A. H. BUCKNER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

"POWER IS EVER STEALING FROM THE MANY TO THE FEW."

G. B. PRICE, PUBLISHER

VOL. 8-NUMBER 23.

BOWLING-GREEN, MO. SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 1841.

WHOLE NUMBER 387

CONGRESSIONAL

PROSPECTIVE PRE-EMPTION BILL

SPEECH OF MR. LINN, OF MISSOURI.

In Senate, Friday, January 29, 1841-On Mr. CRITTENDEN's amendment to distribute the proceeds of the sales of the public lands among the States. Mr. LINN addressed the Senate as follows:

Mr. PRESIDENT: As this seems to be a day of general settlement of accounts and misunderstandings, I desire to say a few words in order to prevent the possibility of any mistake in regard to my course on the important question now before the Senate. The honerable Senator from Kentucky [Mr. CLAY] was in an error when saying that I had re-

in which they lie. Now, sir, I have never committed myself thus far against cession although determined to vote against it when presented as an amendment to the pre-emption bill. But more am I opposed, and decidedly opposed, and decidedly opposed, they contemptate mercasing the number of French Covernment, vessels that appears they had in 1838, 49 ships of the sure. A powerful hostile fleet upon the coast of the United States prevents some of the features of w.r., where a heavy mass is brought to act against detachments, which may be cut up in detail, although their they contemptate mercasing the number of the solution of the States. I will watch, sir, all these different form very efficient vessels of war. propositions with care and deep interest give my vote according to the dictates of my Hon. L. F. LINN J. K. PAULDING. judgment, and the interest of my constituents. Having voted for one distribution bill atready, sir, I think it more than probable at them of the largest class, and it is in her pow-

violent or harsh language, for the man that among the States of the Union! can give harder blows in that repect is welcome | The Constitution of our common country to all the advantages he can gain; but this body of grave men should be the last to resort to denuncistory language, and even on this oc. the principal arguments urged in favor its casion, when there might be some justifica- adoption to protect our interest abroad; and dence, eccking information or explanation from the tion for it, I will not resort to harsh words to to defend the country against foreign aggress authorities of this State or the United States; and asmark with disapprobation the proposition of sion. Now is the accepted time to fulfil suming as the ground of action, the report of acts and the Senator from Kentucky [Mr. CLAY] to these great and paramount obligations. We distribute the proceeds of the public lands, cannot evade, we dare not postpone, withalthough presented at a time when the Treasury is empty, and when the aspect of in us by our constituents; we have had affairs was warlike and threatening on every hand. I know, sir, this is a favorite project of the Senator from Kentucky, and the pivot when the manufacture of the Senator from Kentucky, and the pivot when the senator from the s of the Senator from Kentucky, and the pivot as far as my action was concerned, to be a consulted in relation to this new act of jurisdiction, and upon which many political events will be deposite of our money with the States for who evidently regards it with regret, if not as an inmade to turn, and that to sustain it he would safekeeping, rather than permit banks to fringement of subsisting arrangements, is disregarded, strain every energy of his soul; but, in my opin- speculate on it, and flood the country with and the British to ops are permanently located at Ma. strain every energy orms soul; but, in my opinion this is the last moment in our history that
a proposition should be made to aleviate any
portion of our revenues. Rather, sir, increase

spectatate of it, and flood the country with
their paper. But it seems I was belief the
age, and it was, and is, considered as a debi
age, and it was, and is, considered as a
debi
age, and it was, and is, considered as a
debi
age, and it was, and is, considered as a
debi
age, and it was, and is, considered as a
debi
age, and it was, and is, considered as a
debi
age, and it was, and is, considered as a
debi
age, and it was, and is, considered as a
debi
age, and it was, and is, considered as a
debi
age, and it was, and is, considered as a
debi
and expediency of taking military possession on the
portion of our revenues. Rather, sir, increase

pressive manner, say that he would not at stop of that point? Let this portion of the sisting engagements on our part, and to insist upon a full

something like vanity and presumption in me to say any thing on this subject after such a declaration. But, sir. I constand will speak out now, as heretofore, and ware the country of its danger and defenceless condition. I repeat it again, now is the accepted time to do our duty in providing for the common try of its danger and defenceless condition. I lead to a solemn and imperious duty to do so. Look for a moment at our condition.

Look for a moment at our condition.

Call aloud upon the people to provide for the topic for the burden of age, and find the here and general the burden of age, and find the here and general the burden of age, and find the here and general the burden of age, and find the here and general the burden of age, and find the here and general the burden of age, and find the here and general the burden of age, and find the here and find the here and find the burden of age and find the here and f

a strenuous opposition was then made to the without a moment's hesitation, against it.

navy; but the following letter from our Na- language, in effect, viz: in peace, prepare for vy Department will show it at a glance:

the inquires contained in your letter of the Senate, in 1836: 12th instant, that in consulting the British Navy Register, it is found that Great Britain had built and building in 1840, 125 ships of the line, 113 frigates, 53 steamers of war, and the line, 113 frigates, 53 steamers of war, and and particularly those which minister to operations of the line, 113 frigates, 53 steamers of war, and with whom, from our intercourse and politically those which minister to operations of the line, 113 frigates, 53 steamers of war, and with whom, from our intercourse and politically those which minister to operations of the line, 113 frigates, 53 steamers of war, and with whom, from our intercourse and politically the line of the 287 sloops and smaller vessels; there were war, and with whom, from out intercourse and politiprecise number is not ascertained.

By the latest information respecting the number of French Government vessels, it proposition for distributing the proceeds of the sales of the public lands among all the

I am, very respecifully Your obedient servant. United States Senate.

for it was no of the Community and the Un- as certain as that the Ahat his rules the land we shall never be preceptated into a contest, ion, that they should be devoted to he h and important national objects, to which I think they justly and properly belong; and should deprecate it, or close his eyes to the conviction of the c the Senator's [Mr Critteners] proposition to the to prevent mine, and press it with all the zeal, the senator's [Mr Critteners] proposition then to present mine, and press it with all the zeal, present mine, and press it with all the zeal. Has continued to the face, we are quarteling for the consequences.

energy and ability, in my power to com-

The honorable member from Kentucky in due time, will roll itself along our Southern debate, thought proper to speak of the reso- lence and death! to the mouth of that noble lutions against the assumption of State debts. river, the Mississippi, which floats on its bo and for which I voted, as wanton, cruel, Dan- som to the ocean, the rich productions of ton and Robespierre like, and even traitor- the magnificent valley of the West. Conous to the States. I should be very sorry to sider the state of your navy. Thirty notuse such epithets, to mark the character of lions of dollars would scarcely be sufficient the proposition to distribute the proceeds of to put it in a condition to defend our coats, calculated to arrest attention, and call forth indignant the sales of the public lands. But if such or twenty millions to place it on a respectaepithets and appellations were strictly in or- ble footing. Examine for a moment the state der, without meaning any thing personal to of your defences along the line of the Atlander, without meaning any thing personal to an individual, or disrespectful to the Senate, tic from Maine to the Mississippi and Sabine an individual, or disrespectful to the Senate, tic from Maine to the Mississippi and Sabine and attempt to take military possession of what is term to the disputed territory, during the existence of that arrangement; a detachment of her Majesty's I may avoid a breach of order; nor do I wish attention and care, and yet we are now calsuch information for self-protection against led upon to distribute five millions annually territory, and has been continued there ever since.

Why, you know well that a few years since Heaven, if such a proposition come from there were not men enough in garrison in the side of the Senate with which I usually New York or some other large Atlantic city act in politics, my American feeling is so to fire a national salute on the arrival of a strong, that I would throw to the winds all French vessel of war in their harbor! Yet minor and party considerations. and vote.

increase of your army; and small enough it Read over carefully all the messages of is now, after being doubled by the act of your Presidents, from the first to the last .-1838. Examine into the state of the English They all breathe the same spirit, the same war. Examine well the reports from the NAVY DEPARTMENT, 18th January, 1840. War Department; ponder over the following Sin: I have the honor to state, in reply to sentiments from the Secretary at War to the

was in an error when saying that I had remarked, that under no state of things that could present themselves, would I vote for the proposition of the Senator from South Carolina [Mr. Calhous] to cede, under certain conditions, the public lands to the States tages depend on the economy and facility of transpor-tation, on the selecity of movement, and on the power of an enemy to threaten the whole shore, spread out before him, and to select his point of attack at pleapared by his naval ascendency and his other arrangements, to make a sudden and vigorous inroad upon our shares. It becomes us, therefore, to inquire how the

Fifty three steamships of war, and some of them of the largest class, and it is in her power to oring one hon-fred on our coast, as she shall be the last—events since the tore not be orin one bon red on our coast, as she mean the actual construction and equipment of vessels very clearly proving its wis ton. When he can, an a very short period of time, convert only. The number of those in service must depend on friend from Kentucky [Mr. Chitter En] all her steam packets into ships of war, they the state of the country at a given period. But I mean moved his amendment or resolutions of the structions to the Committee on Pa the Lands Government. And what man, knowing the branches of interest to the growth of a navy, and which

The honorable member from Kentucky in due time, will toll itself along our Southern factory upon the other. The achievements of our national senator from Kentucky, [Mr. Clay] whose coasts and from its marky folds scatter pestings for the country and senator from Kentucky, [Mr. Clay] whose resources by opening the wilderness and the the world. The simple received of its exploits is the clumor voice, animating his fellow citizens to fountains of hidden treasures, and invite highest eulogium which can be pronounced upon it hattle in the cause of their beloved country.

Look at the recent message of the Govemor of the State of Mone. He says:

municated to you by my predecessor, discloses another movement on the part of the British authorities, well troops were stationed at Tamiscounta lake, within that settlement, for the purpose of sustaining the jurisdic-Provinces, without any prior notification or corresponassumed facts, if in any part true, were in pursuance Mr. President, did not my colleague, a pass) now upon our tables. Make this other few days since, in the most soleun and inthis moment permit hims. If to speak as he revenue go, and you will be called upon to performance from the other party. But I will not performance from the other party. But I will not performance from the other party. But I will not performance from the other party. But I will not performance from the other party. I know him, sir, to be one of the bravest as a nation, we are insulted and transpled on, and unjustifible movements, in relation to miditary need out to be one of the bravest as a nation, we are insulted and transpled on, and unjustifible movements, in relation to miditary occupation, during the progress of the surveys and our rights violated, it will be too late to negotiations, intended for a final determination of the

and strike at any point she pleases.

bor of New York, our great commercial tered fragments of early colonial depend-metropolis, bombard and demolish it, or lay ence. it under contribution, in less than forty-eight Mr. President, there can be but two hon-hours from the time of the attack. Look est political parties in this country. The protecting them against foreign assaults.

before that hoppy and blissful period will our domestic affairs. of Chica, and carrying destruction and death likely to obtain that aid. long her borders, because she will not per-

us as a useful lesson, never to be forgotten? every where insinuated among us; and upon the money confided to our care for the holy disputes with her are ripening; they must purpose of their defence?

present mine, and and present mine, and present batt'e in the cause of their beloved country emigration from abroad. I desire to see my during the last war still rings in my ears. He was then all alive to the honor and "The correspondence which has recently been com- security of the land which had piled up honers so lavishly upon him; and he will descend to posterity with the recollections of the part he then took clustering around his mem | ed. I will endeavor to keep these objects in ory; nor do I now wish to be understood as doubting his patriotism; it may slumber but will never die. I may differ from the senator on many important political points, but it is my earnest desire to be just-

The defences of my country lay close to can bear witness: And we are now informed that another detachment my heart. Sit, the events preceding and has been moved to, and stationed at, the Madawaska during the late was made an indebate impression upon my mind. Who, that was animal up to more and the how pretty ted by one spark of American feeling, did not witness, indignation, the insults and the to please him. The wide metallics fret mere-injuries heaped upon us by fereign nations. It because he can that extend to be about. and in particular by Great Botton! Who like we e bound to live here forever, he does not, even now, teel the bluch of shame would not because be could'at die and go manting his cheeks, at the recollection of to the other would just for a change; and the facts that our vessels were stopped upon anow, seeing he has got to die, and no two the high seas, and our fellow-curzens drag | way stend it, he feets like a cared porcuged in chains on board foreign ships of war, pine, and thinks i e would like to live always. and frequently compelled to fight agains In fact, don't know what he wants. * . their own countrymen! Who can remen | My triends. I have seen at out enough of this ber, without stame and sorrow, the attack would, mys-b. For scores of years I have upon the Chesape ke, and the marder of been searching every nook and corner for Pierce, mour own waters, and even in the some perennial spring of happiness, instead month of our harbor? Who cannot recall, of which I have found only a few floodin a moment, the burnings, murders, and swollen streamlets bearing upon their surface scalpings, along our frontiers? But enough incomerable bubbles of vanity, and all along of this; they are not reverted to in a spirit by th ir margins nests of young humbigs are be paid by the passage of a bill (ii it does The General Government owes it to Maine to more for, of revenge, but the history of the past will continually being hatched. Thave drank of be the history of the future, and coming these waters nigh unto bursting, and always events cast their shadows before them.

on us that this is an age of peace! There is ly used up by the flagellations of time, and thought of the dangers that at present environed us?

There is ty used up by the flagellations of time, and we connects will on us mat my self to doubt, that prudent and we connects will not be present. even in the last few years-nay months. - soon pile up my poor old bones in the mouldy There is scarcely a country on the globe in sepulchie; and, my friends, when you begin

Turn your eyes to the state of your de- deny that she is exerting her influence in fences on the great lakes and their borders, our own country through many and various On these internal seas you have neither steam channels, through her literatuse, finds its way nor any other vessels of war, whilst Great to the extremest verge of the Republic, and Britain has both, and, by the Welland canal, for which I am thankful; but still it is an inconcentrate any number of sloops and small fluance, and a most potent one, even if kept craft, so as to command any and all the lakes, within legitimate bounds-through our lannd strike at any point she pleases. guage, religion, customs, manners, and laws;
Whilst we have but one or two national —through the arts and sciences—but above steam vessels of war, Great Britain can all, through the medium of trade and navicommand one hundred, by the conversion gation, by which we are almost sold to her. of her steam packets into vessels of war; And, sir, it is a melancholy fact to admit, and, sir, but little is risked, when I assert but candor compels the admission, that never, it as very possible for six steamships of the to this moment, have we entirely cast off first class to force their way into the bar- the swaddling clothes of infancy, or the tat-

at the state of your defences on Staten fragments must be a scaled by the great Island. Why, sir, it will take five millions I odies; and is it saying too much that when of dollars to fortify properly the city of these parties are array descinst each other, New York; and yet we are called upon to and battling fiercely for principle and power, give five million annually of the people's with nearly equal numbers, that British inmoney, entrusted to us for these objects, terest and British influence may be thrown and for their use, to the States, which have into the scales to cause one side to preponsurrendered to us the power and duty of derate? And the party in this country which approximates in opinion nearest to her The eloquent Senator [Mr. CLay] has told political system, which advocates with zeal us that this was the age of peace; that there her interests in opposition to the interest of was no danger of war; that war was begin- powers foreign to us; that party which shall ning to be considered disgraceful. I quote exert its power and influence to secure the his sentiments, not exactly his words. I am payment of the vast sums we owe in Eaaware, sir, of the progress of Christian and gland at the expense of crippling vitally the Democratic principles over the world; and General Government, will have the sympathy that they will ultimately rule, it is my seri- and all the incidental aid which can be given us belief. But ages and ages must roll on without seeming to interfere too openly in

arrive. Come it will in the fullness of time. The British press and British money will But to prove that this happy period has not be put in requisition here and abroad to sid yet arrived, see the English nation throwing this party, and the world must judge which its mighty power upon the far distant shores of the two parties in this country was most

And, Mr. President, I hope this can be mit her people to be poisoned by English said without meaning or asserting that the structions to the Committee on Pa lic Lands to report a bill, one feature of which should state of our relations with that power, and the extinct of a state of feeting along the boad is messantly rose in my large for the extinction in a case and the extinction in the whole Northern from error in the large for displaying wrong? Her conduct to China should serve nected with our domestic relations. She is Can we, then, say that peace will be lasting? the ocean and upon the land, she now pre-No one will say so. Can we, as American sents the most stupendous labric of wisdom Senators, divert from great national objects and power that the world ever saw. Our soon be matured, and when she is ready, she England has now in Nova Scotia, New will present the alternative of acquiescence Bunswick, and the Canadas, thirty thousand to her wishes, or of war to the knife! Are

> country great, prosperous, independent, and happy; the asylum of the exiled and oppressed of all nations. I wish to see it a burning and shining light to the world .-And in every vote, and in every word utter-

> There is much of A saids truth embraced in the following, as every man of experience

· Mar reserve to the fretful anti- of table e and and he will continare the part in a wall of wh Heaven essays departed as thirsty as ever. . . Yet, it is endeavored to be impressed up- have been kicked about like an old hat, near-

by his satisf said is not re or-

i by a some eight to be next ainant plaint ne de-Land f pren 30, princiaining quentright act of

ed by 525 -that o wit, hands id out riting; bound deed d the give at in mant holds

inant , the esaid. tle of o said t said made ct of av be

e full will said e said o apnext it the e first bill

n for concuit . and Is a 840. al of Dec.

lerk.

the said inty and ary. tor.

pply dle-

nall dec N. BIS RE

eir

vill