



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY
EDGAR SNOWDEN.

THE ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE, for the country, is printed on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Subscription—The Daily paper is furnished at eight dollars per annum, payable half yearly. The Country Paper (tri-weekly) is furnished for five dollars per annum, payable in advance. No subscription received from the country, unless accompanied by the cash, or by a responsible name.

ALEXANDRIA:

FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 23, 1846.

THE MAILS, WEATHER, &c.

The snow storm of Tuesday night has obstructed the progress of the mails. We received, yesterday, nothing north of Philadelphia.

Sleighting, in this neighborhood is very fine, and advantage is taken of the opportunity, for sleigh riding.

The public are now anxiously waiting for the arrival of the steamer from England, and the news is expected daily.

MR. GALLATIN ON OREGON.

The venerable Albert Gallatin has commenced a series of papers in the National Intelligencer on the subject of Oregon. We shall notice these papers more at large hereafter.

WEST POINT.

Since the foundation of this institution twelve hundred Cadets have completed, and double that number have commenced their collegiate education, at the expense of Government; one-third of these graduates have resigned.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

The Richmond and Ohio Rail Road Bill came up yesterday on its passage, and Mr. Denison made an ineffectual motion to lay it on the table. Messrs. Bocoek, Yerby, McRae, Cooke, McPherson and Rice, sustained the bill, principally because it asked for no money from the State, and thereby saved the Treasury from invasion. The vote on its passage was a very decided one—71 to 39. There has been no means of judging as to its fate in the Senate.—*Richmond Whig.*

DIVISION OF FAUQUIER COUNTY.

The Committee to whom this matter was referred, we understand, have determined to report in favor of the line by Bragg's Tavern, that being the nearest to this place. What will be the action of the Legislature upon the report, we cannot tell.—*Warrenton Times.*

BRIDGE OVER THE OHIO.

Strenuous exertions are making by the people resident in the neighborhood to obtain from Congress an act of incorporation for a company to construct a bridge over the Ohio River at Wheeling. It remains a question whether, if the act was granted, a bridge could be so constructed as not to impede the navigation of this great public highway.

FREE GOODS.

Now is the time to ascertain why certain articles have been admitted free of duty, and if at the time there was reason for this admission, the enquiry now is, does it exist at the present moment. The value of free goods admitted in the United States for the last year is \$23,147,840; paying ad valorem \$60,191,962, and specific duties, \$34,914,862. On nearly all of the twenty-two millions of free goods, a fair duty might be imposed without any injury to trade or consumer, and if we are about reducing the Tariff to the revenue standard, we must include goods now admitted free on which at least five millions revenue can be annually collected.—*N. Y. Sun.*

ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE.

We learn from the Boston Atlas, that Reuben Rowley, of Wrentham, the man who said he was robbed last fall, on board of the steamboat Massachusetts, of \$28,000, and told the story about eating a part of a peach, which so stupefied him, has been confined in the State Lunatic Hospital, at Worcester, for some time past. On Friday afternoon last, he had leave to go out to take the air, promising to return in due season, but at the last accounts he had not been heard of.

LARD FOR LONDON.

Happening in at Hastings's lard oil factory on Friday, we found them putting up lard in hogs' bladders, for the English market, pursuant to an order from an English dealer. This is the fashionable form of the article of the best quality, in that market, where it brings fifteen cents a pound. The cases come from Ohio are very clean, and when filled and cold, appear as white and as hard as an ostrich's egg.—*Springfield Republican.*

THE CONCERT ROOM.

A critic who has something to say upon a concert in Boston, is thus noticed by the Transcript: "Has he spoken of the knot of loungers who keep the door slamming, and the aisles creaking, during the greater part of the evening, to the infinite annoyance of martyrs who occupy back seats? Or has he referred to the outrageous beating, during the performance, of that beautiful and familiar march, by those who have not the slightest idea of time in their heads? A man really fond of music, is content to leave the leading of the orchestra to the conductor, and, in the meanwhile, sits with perfect stillness, conscious of Schmidt's capacity, and moreover without any fear that his services will be needed in difficult passages. Oh! ye heads void of musical appreciation, if ye would have your ignorance make known, essay to beat time!"

THE MILITIA.

The following resolution in the form of an amendment to another resolution, is before the Legislature of New York.

"Resolved, That in time of peace it is inexpedient for Congress to provide for any thing more than an enrollment and classification of the militia. But that in case of the militia being required to perform company and field duty each year, they should be paid a reasonable compensation."

We do not know what effect enrollment, without exercise, will have upon the military character of men, how much zeal it will inspire, how much knowledge it will impart, but we suppose something of the kind is necessary, that the government, in case of need, may know where to make a demand upon the services of citizens.—But the whole dependence must be upon the volunteers; and in order to give efficacy to that system, to insure effective discipline, and a general mixture of all classes, they must be recognized specially by the State government, and placed in some position in which that recognition shall be apparent, and in which their enrollment, their whole discipline and sacrifice, shall be regarded as a public service. There is a spirit of patriotism in the young men of our country. They are willing to submit to labor and cost, to acquire military knowledge, but they have a right, if they thus supply a most important want to the government, to claim to be recognized as an important auxiliary to the government.—*U. S. Gaz.*

Communications.

FORT WASHINGTON.

"Neque enim tam statim clarum ingenium est, ut passim emungere; nisi illi materia, occasio, fautor etiam, commendatque contingat."

I have just read the editorial in the Alexandria Gazette of the 10th instant, in which you express the belief that Fort Washington was planned under the direction of the late Gen. Bernard. You are mistaken. Whilst Gen. Swift was at the head of the Engineer corps, Fort Washington was planned by the late Gen. Walker K. Armistead—who superintended its erection, until, at the resignation of Gen. Swift, he was made Chief of the Engineer Corps.

Gen. Bernard was the intimate friend of Gen. Armistead, and would not have taken a leaf from the laurels he gained in the service of his country. But the admirers of the brilliant Frenchman, have given him the credit of having planned Fort Monroe, also,—this is likewise a mistake. Bernard's plan was adopted, but after it was commenced, the Fortress was built on the plan projected by Armistead. Bernard had omitted fortifying the sand beach, &c.

Gen. Armistead was a brave officer, with pride equalled only by his modesty, and to his personal friends alone did he speak of his services; and I deem it due to his memory not to let the opportunity pass, without saying that the credit of saving Norfolk during the last war is due to him. For Gen. Taylor had ordered Craney Island to be evacuated, and only through the remonstrances of Armistead was the order delayed, until at a council of war held on the 21st of June, 1813, at night, he got it revoked.

Virginia, Jan. 17, 1846. JUSTICE.

OREGON.

"The whole of Oregon or none," having been the Locofoco watchword, pending the election for President, it doubtless assuaged many of that party, when informed by a President elected to carry out the views of his party, and who had himself declared our title to be "clear and unquestionable," that he had not only consented but proposed to yield about one half of "the whole," to be made secure in the possession of the remainder. The pretence that such an offer was made, because his predecessors had made a like concession, was clearly a mere *feint*; inasmuch as the President could hardly have been ignorant of such offer having been made, at the time his party made "the whole of Oregon or none," one of the questions by which to defeat the more moderate pretensions of the Whigs upon that question; a moderation fully justified by the practice of Mr. Polk in his offer of compromise. This course of the President certainly demonstrates either the insincerity of his party in contending for "the whole," or their ignorance in asserting such a title; whilst its subsequent withdrawal and the re-assertion of "a right to every foot of Oregon," is, as I humbly conceive, both ridiculous and inconsistent. Had Mr. Clay been elected and have made the offer that Mr. Polk did, the expressed indignation of the Locofocos would have been illimitable. But having been made by Mr. Polk, (and I regret its non-acceptance,) it is of course not objected to by them. This whole affair tends to show how adverse the practice of a party may be from its pretensions, in regard to questions of national policy.

A WHIG.

DEMOCRATIC MEETING IN FAIRFAX COUNTY, VA.

At a Democratic meeting of Fairfax County, held at the Court House, on Monday, the 19th of January, 1846, pursuant to notice, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, the Democratic party of Fairfax County, in their Democratic friends of the county of Loudoun, that it is highly important to keep the party "organized," and to have candidates who will support the "time honored" principles of the Democratic party; therefore,

Resolved, That delegates be appointed by the Chairman of this meeting, to meet the Loudoun delegation at Ira Grinnell's Tavern, in Dranesville, on the 29th instant, at 12 o'clock, M., in Convention, to nominate a Democratic candidate for this Senatorial district.

Resolved, That in the first resolution be filled with twenty-four.

The Chairman then appointed the following gentlemen, delegates to said convention:—

Dr. Ira Williams, S. L. Lewis, Thos. George, William Barker, John G. Smith, J. T. Jackson, Col. George Minor, William Walker, Edward McNerhan, A. Core, J. L. D. Montanya, Samuel Catts, George M. Millan, John R. Dale, F. C. Davis, Daniel Kincheloe, Wm. F. Halley, James Adams, J. M. P. Newby, George W. Hunter, Jr., A. B. Williams, Henry Brickshear, Wm. D. Wilcoxon and Wm. B. Day.

Resolved, That we pledge our support to the nominee of the convention, let him come from what end of the district he may.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Alexandria Gazette, the Providence Chronicle, and Leesburg Washingtonian.

And then, on motion, the meeting adjourned.

SILAS BURKE, Chairman.

JOHN POWELL, Secretary.

RETROCESSION.

On the 8th of February, 1803, Mr. Bacon, of Mass., in the lower House of Congress, moved to recede to Virginia and Maryland, the territory by the said States ceded to the United States.—The vote of the House was 66 against, to 26 in favor of the motion.

On the 17th of March, 1804, Mr. Dawson renewed the subject. Result.—On the 23d March, 1804, the House refused to go into Committee of the Whole, and the same rejected by a large majority, without debate.

On the 12th of February, 1806, Mr. Smilie made a similar move. Referred to a Committee of the whole House,—but it was never after noticed.

On the 8th of January, 1820, Mr. Darlington moved to recede, as others had done before him,—but the House refused to consider his resolution.

Since all this, this subject has been considered and debated in this community, and the results laid before Congress without effect.

ONE OF THE PEOPLE.

Alexandria, Jan. 21.

VIRGINIA TARIFF OF TAXES FOR 1845.

Under the act entitled "An Act, imposing Taxes for the support of Government,"—passed 13th February, 1845. Extracts from the said act:—

Rents, \$2 40 on each \$100.
Houses and lots, annual value, the same.
Carriages, 15 per cent. on their real value.
Law process, 50 to 75 cents on each writ or subpoena.

All deeds, 50 cents each.
Watches, gold \$1, silver 50 cents—gold or silver plate 15 per cent. of the value, used or not.
Dividends on Joint Stock, 15 per cent.—on Interest, Money loaned, 15 per cent.—on income, 1 per cent.

On money on hand or on deposit, 10 cents on every \$100.
On all fees, 1 per cent.

Physicians, Surgeons, Dentists and Lawyers, \$5 each.
Lawyers who practice in the Court of Appeals from \$10 to \$20.

Collateral Inheritances, 2 per cent on every \$100, value of the estate. Probate of Wills, 50 cents. Tolls, 15 per cent on the amount of tolls received. Printing Presses, not more than \$10. Brokers, \$300—no license for less than a year. Vendors of Lottery Tickets, \$1000—no license for less than a year. Insurance Offices, \$100 each. Venue Masters, from \$75 to \$500, according to sales, but for the first year that they begin, \$150 only.

Merchants, from \$10 to \$100, according to sales,—but shopkeepers who retail ardent liquors, have to pay \$15 in addition to the \$10—making \$25.

Taverns, \$20, and in addition 75 per cent. on the rent, or annual value, over and above \$200—so that a house renting for \$1000, would have to pay a tax of \$80, besides the County levy \$12.50 and the Corporation tax of \$27, if I am not mistaken, making \$119.50.

On every taxable \$1, and there are about 2000 in the Town and County of Alexandria—\$2000.

Bank Dividends, 2 per cent on the amount.—The bonus of 4 per cent. may be in addition, but I am not informed upon the subject.

There are many other things not here noticed, but the above may interest those concerned. If ever the vulgar maxim, of "look before you leap" applied, it does in the present case.

NOTE.—Since writing the above, I find that I was mistaken in the amount of the Corporation expenses,—and I have with pleasure corrected the same.

Amount interest on the debt as stated \$32,543
An'l. expense about \$15,312 00

Less income tax on Mr. Gregory's five thousand dollars, which expires in 2 years more \$4,420 00 \$10,893

Add Virginia Tax, supposed \$43,435
20,000

\$63,435 instead of \$70,573 as stated.

FREEHOLDER.

Alexandria, D. C., January 21, 1846.

A VIRGINIA INVENTION.

We had the pleasure on Monday of examining one of the curious inventions to which even this fertile age has given rise. It is the *Piano Violino*, or a union of the piano and violin, invented by Mr. James S. Wood, of Buchanan, Va. This instrument was in this city some time since, in a state less approaching to perfection than it now is. The gentlemen who have charge of it intend to exhibit it to the public, with the hope of being encouraged to embark in the manufacture. We earnestly urge upon all who either have a curiosity to gratify, or take a praiseworthy pride in the productive talent of Virginia, to seize the occasion of inspecting this wonderful achievement of art, and of aiding its inventor in perfecting it.

All will readily perceive, though without understanding the theory of music, that the violin presents greater difficulties than any other instrument for adaptation to the piano. There being no frets, or fixed stops, to make the different notes upon the strings of the violin, they are made by the violinists with his fingers; and it is the exquisite delicacy of ear, and long-practised accuracy of judgment, in pressing precisely the proper part of the string, which chiefly constitutes the merit of the performer. It never, we presume, occurred to any one, except Mr. Wood, that machinery might be made to accomplish this nice operation. He has, however, wonderfully succeeded.

His instrument has four bows—one for each string of the violin—which are moved backward and forward by a crank turned by a pedal. Each key of the piano, when pressed down by the finger, causes an artificial finger to press upon the proper point of one of the strings of the violin, and at the same instant causes one of the bows (all of which are constantly in motion during the performance,) to press upon the string near the bridge. The length of the note depends upon the time the key is pressed down, the bow leaving the string the instant the finger is raised from the key.

The effect of this arrangement is, in some tunes, very striking. The rapid performance which musicians call *staccato*, on this instrument, is very different, in distinctness and quick succession of sounds, from any thing the ordinary violinist can effect. Moreover, the art of sounding in all the strings together, which is reached by none but the most eminent performers, may be achieved with the four bows of the piano violin by the smallest child that can play on the piano forte.

The additional machinery for the attachment of the violin occupies very little space, and, we understand, does not cost more than \$25 or \$30. *Rich. Compiler.*

A GOOD PLAN.

From the United States Gazette.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 17, 1846.

Jos. R. Chandler, Esq.—Dear Sir: Permit me to suggest to you some observations, respecting a plan which is generally adopted in every counting house in Paris, and which would certainly be a great saving of time to every business man here. It is this: One day of the week is exclusively set aside for the payment of cash bills; on this day, (bills having been presented beforehand for examination) the creditor can readily demand payment, by having made his own regulation, will have time to prepare to meet all demands. By an arrangement of this kind, persons presenting bills would know exactly what to depend upon, and without doubt it would be a great saving of time both to debtor and creditor—preventing calls when not convenient—and greatly interfering with other leading and more important business.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT.

By and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

John Slidell, of Louisiana, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the Mexican republic.

Sylvester Churchill, late inspector-general, to be inspector-general in the army, with the rank of colonel, to take rank from June 25, 1841, the date of his former commission.

Charles W. Rand, to be collector of the customs for the district, and inspector of the revenue for the port of Nantucket, in the State of Massachusetts, vice William R. Easton, whose commission has expired.

John W. Brockenbrough, of Virginia, to be judge of the district court of the United States for the western district of Virginia, in the place of Isaac S. Pennybacker, resigned.

George H. Lee, to be attorney of the United States for the western district of Virginia, in the place of Moses C. Good, removed.

DESTRUCTION OF A SHIP BY FIRE.

We learn from Captain Hollingshead, of steamer Pocahontas, who arrived yesterday from Baltimore, that the ship *Lotus*, Capt. Franks, lying at Bermuda Hundred, (in this district,) was consumed by fire on Sunday evening. The *Lotus* was loading for Amsterdam with tobacco and flour, and was nearly ready for sea. The ship and cargo will be almost a total loss, as she was burnt to the water's edge, and sunk in about thirty feet water. The cargo was insured principally in Amsterdam and New York—the ship in Salem, Mass., where she belongs.—*Rich. Eng.*

LINE OF STEAMERS.

We understand that the bids for the various routes are closed, and that the department is engaged in summing up the various propositions.—Bids have been made for Bremen, Antwerp, Havre, and even Marseilles. The Postmaster General will scarcely be able to announce his selection of the route before the 1st February.—*Union.*

NAVAL EXTENSION.

In the Senate, on Monday, Mr. FAIRFIELD desired that the bill which had been reported by him from the Committee on Naval Affairs should be now read, with a view to appointing some particular day for its consideration.

The bill having been read, Mr. FAIRFIELD observed that upon reflection he would forbear moving for the appointment of any particular day, but would let the bill take its ordinary course upon the calendar.

Mr. SEVIER observed that he regarded this as a measure of very great importance. He was opposed to the bill, however, for reasons perhaps for which no one else would oppose it. He was opposed to it on the ground that, in case of war, it was inadequate, insufficient; and, in case of peace, it was unnecessary. If we are to have war, said Mr. S., let us go the whole hog. If we are to have war, I am for voting ample supplies; but let us first know whether we are to have war. I am perfectly willing that the bill shall be postponed until the first of March, or some other future day; but I am altogether opposed to the bill as a peace measure.

The PRESIDING OFFICER remarked that it had been reported from the Committee on Naval Affairs, and on motion of the Senator from Maine, (Mr. FAIRFIELD,) it had been read, with a view to appointing a day for its consideration.

Mr. FAIRFIELD said that, when he moved to take up the bill, it was his intention to propose that Tuesday next be named as the time for its consideration by the Senate. Upon consulting some of the Senators about him, however, he found a strong inclination existed to postpone it to some distant day. To this he was unwilling to accede; and, believing that it would have a better chance for consideration at an early day if left to take its place upon the calendar, he had declined to make any motion regarding it.

Some conversation ensued as to the matter being irregularly before the Senate at this time.

The motion was then taken on Mr. Speight's motion to lay the bill on the table; and it was negatived, 12 yeas to 23.

Mr. SEVIER then moved that the consideration of the bill be postponed until the 10th day of February next.

Mr. WESTCOTT said he hoped the chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs would be permitted to assign the day for its consideration.—He was himself in favor of an early day. It was an important measure, and should be passed whether we were to have war or not.

Mr. FAIRFIELD moved that it be postponed until Tuesday next.

Mr. YULE desired permission to remark that it had been distinctly understood by the committee that there was no war measure. It seemed to him, therefore, that the postponement of its consideration to the same day that had been appointed for the discussion of the Oregon question, would be entirely unnecessary, and, indeed, inexpedient; because it had no connexion whatever with that subject. The main purpose of the bill was to organize a steam navy with a view to home defence, and especially to be employed in the Gulf of Mexico. There was, to be sure, one clause in the bill giving power to the President to have in readiness, on the stocks or otherwise, a number of vessels, to be fitted out in case of emergency. If Senators were of the opinion no such emergency was likely to arise, and that no necessity existed for this clause, it would be an easy matter to move that it be stricken out. But the proposition for an increase of the navy, building steam vessels of iron, suited to the navigation of the Western waters and the shoals in the Gulf, for home defence, it seemed to him was one which, in any condition of the country, it was exceedingly proper to bring forward.

The building of this class of vessels was advisable on the score of economy. They would require no repairs, and might be laid by for any length of time without fear of decaying or being damaged. He trusted the Senate would permit the bill to take its ordinary course, or if it be desired, let an early day be appointed for its consideration.

Mr. FAIRFIELD said he deemed all discussion upon the merits of the bill to be out of place and improper at this time, and he would, therefore, abstain from making any remarks in relation to it, further than to say, that he differed somewhat from the views entertained by the other members of the committee. He considered the bill as neither a war nor a peace measure. This was the reason why no report had been laid before the Senate accompanying the bill, but each member of the committee was at liberty to place his support of the measure upon any ground he thought proper. Nor was there in committee any designation of the particular service to which the vessel should be devoted.

Mr. SEVIER remarked that if it were a peace measure, there was no occasion to be in a hurry; and he would say to his friend, the Senator from Maine, that if he pressed the adoption of the measure as early a day as he seemed to desire, he would most assuredly endanger its success. For his own part, in case the notice to Great Britain should be passed, he would vote for the bill, otherwise not.

Mr. WESTCOTT objected to the appointment of the same day for the consideration of this bill as had been named for the discussion of the diplomatic questions touching Oregon. He could not perceive with what propriety the two questions could be discussed together, as they were entirely separate and distinct from each other. He trusted they would not be mixed up together, but that the Senator from Arkansas would withdraw his motion and allow the earlier day to be named.

Mr. J. M. CLAYTON said he did not understand very clearly the course of the Senator on the other side, (Mr. SEVIER.) At an early day in the last month the honorable Senator from Arkansas, if he had rightly understood the Senator, had told him that he believed war with England was inevitable. Here was a proposition to prepare for war, and the honorable Senator from Arkansas, though believing that war was inevitable, appeared to be anxious to postpone the preparation. He would inquire of the honorable Senator if he had changed his opinion? If the Senator believed war to be inevitable, why was he unwilling to prepare for it? Why delay the very first step for putting the country in a state of preparation? In any event the bill should have his support. He did not view it as a war measure, but as a very important measure, nevertheless, for the defence of the country, without reference to any circumstances now existing. But if the gentleman on the other side still entertained the same opinion he did a month ago, he ought most clearly to be in favor of the passage of this bill.

Mr. SEVIER said his convictions on that subject had undergone no change, and he would add as far as any one, in putting the country in a state of defence; but he desired that the whole subject should be considered together. He had some doubts as to whether the notice was going to be passed. Could he depend on the vote of his friend from Delaware in favor of the notice? He had seen certain propositions of his friend, the Senator from Ohio, voted down by yeas and nays, and if he were to form an opinion from what he witnessed daily, it certainly seemed to him very likely that they would have to go home as they came, leaving the President unassisted and unsupported. Did the Senator expect him to vote millions for an increase of the navy in a time of profound peace? If gentlemen declined voting for the notice, they must expect to pay for an expenditure of money in useless preparation. He wanted the whole matter to be considered together, and adopted or rejected together.

Mr. CLAYTON said it appeared then that the opinions of the honorable Senator, so positively expressed last month, had undergone a change, and that the Senator no longer regarded war as being inevitable, but that it depended on whether Congress would or would not pass the notice. Was this what the Senator intended to be understood as saying?

Mr. SEVIER assented.

Mr. CLAYTON. The position of the Senator then was somewhat different from what it had

been a month ago. War was not now inevitable, but it depended on whether Congress would pass the notice. The Senator had put the question whether he would sustain the notice? He would tell the honorable Senator, when the question should be presented, what his course would be; he desired to do that first which first demanded attention; he did not at present mean to intimate whether he would support the notice or not; this much he would say, if he supposed it would have the effect of producing war, he would vote for it. He assured the Senator he was for peace; and the only view which would induce him to vote for the notice would be in case he should consider it a pacific measure; a measure which would lead to a continuance of negotiations; a measure not leading to war, but having a tendency to prevent war. The honorable Senator and himself in all probability entertained different views as to which effect the notice would produce. He would be ready to express his views when the proper time arrived; for the present, it was enough to say that he was in favor of this bill, and was decidedly opposed to putting off its consideration until the 10th of February. He hoped that next Tuesday would be the day assigned, and when it came up it should have his cordial support.

Mr. SEVIER desired to say a single word. If his opinion were changed, it was only because he found that the Senator, had not walked up to the mark. When he made the remarks that he made, he was under the belief that every man would stand up to the notice; and if his views had changed at all, it was only because he found those around him had changed.

Mr. CLAYTON said he was sure that the gentleman could not point out any change as having taken place on his part. The gentleman would see when the question was presented whether he would walk up to the notice. [A laugh.]

Mr. HANNEGAN said he was happy to express his entire concurrence in the views expressed by the honorable Senator from Delaware. He disagreed entirely with the opinions of the gentleman from Arkansas who (said Mr. H.) apprehends that the notice cannot pass. I apprehend on the contrary, that we have witnessed on both sides of the Senate. The Senator regards the notice (and I do not intend to discuss the merits of the question now) as a measure which will be productive of war. I hold it to be a great peace measure, the only peace measure. Sir, if the notice be not given, I can see but one result, and that is, that England will become more arrogant, more domineering, and more insatiable in her demands than ever. As far as the notice is concerned, I regard it not as a war but a peace measure.

What has been the past history of these transactions during the last twelve years only, since I have been a member of the Senate, at the time when we expected difficulty with the cry was, we must hold back. Though the destinies of the country were at that time in the hands of that man of mighty mind and iron will Andrew Jackson, the cry was, we must hold back; and now, when there is a probability of a war—when the President has sent forth the declaration to the civilized world that America will not tolerate foreign interference—now, in the face of all these things, with difficulties staring us in the face, gentlemen are unwilling to go on and appropriate one dollar for the purpose of putting the country in a state of preparation; though we are warned that the homes, the persons, and the property of our citizens on the seaboard are subject to devastation at the very moment the first sound of the trumpet is given. If we do not now prepare, when will we do it? We have an overflowing Treasury, upwards of seven millions of dollars now in hand and unemployed, and we are in a state of prosperity unparalleled in the history of nations. With difficulties abroad staring us in the face, and this state of prosperity at home, with no other legitimate and proper objects to which to appropriate our surplus means, why should we hesitate? But we are told we must not go on, as if it were not intended that we should get ready to act.

Sir, I say again, the notice is a peace measure—the most efficient and undoubted peace measure that can possibly be adopted. Let the world see we are prepared to repel any attack, come from what quarter it may; and my word for it, it will be the surest guaranty of peace. I am for following this sound and excellent maxim, "Let not the trumpet of preparation be sounded until the sword is drawn;" for we to him who sounds the trumpet before he draws the sword. Let us be ready, sword in hand, and then we may give the signal for the onset.

Mr. ALLEN next addressed the Senate as follows: The question before the Senate (said Mr. ALLEN) is not whether this bill shall become a law, but it is on what day will the Senate proceed