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A MEXICAN REVOLUTION.

FROM CHAMBER'S EDINBURGH JOURNAL.

If any respect was ever paid in this country to Mexico, it has long since disappeared. No nation on the face of the earth occupies at this moment so low a position. The people, it is evident, cannot govern themselves; they have not the sense to be quiet under authority, nor the ability to frame a government that can protect itself from dissolution. Their conduct is a curious mixture of childishness and wolflike rapacity; but what else can be expected from three centuries of Spanish mismanagement? The government of a band of robbers, is as little favorable to intelligence as public and private virtue. Incapable of managing themselves, they are for ever breaking out in revolutionary tumults; a revolution being called by them a "pronouncement,"—that is, a declaration in favor of some new chief. The narrative of one of those serio-comic events, by an eye witness, presents us striking a sketch of revolutionary tactics & achievements, that we shall permit him to tell his own story, promising that, having travelled along the western coast of the American continent, he was well qualified to describe the proceedings of which he was a spectator. On his way northward, he had touched at Guaymas & found the city in an uproar. A revolution, he says, had broken out, some days before, and the history of this, is the history of revolutions in Mexico; as absurd in origin, and contemptible in result, as they are original in detail.

The commandant of the place, General To- bar, was an old soldier, active and crafty, who having been for many years engaged in pacify- ing the native tribes, became weary of unstruc- tured inaction. The fame of the President Santa Anna, the man of pronouncements, and count- er-pronouncements, prevented him from sleep- ing. As it is always glorious for a Mexican to pronounce for or against his rulers, General To- bar declared against the President as soon as he heard of his downfall. Such an event deranged all the General's plans, and delayed their exe- cution. To get rid of his vexation, he mounted his horse, and gave himself up with more spirit than ever to his favorite pastime. Reclin- ing on the broad Mexican saddle, he galloped across the plains in pursuit of the wild cattle. Singling out a bull, he seized him by the hairy tuft at the end of the tail, the animal lowered his head to resent the insult, but his persecutor speeding by, lifted his hind quarters from the ground, and before the bull could understand so strange a proceeding, with a rapid comers- et he was left breathless on the ground.

The general was sometimes assisted in this diversion by his Lieutenant, Casillas, a soldier of fortune, intrepid and adventurous, as the companions of Cortez. He was what is called in Mexico a *hombre de caballo*; that is, he could break a wild horse in two hours, pick up an ob- ject from the earth at full gallop, throw the lasso, and knock down three enemies at once— eed with his stirrup, another with his sword & a third with his horse. In the days of chivalry he would have been a chivalier without fear, but not without reproach. Overwhelmed with debts, he was shunned alike by those who were his creditors, and those who dreaded being ad- ded to the number. With all these qualities, Casillas was only a Lieutenant. General To- bar, however, considered him likely to make a good partisan, and as they rode along side by side, after their merciless chase, he inquired ab- solutely of his subordinate— "Does not time ap- pear dreadfully long to you now that the State is so quiet? For my part I am quite tired of having nothing to do." The dogs of Indians, give no further signs of life.

"You have pretty nearly exterminated them," answered Casillas gravely. "I wish I could say the same of my creditors."

"I have other subjects of complaint," contin- ued the General, "as well as weariness. Is it not scandalous, on the part of the central Gov- ernment, to unseat the excellent General Santa Anna? My rank is only garrison commandant, while I merit something better. Where is jus- tice now-a-days? I am resolved, either to re- institute the ex-president, or make myself Gov- ernor, and I count upon your aid."

"When shall we march upon Mexico," asked Casillas, laughing, "and call upon the sov- ereign Congress to make me a captain?"

"I will tell you now," replied Tobar, majes- tically; meantime "Santa Anna forever!"

"Santa Anna or death!" shouted Casillas, and the two revolutionists rode back to Guay- mas.

As soon as the scheme was concerted, con- federates were found in abundance. Casillas was embarrassed in his choice among so many friends. They were principally young men of distinguished families, but depraved habits, and some of them well known to the Alcalde & his officials as implicated in one or two assassina- tions. The opportunity of paying their debts at the expense of others was too good to be lost and they flocked eagerly to Tobar's standard. The night preceding the execution of their project, about twenty of the party met to delib- erate on their proceedings; opinions ran high; some were for burning the city and slaughter- ing the inhabitants en masse; others, however, opposed so barbarous a project, and at last a list of names was made out, whose owners were doomed to execution. Each man present con- sidered it his duty to place on the list the name of the creditor he most feared, or the Alcalde who had caused him the most vexation. On this point, Casillas kept a profound silence, as he did not wish for the destruction of the whole city. The next proposition was to march upon Mexico, after having made themselves masters of the fort. This led to a hot discussion. One suggested that if the garrison were not to be massacred, a bribe might purchase their co-op- eration; but there was not a single piastre in the whole company. The final resolution was to surprise the fort at day-break, and seize the public treasure, locked up in the revenue chest at the custom house. Before they separated, Tobar was named Governor of the State; Cas- illas was made a captain; each officer present, rose a step in rank; and those who were only citizens, dubbed themselves officers.

At day-break, the conspirators, armed to the teeth, marched silently through the city, and halting the garrison to surrender, with cries of Santa Anna forever! The troop indeed slept as men who had nothing to lose, and with little

solicitation joined in the cry. The pronouncers were surprised at this sudden success, not know- ing that the evening before the soldiers had sold their cartridges to compensate themselves for arrears of pay. At sunrise, the installation of the new government was known through the city. Some hours afterwards, General Tobar's chief officer presented himself at the residence of the receiver-general of customs, who was taking his siesta in his hammock. Casillas saluted him with all the courtesy of a Mexican robber, and politely inquired if there was any money in the chest of the department.

"Twelve thousand dollars," answered the official. "Not much, rejoined Casillas; 'enough to spare me the necessity of an unpleasant duty, however.'"

"What is that?" said the receiver-general, turning himself over in his hammock. "To conduct you to my chief; for I promised to carry back either the treasure or the treasur- er," replied the soldier.

"At all events, captain you will give me a receipt!" "What! Yet it is but fair. I fear only that my signature may not be very valuable; ah! Senor Administrator I have been greatly calum- niated in this country."

After giving Casillas the contents of the chest in exchange for his receipt, the treasurer continued his siesta. The captain went back laden with booty, which he deposited in Tobar's house, transformed for the time into the seat of government. At this sight the confederates broke out into shouts of triumph. There was but one opinion as to the destination of the twelve thousand dollars; they were to be em- ployed for the public good. But the phrase public good admits of a thousand different in- terpretations. Every one understood it after his own manner, and gave his advice more or less disinterestedly, so that it became difficult to settle the question. After a long parley, it was decided on the motion of Casillas, to devote the funds to repairing the gulf-carriages, which the great heat of the sun had split and rendered useless. When the meeting was over, Tobar, after investing Casillas with his authority, rode to his country-seat, after the manner of his patri- ot Santa Anna.

A few days afterwards, one of the younger members of this self-elected government offered to introduce me to his associates at their nightly meeting in the only tavern of the city. In a small room about a dozen men were seated round a massive table drinking and gaming. A thick smoke from the numerous pipes increased the obscurity of the department, dimly lighted by a few long-wick candles. A tall man, with strongly-marked features and dark eyes, and whose bushy whiskers reached to his mouth rose on my entrance.

"Welcome, Senor Frenchman, for there are no services in your nation! Welcome! Bring a glass."

"France is a great nation, said a voice half- choked by brandy, in one corner of the room, and Napoleon is a great man! How is he?" "I turned at this strange question: the speaker was an old sergeant, seated against the wall, with an enormous rapier between his knees. He did not probably hear my answer, for with a heavy snore his head fell forward on his breast. While I was looking at him, Casillas— for it was he who had welcomed me— again spoke in the sententious style borrowd from the Indians— "Calumny is the lot of the poor, Senor Foreigner, I have been poor, but now I am powerful. Who will prevent my tak- ing revenge? Nobody! Casillas can enter where fire enters, and reach where the wind reaches! But no; I will only avenge my- self by benefits."

"At these words the future benefactor of the state drove his dagger into the solid table, with a force that made the bottles and glasses jin- gle. The exclamations that followed were in- terrupted by the arrival of a messenger with the information that two regiments were on their way from Arispe to put down the rebels. This news threw the party into consternation; every one looked to Casillas for advice. Start- ing up, he said, "Gen. Tobar must be informed of what has happened; which of you will ride for life or death to his seat?"

"A dead silence followed this proposition, and Casillas looked round with a gloomy frown. "I will go," exclaimed Gutierrez; a young man of calm and modest appearance who had not before spoken.

"I want a bull, a fear-bought, for the road is dangerous," replied the captain, looking at the young clerk, for such was the occupation of the youth who had volunteered for the journey. "I will go," was all he answered; "I only vant time to saddle my horse."

"Go, then, and luck attend you!" returned Casillas, taking him aside to give him the nec- essary instructions; and with a parting glass the whole party separated.

"In the course of a few days after this event every trace of the twelve thousand dollars had disappeared, except Casillas' receipt to the receiver-general. Recourse was had to exactions, for the news from Arispe became more and more threatening. Tobar still remained at his count- ering-seal, not sorry to devote the responsibility of rigorous measures upon his captain. Some of the richer citizens had paid a heavy fine with tolerably good grace; but everything has an end, and the provisional government was at end of its resources.

"At this juncture a large French merchant- man was telegraphed off the mouth of the harbor. This was a piece of good fortune for the conspirators, as they hoped to touch the amount of duties to be paid on the cargo. The following morning I made my way to the top of a high hill which overlooked the port and the whole city. While looking on the ship stand- ing slowly in; some one touched my arm, I turned round; it was Casillas.

"It is Providence that sends to us so opportu- nely," he said, pointing to the ship on which my eyes were still fixed. "All at once the cap- tain exclaimed, with a fearful imprecation, 'Confusion! What demon is spoiling the affair?' Lock!"

"A cloud of dust was visible, moving rapidly across the plains on the opposite side of the city, above which the red pennons on the lan- ces of a troop of cavalry fluttered in the bright sunshine. "It is the governor general," said Casillas, clenching his hands. "A day later, and we should have been beaten him or bought him!" "Whether a courier had already brought the news to Guaymas, or from some other cause, we could see from the height on which we stood that there was an unusual stir in the city. Casillas looked on with a haggard eye, but without moving. A few minutes after- wards, with a cry of rage, he exclaimed, dash- ing his hat to ground, 'The cowards—the trait-

ors—the idiots!—See! they are disbanding!— Ah! there is Gutierrez on horseback; is he going to assemble our friends? No; he is off at full gallop. Stop! he shouted in irrepressible wrath, as though his voice could reach the fugi- tive. 'Look! there is the brave Tobar; he at least will not run away. All is lost! he is follow- ing the example of Gutierrez. The cowards, the traitors! loyalty frightens them! they whom the yelling Indians could not intimidate. But I am there!'

"Still denouncing the traitors, Casillas mount- ed his horse, which he had tied to a tree, and hurried at a furious trot down the steep descent. I followed him with my eye as he dashed along. He reached the great square in safety, where I lost him in the crowd. "When I looked again the place was empty. The Governor's troops were just entering the city. By a singular coincidence, at the mo- ment that the cavalry deployed into the square, in company with Indian infantry armed with bows and arrows, the vessel, which had so greatly excited the cupidty of the insurgents, entered the port; and at the same moment, the last of the pronouncers—the captain galloped from the city.

"In my subsequent peregrinations thro' the country, I fell in with the principal members of the provisional government of Guaymas, hid- ing in obscure villages, excepting one—Casillas—in whom I felt much interest; but his friends had never heard of him since the day on which his command came to so sudden a termination. Gutierrez, the clerk, went back to his desk, as though he had forgotten all about his daring midnight ride, and his share of the public funds. General Tobar was more fortunate; his rank placed him too high to be easily disturbed by a political storm. After a brief suspension, his command was restored to him; and the recollection of his pronouncement became confounded with many others which have shaken, and will again shake, the ill-constituted government of Mexico."

MR. BENTON ON THE MEXICAN WAR.

On the thirteenth of May, Mr. Benton address- ed the citizens of St. Louis in regard to the various topics of public interest, in the course of which he thus noticed the war with Mexico:

The same annexation of Texas and its se- quence, the present war, with Mexico, was another of the great subjects on which he had been called upon to act within the last few years. This great drama, Mr. B. said, divided itself into many acts and covered a long space of time, during all which he had been an actor in it, and he hoped a consistent and a prudent one. He considered this drama as being in 1819, when Mr. Monroe's Cabinet ceded Texas to Spain. It was then given away; and if it had not been given then there could have been no war with Mexico about getting it back. He denounced that treaty in many newspaper articles as soon as it was made, and voted at the time unceasing efforts to get back the ceded province. Mr. Adams' administration, with Mr. Clay Secretary of State, presented the first opportunity to make the effort for its recovery. Mr. Clay, as a member of the House of Rep- resentatives, had severely condemned the treaty which gave away Texas; Mr. Adams had op- posed that article of the treaty at the council table when the majority of Mr. Monroe's Cab- inet adopted it. But this was not known to him (Mr. B.) until long afterwards. His reluctance at that time was on Mr. Clay, as a Western man, and from his publicly known opinions on the subject. He and Mr. Clay were then separating in the new division of political par- ties; but it did not prevent them from consult- ing together on the subject of Texas, and oper- ating to get her back. They had an inter- view at Tension's Hotel at Washington. Among other things intended by the new Ad- ministration, Mr. C. mentioned the recovery of Texas; he (Mr. B.) cordially concurred, and promised his faithful co-operation. The Ad- ministration made the attempt; but the scheme failed. Mr. Poinsett was then minister in Mexico, and favorable to the object, but could not succeed; and so ended the first attempt to recover back the great province which the un- wise treaty of 1819 had given away. I speak historically (said Mr. B.) and justly, and with- out design to favor or to injure any man, but to place aright before my constituents my own conduct, and that of others, in this great drama which has ended in a war between two Repub- lics. Mr. Adams, at his council table, voted against the article which gave Texas away. Mr. Clay, in the House of Representatives, denounced the cession. They made the first effort to get it back; and in a speech which professes to be fair and impartial, let justice be done to every actor. Let every one take his proper place for censure or for praise in the great drama of the Texas question and its bloody sequence.

The next attempt was in General Jackson's time, Mr. Van Buren being Secretary of State. A large sum was offered than in the previous Administration, but with no better result. The negotiation miscarried, though zealously supported by President Jackson, his Secretary of State, and the Minister at Mexico. He (Mr. B.) co-operated with them, filling the news- papers with articles in praise of Texas, and using all the arguments for getting her back which have since been repeated by others who gave no help then. And so the second attempt to repair the mischief of the treaty of 1819 failed, as the first had done.

The mission of General Menocan Hunt, Minister from Texas, was the next serious at- tempt to bring Texas into the Union; but the parties were then changed; it was after the bat- tle of San Jacinto, and Texas herself became the applicant. Mr. Van Buren was then Pres- ident, Mr. Forsyth his Secretary of State, and both in favor of getting back the country. But Texas and Mexico, though not fighting, had not made peace; they were in the legal state of war with respect to each other; and to have ad- mitted Texas into the Union would have adopt- ed her side of the war, and to have placed the United States at war with Mexico. Neither justice nor policy permitted this, especially as, if let alone, they would make peace after awhile; and then annexation could be effected without a breach with Mexico. Upon this view they acted. He (Mr. B.) concurred with them, and so did all the people of the United States.

The question of admission of Texas then went to sleep, and was quietly waiting the end of the war with Mexico. At the old friends to the recovery of the country were willing to await that event; but in the year 1842, during Mr. Tyler's administration, a new set of friends, who had cared nothing about Texas before, and one of whom had given her away when he had her, became furious for immediate annexation;

and the annexation treaty of 1844 was the fruit of that new and sudden impetuosity. The old friends of Texas stood upon their old ground; the countries were still at war, but actually ne- gotiating for peace; they wanted Texas annex- ed, but without war with Mexico, and urged a little delay, to permit their Ministers, then ne- gotiating under the auspices of Great Britain and France, to make peace. All delay was re- fused, the treaty was signed, and was rejected by the Senate because its ratification would have been immediate war with Mexico. He (Mr. B.) was one of the majority of the Senate which rejected that treaty; and his constituents, tho' all in favor of annexation, appreciated his motives, and justified his conduct. His re-election to the Senate in the same year was the verdict of the people upon his conduct, and he made them his profound thanks for the justice of that verdict, and the honor of that election.

The treaty of annexation was rejected, but annexation in another form was still prosecuted. A resolution for the admission of Texas, as a State, passed the House of Representatives; an- other in the Senate, to appoint a commissioner to negotiate for admission, and to negotiate and recon- cile Mexico, and thereby prevent the an- nexation from bringing on war. The expiring administration of Mr. Tyler snatched the alternative from the hands of the President elect, hurried off the House resolution by a midnight messenger—slammed the door of conciliation in the face of Mexico—and inflamed her pride and resentment to the highest degree. From that time forth every thing breathed war be- tween the two countries, which broke out the ensuing year.

Mr. B. said this was the history of the loss and recovery of Texas, and its sequence, the war with Mexico. The country is recovered—a war has followed, and the question now is, how to finish it! For himself he felt clear. His policy had been uniformly from first to last—it was to get back Texas without a breach with Mexico; and he was certain it might have been done if wise and temperate counsels had pre- vailed. The United States had only to wait for peace; that was upon the point of being signed in January, 1842, upon the powerful media- tion of Great Britain and France, when the Administration broke up the peaceful ne- gotiation, dispersed the Ministers, assumed the war, and placed the army and navy under the control of the President of Texas to fight Mex- ico. The rejection of the treaty stopped the war there assumed; but the midnight transmiss- ion of the House resolution started it again, and soon placed the two Republics in the unhappy condition in which they now stand.

Mr. B. repeated. His policy from beginning to ending had been to get back Texas without war, or even a breach of friendship with Mex- ico. He was greatly averse to such a war. He saw great and extraordinary evils in it. Be- sides the evils common to all wars—loss of lives, distress of families, interruption of com- merce, ruin to many merchants, and a load of debts and taxes; besides all these ordinary evils incident to all wars, he saw others of a new and extraordinary kind in a war with Mexico. She was a Republic, and a weak one, and our neigh- bor; she had the same fundamental rights, constitution and form of government, and had maintained civil wars at home to keep it up— She was one of the Spanish American States which stretch from the southern boundary of the United States to Cape Horn, the whole of which had copied our form of government, and established close political and commercial rela- tions with us. All these States had just eman- cipated themselves from European domination, adopted the republican system, and taken the United States for their model and their friend, the elder sister and parental guardian of the two Americas. The position of the United States, at the head of this long chain of Rep- ublics, was grand and impressive, and imposed upon her an enlarged and enlightened system, which had been carefully acted upon by all American statesmen from the time these Spanish American States began to establish their inde- pendence. Europe had a system of monarchies consolidated by a holy alliance. The new world had its system of Republics, to be cement- ed and united by sympathy and friendship.— To maintain our position at the head of this republican system in the new world was due to ourselves and to the human race. To cherish and perpetuate these Republics—to preserve their friendship and their commerce—to continue to be their political mentor—to continue them in the republican system of the new world, and prevent their relapse into the monarchical system of the old world—this was our true and noble policy; for being all of the same origin, religion, language, customs, they would naturally sympathize with each other, and in having war with one the friendship of all might be jeopardized.

He (Mr. B.) had endeavored to act upon these enlarged principles, originating not with him, but with enlightened statesmen before he came into public life. He had endeavored to get back Texas without a war with Mexico, and was certain it might have been done with ease by the simple process of leaving Mexico and Texas to make peace, and treating Mexico with the respect and deference due to a sister Republic—the more proud and sensitive be- cause weak and unable to contend with us.— The first great error was the annexation treaty of 1842, and the manner in which it was con- ducted; that was the work of the Tyler Ad- ministration, and for selfish and unworthy purposes. The second great error, or worse than error, was the rejection of the Senate's alterna- tive resolution, and dispatch of the midnight messenger to Texas with the absolute resolution of admission, on the night of the 3d of March, 1845. That also was the work of the Tyler Administration, and in the last moment of its expiring existence. The first of these steps (if the treaty) would have made instant war if it had been ratified by the Senate; the second made the war, and now the great question is to finish it. How to finish it? That was the question which every one present, no doubt, would wish to hear him speak. The time would come, but it was not now. His opinions had been asked by the President, and given him, and in time it would be given to the public.

But he could say that he relied more upon policy than upon arms to finish this war with a weak and proud neighbor. Fight us battles he could not. That was proved from San Ja- cinto to Cerro Gordo, and wherever he came back Texas without a war with Mexico, and was certain it might have been done with ease by the simple process of leaving Mexico and Texas to make peace, and treating Mexico with the respect and deference due to a sister Republic—the more proud and sensitive be- cause weak and unable to contend with us.— The first great error was the annexation treaty of 1842, and the manner in which it was con- ducted; that was the work of the Tyler Ad- ministration, and for selfish and unworthy purposes. The second great error, or worse than error, was the rejection of the Senate's alterna- tive resolution, and dispatch of the midnight messenger to Texas with the absolute resolution of admission, on the night of the 3d of March, 1845. That also was the work of the Tyler Administration, and in the last moment of its expiring existence. The first of these steps (if the treaty) would have made instant war if it had been ratified by the Senate; the second made the war, and now the great question is to finish it. How to finish it? That was the question which every one present, no doubt, would wish to hear him speak. The time would come, but it was not now. His opinions had been asked by the President, and given him, and in time it would be given to the public.

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motion—both religiously and politically, and of which their history furnishes abundant exam- ples both in the old and new world, and from the time of the Carthaginians and the Romans to that of the French under Bonaparte. Pol- ity more than arms, but combined with arms, he considered the road to peace.

He would not say that victories alone would not bring peace; they might do so, but not the kind of peace he was in search of. He wanted the peace which was not merely a cessation of hostilities, but a restoration of the fruits and blessings of peace; the restoration of friend- ship and commerce, and of our position as head and chief and parental guardian of the system of Republics in the new world. The peace which leaves all the animosities and resent- ments of war behind, was not the peace which the interests of the countries and the good of the republican system, and the safety and in- dependence of the two Americas required.

Mr. B. said he stood upon ground which he could not explore; he alluded to subjects which he could not unfold; but he could say that it was a great error to confound the whole Mexican people—the whole eight millions of their mixed population—under any one general view, either politically, morally, or in their feelings towards the United States and the war. It would be a great error to confound this large and mixed mass under any one general view; and a worse error to act either military or polit- ically upon that view. It had its divisions, both of races and of political parties; and, leav- ing out the illiterate, impoverished, and de- pressed part of the Indian race, which strag- gled into the political, though the half of the whole population, and the sole resource for day labor- ers and the rank and file of the army—leaving out that depressed half, the other half is radi- cally and irreconcilably divided in political views, and in all the affections and views which result from that division. The largest half of the enlightened half is republican, and has struggled since 1824 for our form of govern- ment, and always carries the elections; the other half is the monarchical, and the strongest, though least numerous, because it has the sin- gles of war—money and arms. It rests upon the church and a standing army of near twenty thousand officers and not much over twenty thousand men. The policy of the republican party leads them to peace and friendship with the United States; the policy of the monarch- ists leads them to European affections and American antipathies. But there are points at which they all unite—the pride of nationality, the love of religion and of country—and which makes them all equally formidable, equally susceptible of being fanatized, both religious- ly and politically; against a foreign invader.— This unites both parties against us now; but still there is a great difference between those who wish to be friends and those who do not, between those who are willing to make perma- nent and cordial peace on terms just and hon- orable to their country and those who want no peace, and if they make one they will intend it for a treacherous and hollow truce. This differ- ence of parties should be known to the A- merican statesman, and acted upon. Unhappi- ly, the present war has given the monarchical party the ascendancy at the very moment that the elections were bringing the republicans into power, and enabling them to re-establish our form of government.

Mr. B. said he had expressed his opinions publicly and responsibly in the Senate, both in speeches and in votes; and privately and frankly to the President whenever asked. He had done more. He had been willing to resign his place in the Senate and go to the field of operations, not so much to command armies as to make military movement subservient to dip- lomatic policy, and not a mere truce, extorted by force from weakness, and leaving the animosities of war behind. He had refused am- bassies to the first Courts of Europe, which was to go to Mexico; he who had refused to let his friends propose him for first Major Gen- eral in May, 1845, which would have put him at the head of the army, was willing to have taken a commission when the war began to take the appearance of continuing long, and of becoming fanatical, and giving strength to the monarchical European party. He was willing to have taken the place of Lieutenant General; for that would have stocked no military feeling, and displaced no military man, and would have been completely carried out. He could say no more at this time, upon that point, but when the plan which he submitted to the President comes to be made known, it would be seen that the mili- tary men would have had nothing to complain of—that General Taylor, instead of struggling at Buena Vista with 5,000 men against 30,000, would have been advancing on Santa Anna with 20,000; that General Scott, instead of an en- trained army at Cerro Gordo, would probably have found the road open to Mexico, that the two Generals would have probably met sooner at the city of Mexico, and found themselves at- tended by a diplomatic mission, nationally con- stituted, both in a geographical and in a polit- ical sense, and prepared to take advantage of all events to smooth the way to a solid and lasting peace.

Mr. BENTON passed to a new subject; one which had not yet excited the public attention, but which, in his opinion, was pregnant with much danger; and required early attention. It was not a question of foreign war, to be settled by arms or diplomacy, but of domestic legisla- tion, to be settled by public opinion and by votes. He alluded to the slavery propandist resolutions, introduced into the Senate towards the close of the late session, and which he had stigmatized as a frebrand on the day of their introduction. On their face these resolutions contemplate a subversion of the Union, throw- ing the guilt of the subversion upon those who oppose their enactment into law. At the same time they propose what no citizen of a non- slaveholding State can ever stand, and what many from the slaveholding States, himself in the number, would stand if they could. They propose the abolition of all compromises, past and future, on the slavery question, and treat violators of the rights of the States, and of the constitution, and as subverters of the Union, all who will not agree to extend slavery to all the most remote and hyperborean—to Oregon, the Lake of the Woods, they go the precise length of the Northern Abolitionists, and with the same practical consequence, only in a re- versed form. The Abolition creed is, that the admission of slavery in any part of the Union is a violation of the constitution, and a dis- solution of the Union; the new resolution de- clares that the prohibition of slavery in any territory of the Union is a violation of the constitution and of the rights of the State, and a subversion

of the Union! So true it is that extremes meet, and that all fanaticism, for or against any thing, terminates at the same point of intolerance and dead defiance. The first effect of this new slavery creed, which the South was summoned to adopt most summarily, would be to establish a new polit- ical test for trying the orthodoxy of all candi- dates for the Presidency; and, as no Northern man could stand such a test at home, the whole of them would be knocked in the head, so far as the South was concerned, at a single lick. The next effect of these resolutions, if adopt- ed, in the non-slaveholding States, would be to put an end to the present political division of parties, and to substitute a new party in the South, (with its antagonist in the North,) bounded by geographical lines, and founded on the sole principle of slavery propandism.— The third effect of these resolutions would be that which is stated, hypothetically, on their face, namely, the subversion of the Union.

Seeing these resolutions in this dangerous point of view, he (Mr. B.) had stigmatized them as a frebrand on the day of their intro- duction, and had since deprecated their applica- tion to the Oregon bill, by which the Oregon people were left without law or government for a year longer. Many persons thought him too prompt in denouncing the Oregon joint oc- cupation treaty in 1818—the treaty which gave away Texas in 1819—the treaty of annexation in 1844—and all the measures of the Tyler ad- ministration which led to the Mexican war in 1846; but the truth might be that he was not too fast, but themselves too slow. The resolutions appeared dangerous to him, and he struck them at their first apparition in the Senate chamber. He had done his duty; he had sounded the alarm; it was for the people of the United States, all the friends of the Union—to do the rest.— There was no Jackson now to save the Union by a voice, like the command of destiny, pro- claiming that "IT SHALL BE PRESERVED."

The steamer SAM'S WARD arrived yester- day from the East, bringing us the following Intelligence—*Det. Adr.*
From the Lake Superior News.