneath the flag of Liberty
We'll sweep the wide Atlantic sea,
And tear their chains away;
There take our stand,
And draw the brand,
As in the ancient day.

Veil, starry banner, veil your pride,
The blood-red cross before.
Emblem of that by Jordan's side,
Man's freedom price that bore.
No land is strong that owns a slave,
Vain is it wealthy, crafty, brave;
Our freedom for our stay,
We'll take our stand,
And draw the brand,
As in the ancient day.

Shout, dusky millions, through the world!
Ye scourge-driven nations shout!
The flag of Liberty's unfurl'd,
And freedom's sword is out!
The slaver's boastful thirst of gain
Tends but to break his bondsman's chain;
And Britain's on the way
To take her stand,
And draw the brand,
As in the ancient day.

[From the Liverpool Times, March 10.]

The New Corn Law.

The following are the resolutions agreed to in the House of Commons on Friday night, the 6th ult., and ordered to be reported on the 9th:—

1. Resolved, That in lieu of the duties now payable on the importation of corn, grain, meal, or flour, there shall be paid until the 1st day of February, 1849, the following duties, viz:—

If imported from any foreign country

Wheat:—

Whenever the average price of wheat, made up and published in the manner required by law, shall be, for every quarter—

	s.	d.
under 48s. the duty shall be, for every quarter	10	0
48s. and under 49s.	9	0
49s. and under 50s.	8	0
50s. and under 51s.	7	0
51s. and under 52s.	6	0
52s. and under 53s.	5	0
53s. and upwards	4	0

Barley, Beer, or Bigg:—

Whenever the average price of barley, made up and published in the manner required by law, shall be for every quarter

under 26s. the duty shall be for every quarter	5	0
26s. and under 27s.	4	6
27s. and under 28s.	4	0
28s. and under 29s.	3	6
29s. and under 30s.	3	0
30s. and under 31s.	2	6
31s. and upwards	2	0

Oats:—

Whenever the average price of Oats, made up and published in the manner required by law, shall be for every quarter

under 18s. the duty shall be for every quarter	4	0
18s. and under 19s.	3	6
19s. and under 20s.	3	0
20s. and under 21s.	2	6
21s. and under 22s.	2	0
22s. and upwards	1	6

Rye, Pease and Beans:—

For every quarter:

A duty equal in amount to the duty payable on a quarter of barley.

Wheat, Meal and Flour:

For every barrel, being one hundred and ninety-six pounds; a duty equal in amount to the duty payable on thirty-eight gallons and a-half of wheat

Barley Meal:

For every quantity of two hundred and seventeen and a-half pounds; a duty equal in amount to the duty payable on a quarter of barley.

Oatmeal and Groats:

For every quantity of one hundred and eighty-one pounds and a half; a duty equal in amount to the duty payable on a quarter of oats.

Rye Meal and Flour:

For every barrel, being one hundred and ninety-six pounds; a duty equal in amount to the duty payable upon forty gallons of rye.

Pea Meal and Bean Meal:

For every quantity of two hundred and seventy-two pounds; a duty equal in amount to the duty payable on a quarter of peas or beans.

If the produce of and imported from any British possession out of Europe.

	s.	d.
Wheat, barley, beer, or bigg, oats, rye, pease and beans, the duty shall be for every quarter,	1	0
Wheat meal, barley meal, oat meal, rye meal, pea meal, and bean meal, the duty shall be for every cwt.	0	4½

And that from and after the said 1st of February, 1849, there shall be paid the following duties, viz:

Wheat, barley, bear or bigg, oats, rye, peas, and beans, for every quarter	1	0
Wheat meal, barley meal, oat meal, rye meal, pea meal, and bean meal, for every cwt	0	4½

Question put, and agreed to; resolution to be reported to the house.

2. Resolved, That in lieu of the duties of customs now chargeable on the articles under-mentioned, imported into the United Kingdom, the following duties shall be charged, viz:—

	s.	d.
Buckwheat, the quarter	1	0
Maize or Indian corn, the quarter	1	0
meal, the cwt.	0	4½
Rice, the cwt	1	0
of and from a British possession, the cwt.	0	6
rough, and in the husk, the quarter	1	0
of and from a British possession, the quarter	0	1

2. Question put and agreed to; resolution to be reported to the house.

3. Resolved, That in lieu of the duties of customs now chargeable on the articles under-mentioned, imported into the United Kingdom, the following duties shall be charged, viz:

	£	s.	d.
Agates or cornelians, manufactured, or set, for every £100 value	10	0	0
Ale and beer of all sorts, the barrel	1	0	0
Almonds, paste of, for every £100 value	10	0	0
Amber, manufactures of, not enumerated, for every £100 value	10	0	0
Arrow root, the cwt	0	2	6
Arrow root, of and from a British possession, per cwt.	0	0	6

The Polish Insurrection.

The German papers which have to-day come to hand, says the *Journal des Debats*, bring news from Cracow up to the 24th ult.

The events passing in Poland appear to have assumed a serious character, which is not disguised by the principal organs either of the Prussian or Austrian government. The city of Cracow, the capital of Poland under its former kings, the descendants of the Jagellons, had, according to those journals, for four days been the seat of a new government, entitling itself the "Provisional Government of the Polish Nation." It was on 22d ult., the day on which the Austrian troops and the Senate evacuated the town, that the new power has constituted and installed itself in the old mansion known by the name of Krystofory, and with which the dearest associations of the Poles of the period in which the Duchy of Warsaw are connected. Prince Joseph Poniatowski resided in it 1709, during the Polish campaign against Austria. The new government, immediately upon its instalment, published a manifesto to the Polish nation, in which it dwells upon the offerings of the Poles, and calls upon the people to rise *en masse* throughout the whole of ancient Poland. On the 23d it issued a decree forbidding, under pain of death, all the attempts against private and public property, and declaring, at the same time, that any persons who should establish political clubs, or associations, without being authorised by the government to do so, should be declared as traitors to their country. The following are the documents above alluded to, viz:—

"MANIFESTO

"To the Polish nation—Poles, the hour of insurrection has struck. The whole of mutilated Poland rises and becomes great. Already have our brothers of the Grand Duchy of Posen, Russian Poland, and Lithuania risen and are fighting in Russia against the enemy. They are fighting for the most sacred rights, of which they have been deprived by force and fraud. The flower of our youth are languishing in dungeons. Our ancestors whose counsels sustained us, are treated with contempt. The clergy are deprived of all respect; in a word, who have resolved to live or die for Poland have been destroyed or immured in prison, or are in danger of being so at every instant. The groans of the millions of our brothers who perished under the knout or in subterranean cells have reached our hearts, which are profoundly afflicted. We have been robbed of our glory and our language and the religion of our fathers are been forbidden us. Insurmountable barriers have been opposed to the amelioration of our social condition; brother has been armed against brother, and the most honorable men of the country have been calumniated and persecuted. Another step, and there would be no more Poles. Our grandchildren would curse our memory for having left the finest part of the earth a desert and a ruin, for having allowed chains to be put upon our warlike nation, and forced it to profess a strange worship, and speak a foreign language. The ashes of our martyred fathers, the rights of our nation, call to us from the tomb to avenge them; the infant at the breast calls upon us to preserve the country which God has confided to us. The free nations of the entire world would invite us to resist the destruction of our nationality. God himself gives us this invitation—God, who will one day demand from us an account of our conduct. We are 20,000,000. Let us rise as one man, and no violence can crush our power. We shall enjoy a liberty which has never been known on earth. Let us endeavour to obtain it, and a community, in which every one shall enjoy his share of the fruits of the earth according to his merit and his capacity. Let there be no more privileges. Let each Pole find full guarantee for himself, his wife, and his children; and let him who is inferior by birth, mind, or body, find without humiliation the infallible assistance of the entire community which will have the absolute property in land now possessed by a few. All forced labors and other burdens cease, and those who shall devote themselves in arms to the cause of their country shall receive a proper share of land as an indemnity. Poles! from this moment we acknowledge no distinctions. Let us henceforward be the sons of one mother, Justice—of one father, God, who is in heaven. Let us invoke his support. He will bless our arms and give us victory; but for Him to do this we must not dishonor ourselves. Let us not treat with despotism those who are confided to us; let us not massacre those who are disarmed, and the foreigners who do not think with us; we do not struggle against nations, but against our oppressors. In sign of our union, I make the following oath: 'I swear to serve Poland, my country, with my counsel, my words, and my acts. I swear to sacrifice to her all my opinions, my life, and my fortune. I swear absolute obedience to the national government which has been established at Cracow the 22d of this month, at 8 o'clock in the evening, in the house of Krzystoiorni, and to all the authorities instituted by the government, as God may stand me in aid.' This manifesto shall be published in all the journals of the government, and in the supplementary sheets throughout Poland, and shall be proclaimed from the pulpits of all the churches, and stuck up in all public places. Dated Cracow, Feb. 22, 1846, and signed L. Gorzkowsky."

"DECREE.

"The government of the revolution being absolute in the whole of Poland, and responsible to the nation, whoever is charged by the government or by one of its authorities to exercise any office, command, or temporary functions, must exercise them on pain of death. Every person, capable of bearing arms, who does not within hours after the proclamation of the insurrection, put himself under the orders of the local authorities, shall be tried as a deserter by a court martial. Pillage and violence, however merited, extortion, espionage, the appropriation of the public money, or its application otherwise than as ordered by the government, shall be punished with death. Whoever shall, without the authority of the government, establish clubs or associations, shall be regarded as a traitor to his country. Every commune shall, in its circle, establish as many signals of alarm as may be necessary for placing itself in communication with the neighbouring communes. The signals shall be pillars or poles bound with straw and covered with pitch. The destruction of a pillar, or any obstacle to its being lighted up, shall be punishable with death. The national colour is white and purple, a white eagle on the purple ground, with its wings extended and the head turned to the right, in its right foot a crown of oak, and in its left a crown of laurels. This city shall be the seat of all the tribunals and authorities of the country.—Dated Cracow, 22d February, and signed Louis Gorzkowsky, Jantyssowski, Alexander Grzekowsky. Charles G. zegorzesky, Secretary to the Government."

A private letter which we have just received states that further decrees had been issued on the ... of which were signed by Count Potulicki, one of the wealthiest and most influential citizens of ...

The Provisional Government had resorted to the most urgent measure of defence, for consi...