

The Daily Register

BY SAM. P. IVINS.

ATHENS, TENN., FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 1856.

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Office on Main street, next door to the old Jackson Hotel.

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CAPITAL IN RAILROADS.—Mr. Henry C. Carey, the well known writer on Political Economy, estimates the capital invested in railroads in this country at \$700,000,000.

WESTERN PEOPLE.—Mrs. F.O. Smith likes the people of the West. She says in the Rhode Island Schoolmaster: "The Western man has none of the vices of thrift. He carries on operations on so vast a scale that he casts out pettiness and meanness wherever he goes. He does not haggle and barter in a bargain. He measures distances by miles, not feet. He counts money by the dollar, not pence. He seems ashamed to come down to the pennies. He buys a dress for his wife, and gets a few yards extra. His own coat, and shoes are all too large and his hat slouches for the same reason. It is as if the imagination of the man was akin to the vastness of the rivers and prairies of the regions; the soul gets quite outside of the body. He must have elbow room—he must breathe; therefore his house is large, and sometimes comfortable. The bed is high and wide, the tea cups ample and heavy and like the lakes filled to the brim."

It is not generally known that the wind of the globe and silver coins of England are struck by atmospheric pressure, or in other words, that the air we breathe coins our money. By a beautiful yet complicated arrangement of pneumatic valves, levers, springs, and other mechanical appliances, the air is made to exert its great weight in rapid alternations upon a series of pistons, which, again connected with the presses, carry down the dies upon the pieces of metal to be coined with unerring precision and force, and thus create money.

DR. STILES.—Old Governor Hull (of first Territorial Governor) used to relate with great humor the peculiar manner in which old President Stiles, of Connecticut, told him of his only military adventure.
Speaking of the war (of the revolution then raging) the sufferings of our people, and the barbarity of the enemy, he would say, "When they came up here, I saw our people all turning out under arms to meet and fight them, but I hadn't fired a gun in twenty years. I knew the red coats had a right here, so I got down my old gun, though I hadn't fired it for twenty years. I cleaned it up and followed our people to mark the enemy. We soon came near them and the firing began. I drew up my gun though I hadn't fired a gun in twenty years, I drew a fine sight on a red coat, prayed the Lord to take his soul, and pulled the trigger."

ALL DEAD.—The Parkersburg Gazette relates the following:—"Mr. Grogan, and family, of this county, started for Texas last spring, designing to spend the winter in the eastern section of that State. Having reached the 'Raft' on Red River, Mr. Grogan left his wife and four children there, and accompanied by only his eldest son, went some three hundred miles further up the river, to find an eligible location. He soon found and bought a place to suit him, when, leaving his son with a brother who was living in that quarter, he returned to the 'Raft' for the rest of his family. On reaching their halting place, he found them all down with the yellow fever, of which, they soon died. He, and his wife, were long and severely afflicted, but recovered;—his father, mother, and children perished, the victims of that deadly malaria which infects the lowlands of the South."

John Elda and his wife in making the round of the dry goods stores in Albany one day last week, were seen in a peculiar and attaching to Mrs. Elda's dress, in such a manner as to escape observation, over five hundred dollars' worth of silk goods. They were afterwards arrested, and an examination of Mrs. Elda's person, against which her husband protested on account of her delicate situation, resulted in the discovery of the stolen goods. Elda is a cigar merchant in New York city.—*New York Sun.*

Why are the ladies of the present day like the ladies of the scriptures? Because they toll not, neither do they spin; yet Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of them.

SEAGR BUSINESS IN CALIFORNIA.—A San Francisco letter says:—"The extent of the seagr business here is immense. A single stand within a large hotel has been rented for \$20 per day, payable daily. I know of another of less note for which \$100 per annum had been paid for the last two years. The consumption of 'the weed' in California is awful."

Lord Bacon in an essay on study, said "Books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested." Had he lived in our day and generation, he would have been likely to add—"and there are some to be chewed and digested as not fit to be red at all."

Man discovered America, but a woman equipped the voyage. So everywhere; man executes the performance, but woman trains the man. Every effectual person, leaving his mark on the world, is but another Columbus, for whose furnishing some Isabel, in the form of his mother, lays down her jewelry, her vanities, her comfort.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives:

The completion of the United States provides that Congress shall assemble annually on the first Monday of December, and it has been usual for the President to make no communication of a public character to the Senate and House of Representatives until advised of their readiness to receive it. I have deferred this message until the close of the first month of the session, but my convictions of duty will not permit me longer to postpone the discharge of the obligation enjoined by the constitution upon the President to give to Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient.

It is a matter of congratulation that the Republic is tranquilly advancing in a career of prosperity and peace. While relations of amity continue to exist between the United States and all foreign powers, with some of them grave questions are depending, which may require the consideration of Congress.

By the convention concluded between the two governments on the 19th day of April, 1850, the parties thereto, neither will ever occupy or fortify, or colonize, or assume, or exercise any dominion over Nicaragua, Costa Rica, the Mosquito coast, or any part of Central America. The government recognized the obligations of the treaty, and has endeavored to see it executed in good faith by both parties, and in the discussion thereof, has not looked to rights, which it might assert independently of the treaty, in consideration of our geographical position and of other circumstances, which create a strong claim to the Central American States different from those of any other government of Europe.

The British government in its last communication, although well knowing the views of the United States, and the obligations of the treaty, has endeavored to force upon the rights of the United States, yet acted also by the same desire, which is avowed by the British government, to remove all causes of serious misunderstanding between the two nations, and to settle by some means of interest and kind, the points in dispute, proper not to consider an amicable solution of the controversy hopeless.

There is, however, reason to apprehend that Great Britain in the actual occupation of the United States territory, and the treaty therefor, and the fact, that in view of the successive treaties with previous sovereigns of the country, Great Britain had obtained a concession of the right to cut mangrove and cypress-woods at the Balize, but with positive exclusion of all dominion or sovereignty; and that the United States, in consequence of the understood import of the treaty as to the rest of the region to which the stipulations applied.

It, however, became apparent, at an early day after entering upon the discharge of my official functions, that the like restrictions were confined in the exercise or assertion of a large authority in all that part of Central America commonly called the Mosquito coast, and covering the entire length of the State of Nicaragua, and part of Costa Rica; that she regarded the territory as her absolute domain, and was gradually extending her limits at the expense of the State of Honduras; and that she had formally colonized a considerable insular group known as the Bay Islands, and belonging of right to that State.

All these acts or pretensions of Great Britain being contrary to the rights of the States of Central America, and to the manifest tenor of her stipulations with the United States, as understood by this government, have been the subject of negotiation through the American Minister in London. I transmit herewith instructions to him on the subject, and the correspondence between him and the British Secretary for Foreign Affairs, by which you will perceive that the two governments differ widely and irreconcilably as to the construction and its effect on their respective relations in Central America.

Great Britain so construes the Convention as to maintain all her previous pretensions over the Mosquito coast, and in the different parts of Central America. These pretensions, as to the Mosquito coast, are founded on the assumed right of political relation between Great Britain and the remnant of a tribe of Indians on that coast, entered into at a time when the whole country was a colonial possession of Spain. It cannot be successfully controverted, that, by the public law of Europe and America, no possible act of such Indians, or their predecessors could confer on Great Britain any political rights. Great Britain does not allege the assent of Spain as the origin of her claims on the Mosquito coast. She has on the contrary by repeated and successive treaties, renounced and relinquished all pretensions of her own, and recognized the full and sovereign rights of Spain in the most unequivocal terms. Yet these pretensions, so without solid foundation in the beginning, and thus repeatedly abandoned, were at a recent period revived by Great Britain, against the Central American States, the legitimate successors to all the ancient jurisdiction of Spain in that region. They were first applied only to a defined part of the coast of Nicaragua, afterwards to the whole of its Atlantic coast, and lastly to a part of the coast of Costa Rica; and they are now reasserted to this extent, notwithstanding engagements of the United States.

On the eastern coast of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, the interference of Great Britain, though exerted at one time in the form of military occupation of the port of San Juan del Norte, then in the peaceful possession of the appropriate authorities of the Central American States, is now presented by her as the rightful exercise of a protectorship over the Mosquito tribe of Indians.

But the tribute at the Balize, now recognized by the United States, and that of the State of Honduras, and that of the Bay Islands, appertaining of right to the same State, are as colonial governments as those of Jamaica or Canada, and therefore contrary to the very letter as well as the spirit of the Convention with the United States, as it was at the time of ratification, and now is, understood by the Government.

The interpretation which the British government has in assertion and act, persists in asserting, the convention, entirely changes its character. While it holds us to all obligations beyond its treaty, it holds us to all obligations from those, which constituted the consideration with this government for entering into convention. It is impossible, in my judgment, for the United States to acquiesce

in such a construction of the respective relations of the two governments to Central America.

To a renewed call by this government upon Great Britain, to abide by the Convention, and to effect the stipulations of the convention according to its obvious import, by withdrawing from the possession or colonization of portions of the Central American States at Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica, the British government has at length replied, affirming that the operation of the treaty is prospective only, did not require Great Britain to abandon or contract any possession held by her in Central America at the date of its conclusion.

This reply constitutes a partial issue, in place of the general one presented by the United States. The British government passes over the rights of Great Britain, real or supposed in Central America, and assumes that she had such rights at the date of the treaty, and that those rights constitute the protectorship of the Mosquito Indians, the extended jurisdiction and limits of the Balize, and the colony of the Bay Islands, and thereupon proceeds by implication to infer, that if the stipulations of the treaty be merely future in effect, Great Britain may still continue to hold the contested portions of Central America. The United States cannot admit either the inference or the premises. We readily deny that at the date of the treaty, Great Britain had any possession, real or supposed, in the limited and peculiar establishment at the Balize, and maintain that if she had any, they were surrendered by the convention.

The government, recognizing the obligations of the treaty, has endeavored to see it executed in good faith by both parties, and in the discussion thereof, has not looked to rights, which it might assert independently of the treaty, in consideration of our geographical position and of other circumstances, which create a strong claim to the Central American States different from those of any other government of Europe.

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All these acts or pretensions of Great Britain being contrary to the rights of the States of Central America, and to the manifest tenor of her stipulations with the United States, as understood by this government, have been the subject of negotiation through the American Minister in London. I transmit herewith instructions to him on the subject, and the correspondence between him and the British Secretary for Foreign Affairs, by which you will perceive that the two governments differ widely and irreconcilably as to the construction and its effect on their respective relations in Central America.

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The Government, on a former occasion not unlike the present, signified its determination to maintain the freedom of the seas, and of the great natural channel of navigation. The Barbary States had, for a long time, been paying tribute from the Mediterranean, whose ships frequented the Mediterranean. To the last demand of such payment made by them the United States, although suffering less by their depredations than many other nations, returned the explicit answer, that we preferred war to tribute, and thus opened the way to the relief of the commerce of the world from an ingenious tax, so long submitted to by the more powerful nations of Europe.

If the manner of payment of the Sound dues differs from that of the tribute formerly conceded to the Barbary States, still their exaction by Denmark has no better title than that of the Barbary States, in its origin, nothing but a tax on a common natural right, extorted by those who were at that time able to use sea and secure enjoyment of the freedom of the Baltic Sound Belts. Denmark, while resting our assertion of the freedom of the Baltic Sound Belts, indicated a readiness to make some new arrangement on the subject, and has invited the governments interested, including the United States, to be represented in a convention to assemble for the purpose of receiving and considering a proposition, which she intends to submit, for the capitalization of the Sound dues, and the distribution of the sum to be paid, according to the respective proportions of their maritime commerce to and from the Baltic. I have declined in behalf of the United States to accept this invitation for the most urgent reasons. One is, that Denmark does not offer to submit to the convention the question of her right to levy the Sound dues. A second is, that if the convention were allowed to take cognizance of that particular question, still it would not be competent to settle the great international principle involved, which affects the right of free navigation and commerce, and freedom as well as that of access to the Baltic. Above all, by the express terms of the proposition it is contemplated, that the consideration of the Sound dues shall be commingled with, and made subordinate to, a matter wholly extraneous, the balance of power among the governments of Europe.

While, however, rejecting the proposition and insisting on the right of free transit into and from the Baltic, I have expressed to Denmark a willingness, on the part of the United States to share liberally with other Powers in compensating her for any disadvantages which commerce shall hereafter derive from expenditures made by her for the improvement and safety of the navigation of the Sound Belts.

I lay before you herewith sundry documents on the subject, in which my views are more fully disclosed. Should no satisfactory arrangements be soon concluded, I shall again call your attention to the subject, with a recommendation of such measures as may appear to be required, and which will secure the rights of the United States, so far as they are affected by the pretensions of Denmark.

I announce, with much gratification, that since the adjournment of the last Congress, the friendly relations between this Government and that of France, has been satisfactorily determined, and that the relations of the two Governments continue to be of the most friendly nature.

A question also which has been pending for several years between the United States and the Kingdom of Greece, and the seizure by public authorities of that country, of property belonging to the present American Consul at Athens, and which had been the subject of very earnest discussion between the United States, and the satisfaction of the party interested and of both Governments.

With Spain, peaceful relations are still maintained, and some progress has been made in securing the redress of wrongs complained of by this Government. Spain has not only discovered and dispersed the slavers, who illegally seized and detained the steamer Black Warrior at Havana, but has also paid the sum claimed as indemnity for the loss thereby inflicted on citizens of the United States.

In consequence of a destructive hurricane which visited Cuba in 1854, the supreme authority of that island issued a decree permitting the importation, for the period of six months, of certain building materials and provisions, free of duty, but revoked it when the period only had elapsed, to the injury of the citizens of the United States, who had proceeded to net on the faith of the decree.—The Spanish Government refused indemnification to the parties aggrieved until recently, when it was assented to, payment being promised to be made as soon as the amount could be ascertained.

Satisfaction claimed for the arrest and search of the steamer El Dorado has not yet been accorded, but there is reason to believe that it will be, and that case, with others, continues to be urged upon the attention of the Spanish Government. I do not abandon the hope of continuing, with Spain, some general arrangement, if it do not wholly prevent the recurrence of difficulties in Cuba, will render them less frequent; and whenever they shall occur, facilitate their more speedy settlement.

The interposition of the Government has been invoked by many of its citizens, on account of injuries done to their persons and property, for which the Mexican Republic is responsible. The unhappy situation of that country, for some time past, has not allowed its government to give due consideration to such matters on the part of this government. But, if the revolutionary movements, which have lately occurred in that republic, end in the organization of a stable government, urgent appeals to its justice will then be made, and it may be hoped, with success, for the redress of all complaints of our citizens.

In regard to the American republics, which, from their proximity and other considerations, have peculiar relations to this government, it has been my constant aim strictly to observe all the obligations of peaceful friendship and of good neighborhood, and to abstain from any interference in their internal concerns, which would be tantamount to a partial intervention in their affairs, and to adopt preventive measures to the same end, which, on a similar occasion, had the best results in re-assuring the peace of the Mexican States of Sonora and Lower California.

Nicaragua; and a convention of commercial reciprocity with the Hawaiian Kingdom has been negotiated. The latter Kingdom and the State of Nicaragua have also acceded to a declaration, recognizing an international right, the principles contained in the convention between the United States and Russia of the 22d of July, 1825. These treaties and conventions will be laid before the Senate for ratification.

The statements made, in my last annual message, respecting the anticipated receipts and expenditures of the Treasury, have been substantially verified.

It appears from the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, that the receipts during the last financial year ending June 30, 1855, from all sources, were sixty-five million three thousand nine hundred and thirty dollars; and that the public expenditures for the same period, exclusive of payments on account of public debt, amounted to fifty-six million three hundred and sixty thousand five hundred and ninety-three dollars. During the same period, the payments made in redemption of the public debt, including interest and premium, amounted to five million eight hundred and forty-four thousand five hundred and twenty-eight dollars.

The balance in the Treasury at the beginning of the present year, July 1, 1855, was eighteen million nine hundred and thirty-one thousand nine hundred and seventy-one dollars, the receipts for the first quarter, and the estimated receipts for the remaining three quarters, amount, together, to sixty-seven million nine hundred and eighty-three thousand seven hundred and eighty-three dollars, thus affording in all, as the available resources of the current year, the sum of eighty-six million eight hundred and sixty-three thousand seven hundred and eighty-three dollars.

In the above estimated expenditures of the present fiscal year are included three million dollars to meet the last instalment of loans provided for in the late treaty with Mexico, and seven million seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars appropriated on account of the debt due to Texas, which two sums being taken from the available resources of the Treasury on July 1, 1855, of fifteen million eight hundred and sixty-three thousand seven hundred and eighty-three dollars, leaves for ordinary objects of the year, to the sum of sixty million four hundred and seventy-six thousand three hundred and thirty-three dollars and forty-one cents.

The amount of the public debt, at the commencement of the present fiscal year, was forty million five hundred and eighty-three thousand six hundred and thirty-one dollars, and deduction being made of subsequent payments, the whole public debt of the Federal Government remaining at this time is less than forty million dollars.

The remnant of certain other government stocks amounting to two hundred and forty thousand dollars, referred to in my last message as out standing, has since been paid. I am fully persuaded that it would be difficult to devise a more judicious and economical mode of conducting the business of the government than is now conducted. Notwithstanding the great number of public agents of collection and disbursement, it is believed that the checks and guards provided including the requirement of monthly returns, rendered it scarcely possible for any considerable fraud on the part of those agents, or neglect involving hazard of any serious public loss, to escape detection.

I renew, however, the recommendation, heretofore made by me, of the enactment of a law declaring it felony on the part of public officers to insert false entries in their books of record or account, or to make false returns, and also requiring them on the termination of their service to deliver to their successors a public and correct account of the receipts and disbursements of their office, and to require that the termination of the military establishment, which is a departure from the principles of the present tariff is not anticipated.

The army, during the past year, has been actively engaged in defending the Indian frontier, the state of the service permitting but few small garnisons in our permanent fortifications. The additional regiments authorized at the last session of Congress have been recruited and organized, and a large portion of the troops have already been sent to the field. All the duties, which devolve on the military establishment, have been satisfactorily performed, and the discipline and privations incident to the character of the service required of our troops have furnished additional evidence of their courage, zeal, and capacity to meet any requisition, which their country may make upon them. For the details of the military operations, the distributions of the troops, and additional provisions required for the military service, I refer to the report of the Secretary of War and the accompanying documents.

Experience, gathered from events which have transpired since my last annual message, has served to confirm the opinion, which I have expressed of the propriety of making provision, by a retired list, for disabled officers, and for increased compensation to the officers retained on the list for active duty. All the reasons which existed, when these measures were recommended on former occasions, continue without modification, except so far as circumstances have given to them additional force.

The efficiency of an army in the most material respects depends upon the discipline of the troops, and the discharge of its duties, as in the case of the artillery, a great number of officers, also, an intimate acquaintance with the duties of an officer for the general staff, it is desirable that he shall have served in both. With this view, it was recommended on a former occasion that the duties of the staff should be mainly performed by details from the line, and with the conviction of the advantages which would result from such a change, it is again presented for the consideration of Congress.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy, herewith submitted, exhibits in full the naval operations of the past year, together with the present condition of the service, and it makes suggestions of further legislation, to which your attention is invited.

The construction of six steam frigates, for which appropriations were made by the last Congress, has proceeded in the most satisfactory manner, and with such expedition as to warrant the belief that they will be ready for service early in the coming spring.—It is important as this season advances, that it still remains inadequate to the contingent exigencies of the protection of the extensive sea coast and vast commercial interests of the United States. In view of this fact, and of the progress of the construction, it is recommended that a gradual and systematic increase of the appropriation is recommended for the construction of six sloops-of-war.

In regard to the steps taken in execution of the act of Congress to promote the efficiency of the navy, it is unnecessary for me to say more than to express entire concurrence in the observations on that subject presented by the Secretary in his report.

It will be perceived, by the report of the Postmaster General, that the gross expenditures of the Department for the last fiscal year, was \$39,965,342, and the gross receipts \$7,242,136, making an excess of expenditures over receipts of \$32,723,206; that the cost of mail transportation during the year was \$57,252,262, greater than the previous year. Much of the heavy expenditure, to which the Treasury is thus subjected, is to be ascribed to the large quantity of printed matter conveyed by the mails, either franked, or liable to no postage by law, or to very low rates of postage compared with that charged on letters and newspapers, and to the cost of steam railroads and by ocean steamers. The suggestions of the Postmaster General on the subject deserve the consideration of Congress.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior will engage your attention, as well for useful suggestions, as for the extent of the interest and importance of the subjects to which they refer.

The aggregate amount of public land sold during the last fiscal year, located with military scrip or land warrants, taken up under Government bonds, and sold as swamp lands by States, is \$4,557,419, and the portion sold was \$1,229,524, yielding in receipts the sum of \$11,485,280. In the same period, 67,238,854 acres have been surveyed; but, in consideration of the quantity already surveyed to entry no additional tracts have been brought into market.

The peculiar relation of the general Government to the District of Columbia renders it proper to commend to your care not only its internal, but also its external interests, including education, more especially in those parts of the district outside of the cities of Washington and Georgetown.

The commissioners appointed to revise and codify the laws of the District have made such progress in the performance of their duty, as to insure its completion in the time prescribed by the act of Congress.

Information has recently been received, that the peace of the settlements in the Territories of Oregon and Washington is disturbed by hostility on the part of the Indians, with indications of a more serious character among the tribes in that quarter, the more serious in their possible effect by reason of the undetermined foreign interests existing in those Territories, to which your attention has already been especially invited. Efforts are being made to prevent the outbreak, which is believed, will restore quiet, and afford protection to our citizens.

In the Territory of Kansas there have been acts prejudicial to good order, but as yet none have occurred under circumstances to justify the interposition of the Federal Executive. That could only be in case of obstruction to federal law, or of organized resistance to territorial law, assuming the character of insurrection, which, if it should occur, it would be my duty promptly to overcome and suppress. I cherish the hope, however, that the occurrence of such an event will be prevented by the sound sense of the people of the Territory, who by their organic law, possessing the right to determine their own domestic institutions, are entitled while supporting themselves peacefully, to the free exercise of that right, and must be protected in the enjoyment of that right without interference on the part of the citizens of any of the States.

The southern boundary line of this territory has never been surveyed and established, the rapidly extending settlements in that region, and the fact that the main route between Independence, in the State of Missouri, and New Mexico, is contiguous to this line, suggest the probability that embarrassing questions of jurisdiction may consequently arise. For these and other considerations, I commend the subject to your early attention.

I have thus passed in review the general state of the Union, including such particular concerns of the Federal Government, whether of domestic or foreign relation, as it appeared to me desirable and useful to bring to the attention of Congress. Unlike the great States of Europe and Asia, and many of those of America, these United States are wasting their strength neither in foreign nor domestic strife. Whatever of discontent or public dissatisfaction exists, is attributable to the imperfections of human nature, or is incident to all governments, however perfect, which human wisdom can devise. Such subjects of political agitation as occupy the public mind, consist, to a great extent, of exaggeration of inevitable evils, or of zeal in any improvement, or mere imagination of grievances, having but remote connection with any of the constitutional functions or duties of the Federal Government. To whatever extent these questions exhibit a tendency menacing to the stability of the Constitution, or the integrity of the Union, and no farther, they demand the consideration of the Executive, and require to be presented by him to Congress.

Before the Thirteen Colonies became a confederation of independent States, they associated only by a community of transatlantic origin, by geographical position, and by the mutual ties of common dependence on Great Britain. When that was surrendered, they severally assumed the powers and rights of absolute self-government. The municipal and social institutions of each, its laws