

The Cabinet of Gen. Pierce.

The great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has long been regarded the battle-ground of every important political contest, and, during times of trouble and moments of despair, when the peace of the Union was endangered and murmurs of discontent were heard in high places on account of the sectional dissensions raging in various northern and southern localities, the action of her people came with healing upon its wings, to denote to the millions of Union-loving men of the Nation that the old Keystone would maintain the compact of our fathers—the Constitution, and take the lead in establishing upon a firm and solid basis the compact of 1850—the Compromise Acts. This was effectually done in 1851 at our State election, when the Democracy so completely routed the opponents of the Constitution and the bitter foes of the Compromise, and by so doing paved the way for the utter prostration of the whig party in 1852. Naturally, much interest is manifested towards our State for the noble part she bore in the political engagements of the past few years, and for her gallant conduct in the late contest for the Presidency, and the all-absorbing question is, who will Pennsylvania urge for an appointment in the cabinet of Gen. Pierce? Where all have faithfully performed their duty more preferences for men should be avoided. All have the right to press the name of those who embody the Jeffersonian standard of capacity and honesty united to an unwavering democracy. If their demands are unheeded there is no just cause of complaint. Among the most prominent names mentioned in connection with cabinet appointments we notice those of Hon. JAMES BUCHANAN, Hon. WILLIAM BIGLER, Hon. WILLIAM WILKINS, Gen. ROBERT PATTERSON, and GEORGE W. WOODWARD. These gentlemen did their duty during the late campaign and their names will be urged strongly by their respective friends.

If Mr. BUCHANAN desires the appointment which he held and transacted the duties of with so much credit and in so statesmanlike a manner during the administration of the lamented Polk, we unhesitatingly prefer him above all others. That he possesses the full confidence and esteem of a large majority of the democracy of Pennsylvania cannot be denied by his most bitter foe, and his sterling honesty, brilliant capacity and complete knowledge of the affairs of government cannot be questioned or doubted by any man. Whether he would accept an appointment if proffered him, we much doubt;—his circumstances and position place him above all pecuniary considerations, and honor it would not be to him, who, in all the various positions he has been placed, made his name and fame part and parcel of the history of the Republic and identified them with the most praiseworthy administration our country has had for half a century. We regret to see by the Harrisburg Union, that Gov. BIGLER positively declines an appointment for no man in the State is more deserving of the gratitude of the Union Democracy of the country than our most excellent Governor. His indefatigable efforts in behalf of the good of the State and the interests of his party entitle him to universal commendation.—Hon. Wm. WILKINS and Gen. PATTERSON are both excellent and worthy men, fully competent to fulfill the duties of the situations for which they are named by their friends, and did we not believe that Pennsylvania deserves the Premier-ship for her first gun in October last, we would most cordially advocate the appointment of one of these gentlemen. Pennsylvania with her twenty-seven electors, her 20,000 majority, her immense resources and her position in the confederacy is justly entitled to peculiar consideration from the incoming administration. Her decided majority in October for Woodward and Hopkins inspired confidence and vigor in the Democracy throughout the Union, and served as a beacon to lead them on to certain victory in November. She fought the battle in October for the sake of her candidates and for the sake of her "democratic brethren" of the Union; she nobly won and her example was all-powerful.—The intestine commotions among the democracy of the mighty State of New York indicate that her chances for a cabinet appointment are extremely doubtful. The selection of a Barnburner would offend the old Hunkers and vice versa. To some extent such is the feeling in Pennsylvania. Of course it is expected that at least one if not both these Great States will have a representation in the next Cabinet, and if but one, the probability is that it will be Pennsylvania. Should Mr. BUCHANAN and Gov. BIGLER decline the eyes of the people of this State will be directed to the Hon. GEORGE W. WOODWARD. He is the representative of no faction or fraction of the party, as the majority he received in October conclusively proves, and his unmistakable capability and honesty no one doubts. His popularity has been tested and fully endorsed by the people; he is of the right age, has the industry, energy and commanding talents to make an useful and efficient cabinet minister. We have conversed with a number of prominent democrats from various parts of the State, all of whom unite in saying that as their second choice the selection of Judge WOODWARD would be peculiarly acceptable and entirely satisfactory.

The Electoral College.

The Electoral College of this State met at Harrisburg on the 1st inst; all the electors being present except Gen. Jos. McDonald, of this county (who was detained by sickness) in whose place John C. O'Neill, Esq., was substituted by the Electors. Wilson M'Canless, Esq., of Pittsburg was unanimously chosen President of the College, and W. V. M'Keen, Esq., of Philadelphia, Secretary. The 27 Electoral votes of Pennsylvania were cast for Franklin Pierce, for President, and Wm. R. King, for Vice President. Gen. Robert Patterson was selected to bear the returns to Washington. At the adjournment the President delivered a beautiful address.

Hon. David Tod of Ohio. Years ago, in the state of Ohio, we were under the employ of a firm of which the gentleman above named was a partner, and from a short residence in the community in which he then resided, and still resides, we inclined to the opinion that DAVID TOD was no ordinary man.—An examination of his public services, since that time, has strengthened our opinion of him, and while the record of his public acts presents no blemish, the unalterable affection exhibited towards him by his neighbors on account of his purity and honesty of character, stands forth prominently as a strong argument in his behalf. When such a man is spoken of for a high and honorable position, there is a pleasure in saying something in his favor, and we therefore publish the following article taken from the Hollidaysburg Standard, all of which we cheerfully endorse, and hope he may be selected as one of the counselors and advisors of President Pierce:—

The name of this distinguished democrat and statesman has been mentioned by a number of democratic papers in Pennsylvania, and by the democratic press of Ohio generally, in connection with the office of Secretary of the Interior—a situation for which Mr. Tod is eminently qualified by talents of a high order and the experience of many years. We have known Mr. Tod by reputation for a number of years back, and have always heard him spoken of by those who know him intimately, as a gentleman, a statesman, and a ripe scholar.

He was appointed by the late lamented President Polk, Envoy Extraordinary, Minister Plenipotentiary, &c., &c., near the coast of Brazil, in which capacity Mr. Tod acquitted himself in a manner which reflected honor upon his country and himself; and such was the popularity of Mr. Tod as a foreign minister, that he was suffered to remain at the coast of Brazil until about a year ago, when he was recalled at his own request, when the Hon. Mr. Schenk, of Ohio, was appointed to take his place.

During Mr. Tod's residence near the coast of Brazil, he succeeded in settling the long deferred claims of American citizens, who had suffered great losses during the revolution of 1824, when the yoke of Portugal was thrown off by the Brazilian people, and their present Emperor Don Pedro II, was proclaimed Emperor of Brazil. Those claims of our merchants, amounting to a very large sum, had been urged upon the attention of the Brazilian government year after year, by all his predecessors, from the year 1824 down to the year 1846, when Mr. Tod took charge of the mission, without success. Mr. Tod, by his admirable address and consummate skill as a diplomatist, succeeded in 1848 in settling these claims, and the money has been subsequently paid by the government of Brazil.

He also succeeded in negotiating an important commercial treaty with the Brazilian government, which is now in full force; from which a rich harvest will be reaped by our merchants trading with the latter country, and by which also an immense trade has been secured to our country. We know of no man in the country that we would rather see called to the Secretaryship of the Interior, or any other cabinet office, than the Hon. DAVID TOD, of Ohio, because we feel assured that in bringing into his Cabinet such men as DAVID TOD, President Pierce will be availing himself of the first minds of the country. We have not the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with the gentleman whose name heads this article, nor have we been solicited to speak in his praise by any one, we do it as a simple act of justice to a deserving democrat and a gentleman who would bring dignity and talents to any station he might be appointed to.

P. C. Shannon, Esq.

Gov. Bigler has appointed this gentleman President Judge of the District Court of Allegheny county, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the decease of that estimable man, Hon. Walter Forward. The Governor has been fortunate in selecting our young friend to fill so important a station. We believe him to be able, competent and worthy of the office, and his rare talents and ability will enable him to discharge the duties of the same with credit and distinction.—The appointment gives universal satisfaction, and we doubt not but that in dispensing justice and administering the law Judge SHANNON will prove to be faithful, efficient and impartial, aiming to do justice to all and establishing for himself a solid and praiseworthy reputation.

Proceedings of Court.

So far, Thursday noon, a number of cases have been disposed of, the most important of which are the following. Com. vs M'Cradden—Indictment for the larceny of a watch chain. Hutchinson for Com., Magehan and Albright for deft. verdict guilty.—Com. vs Jacob Hicks—Indictment for the larceny of some butter and a quilt. Hutchinson and Webster for Com., Magehan for deft. verdict not guilty.—Com. vs John Lumerix—Indictment for adultery. Magehan & T. L. Heyer for Com.; Capt. Heyer and Wingard for deft. verdict guilty.—Com. vs John Shearman—Indictment for the larceny of a sledge hammer &c.; Hutchinson and Kopelin for the Com., Reed for deft. Verdict, guilty.—Com. vs Philip Olive. Indictment for Robbery. Coffey and Reed for Com., Magehan and Hasson for deft. verdict, not guilty. This was a case in which much humor was shown. A traveller, who came originally from Erin's Green Isle, remained over night at the house of defendant, paid his bill, in the morning and left.

Soon after, the landlady in making the bed, discovered an unusual number of insects, which the honest Hibernian had shaken off his cranium thinking them a pest, and the "man of the house" followed the stranger and "took him in" to the extent of a Y, to pay damages &c.—Suit was brought to recover the cost of airing the trial one of the counsel for the defendant astonished the court by the following bold and significant declaration:—"Gentlemen of the Jury, the country is in danger, the institutions of the country are in danger, if these red-headed sligo men are allowed to bring their lice into the country. This, gentlemen, is a sober, solemn truth." We went home and quietly laid our pop-gun to be prepared for a war. On the other hand, one of the counsel for the Com., boldly declared, "that every emigrant has the inalienable right under the constitution to bring to these shores all the lice he can, and furthermore that it was not agreed that the prosecutor, when he asked for a bed, should pay for extra lodgers." The case produced much merriment to the audience and considerable scratching and biting between the lawyers.—Com. vs Philip Olive. Indictment for keeping a tipping house. Verdict guilty. Fined \$25 and costs. Albright and Hutchinson for Com., Magehan and Hasson for deft.—Com. vs Bolwyers, surty of the peace. Case dismissed with the evidence was partly gone through. A large number of Com. cases are yet to come up and no civil causes will be tried this week.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives: The brief space which has elapsed since the close of your last session has been marked by no extraordinary political event. The quadrennial election of Chief Magistrate has passed off with less than the usual excitement. However individuals and parties may have been disappointed in the result, it is nevertheless a subject of national congratulation that the choice has been effected by the independent suffrages of a free people, undisturbed by those influences which in other countries have too often affected the purity of popular elections.

Our grateful thanks are due to an All-merciful Providence, not only for staying the pestilence which in England and France has desolated some of our cities, but for crowning the labors of the husbandman with an abundant harvest, and the nation generally with the blessings of peace and prosperity. Within a few weeks the public mind has been deeply affected by the death of Daniel Webster, filling at his decease the office of Secretary of State. His associates in the Executive government have sincerely sympathized with his family and the public generally on this mournful occasion. His commanding talents, his great political and professional eminence, his well-earned patriotism, and his long and faithful services, in the most important public trusts, have caused his death to be lamented throughout the country, and have earned for him a lasting place in our history.

In the course of the last summer considerable anxiety was caused for a short time by an official intimation from the government of Great Britain that orders had been given for the protection of the fisheries upon the coasts of the British provinces in North America, against the alleged encroachments of the fishing vessels of the United States and France. The shortness of this notice and the season of the year seemed to make it a matter of urgent importance. It was at first apprehended that an increased naval force had been ordered to the fishing grounds to carry into effect the British interpretation of those provisions in the convention of 1818, in reference to the true intent of which the two governments differ. It was soon discovered that such was not the design of Great Britain, and satisfactory explanations of the real objects of the measure have been given both here and in London.

The unadjusted difference, however, between the two governments as to the interpretation of the first article of the convention of 1818 is still a matter of importance. American fishing vessels within nine or ten years have been excluded from waters to which they had free access for twenty-five years after the negotiation of the treaty. In 1845 this exclusion was relaxed so far as concerns the Bay of Fundy, but the just and liberal intention of the Home government, in compliance with what we think the true construction of the convention, to open all the other bays to our fishermen, was abandoned, in consequence of the opposition of the colonies.—Notwithstanding this, the United States have, since the Bay of Fundy was reopened to our fishermen in 1845, pursued the most liberal course toward the colonial fishing interests.—By the revenue law of 1846, the duties on colonial fish entering our ports were very greatly reduced, and by the warehousing act it is allowed to be entered in bond without payment of duty. In this way colonial fish has acquired the monopoly of the export trade in our market, and is entering to some extent into the home consumption. These facts were among those which increased the sensibility of our fishing interest, at the movement in question.

The circumstances and the incidents above alluded to have led me to think the moment favorable for a reconsideration of the entire subject of the fisheries on the coasts of the British provinces, with a view to place them upon a more liberal footing of reciprocal privilege. In this way colonial fish has acquired the monopoly of the export trade in our market, and is entering to some extent into the home consumption. These facts were among those which increased the sensibility of our fishing interest, at the movement in question. The se circumstances and the incidents above alluded to have led me to think the moment favorable for a reconsideration of the entire subject of the fisheries on the coasts of the British provinces, with a view to place them upon a more liberal footing of reciprocal privilege. In this way colonial fish has acquired the monopoly of the export trade in our market, and is entering to some extent into the home consumption. These facts were among those which increased the sensibility of our fishing interest, at the movement in question.

The affairs of Cuba formed a prominent topic in my last annual message. They remain in an anxious and painful condition, and the irritation on the part of the Cuban authorities appears to exist. This feeling has interfered with the regular commercial intercourse between the United States and the island, and led to some acts of which we have a right to complain. But the Captain General of Cuba is clothed with no power to treat with foreign governments, nor is he in any degree under the control of the Spanish Minister at Washington. Any communication which I may hold with an agent of foreign power in regard to the affairs of Cuba, is carried into effect by the Peruvian Minister hereby, by an arrangement which is believed to be advantageous to the parties interested.

Our settlements on the shores of the Pacific have already given a great extension, and in some respects a new direction, to our commerce in that ocean. A direct and rapidly-increasing intercourse has sprung up with Eastern Asia.—The waters of the Northern Pacific, even into the Arctic sea, have of late years been frequented by our whalers. The application of steam to the general mode of navigation is becoming daily more common, and makes it desirable to obtain fuel and other necessary supplies at convenient points on the route between Asia and our Pacific shores. Our unfortunate countrymen who from time to time suffer shipwreck on the coasts of the eastern seas are entitled to protection. Besides these specific objects, the general prosperity of our States on the Pacific requires that an attempt should be made to open the opposite regions of Asia to a mutually beneficial intercourse. It is obvious that this attempt could be made by no power so great an advantage as by the United States, whose constitutional system excludes every idea of distant colonial dependencies. I have accordingly been led to order an appropriate naval force to Japan under the command of a discreet and intelligent officer of the highest rank known to our service. He is instructed to endeavor to obtain from the government of that country some relaxation of the inhospitable and anti-social system which it has pursued for about two centuries. He has been directed to particularly remonstrate in the strongest language against the cruel treatment to which our shipwrecked mariners have often been subjected, and to insist that they shall be treated with humanity. He is instructed however at the same time to give that government the amplest assurances that the objects of the United States are such and such only as I have indicated, and that the expedition is friendly and peaceful. Notwithstanding the jealousy with which the governments of Eastern Asia regard all overtures from foreigners, I am not without hopes of a beneficial result of the expedition. Should it be crowned with success,

but that, on the contrary, I should regard its incorporation into the Union at the present time as fraught with serious peril.

Were this island comparatively destitute of inhabitants, or occupied by a kindred race, I should regard it, if voluntarily ceded by Spain, as a most desirable acquisition. But, under existing circumstances, I should look upon its incorporation into our Union as a very hazardous measure. It would bring into the Confederacy a population of a different national stock, speaking a different language, and not likely to harmonize with the other members. It would probably affect in a prejudicial manner the industrial interests of the South; and it might revive those conflicts of opinion between the different sections of the country, which lately shook the Union to its centre, and which have been so happily compromised. It has, by the recent establishment of the Department of the Interior, been relieved of some portion of the domestic business. If the residue of the business of that kind, such as the distribution of Congressional documents, the keeping, publishing and distribution of the laws of the United States, the execution of the copyright law, the subject of copyrights and patents, and some other subjects relating to interior administration, should be transferred from the Department of State, it would unquestionably be for the benefit of the public service. I would also suggest that the building appropriated to the State Department, is not fire proof; that there is reason to think there are defects in its construction, and that the archives of the Government in charge of the Department, with the precious collections of the manuscript papers of Washington, Jefferson, Hamilton, Madison, and Monroe, are exposed to destruction by fire. A similar remark may be made of the buildings appropriated to the War and Navy Departments.

The condition of the Treasury is exhibited in the annual report from that Department. The cash receipts into the Treasury for the fiscal year ending the 30th June last, exclusive of trust funds, were forty-nine millions seven hundred and twenty-eight thousand three hundred and eighty-eight dollars and eighty-nine cents, (\$49,728,336.89), and the expenditures for the same period, likewise exclusive of trust funds, were forty-six millions seven thousand eight hundred and ninety-six dollars and twenty cents, (\$46,907,896.20), of which nine millions four hundred and fifty-five thousand eight hundred and fifteen dollars and eighty-three cents (\$9,455,815.83) was an account of the principal and interest of the public debt, including the last instalment of the indemnity to Mexico, under the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, leaving a balance of \$14,682,136.37 in the Treasury on the first day of July last. Since this latter period, further purchases of the principal of the public debt have been made to the extent of two millions four hundred and fifty-six thousand five hundred and forty-seven dollars and forty-nine cents, (\$2,456,547.49), and the surplus in the Treasury will continue to be applied to that object, whenever the stock can be procured within the limits, as to price, authorized by law. The value of foreign merchandise imported during the last fiscal year was two hundred and seven millions two hundred and forty thousand one hundred and one dollar, (\$267,240,181); and the value of domestic productions exported was one hundred and forty-nine millions eight hundred and sixty-one thousand nine hundred and eleven dollars, (\$149,861,911), besides seven million two hundred and four thousand and twenty-six dollars (\$7,204,026) of foreign merchandise exported; making the aggregate of the entire exports one hundred and sixty-seven million six hundred and fifty-five thousand nine hundred and thirty-seven dollars, (\$167,065,937) exclusive of the above there was exported forty-two million five hundred and seven thousand two hundred and eighty-five dollars (\$42,507,285) in specie; and imported from foreign ports five million two hundred and sixty-two thousand six hundred and forty-three dollars, (\$5,262,642).

In my first annual message to Congress I called your attention to what seemed to me some defects in the present tariff, and recommended such modifications as in my judgment were best adapted to remedy its evils and promote the prosperity of the country. Nothing has since occurred to change my views on this important question. Without repeating the arguments contained in my former message, in favor of discriminating protective duties, I deem it my duty to call your attention to one or two other considerations affecting this subject. The first is, the effect of large importations of foreign goods upon our currency. Most of the gold of California, as far as it is coined, finds its way directly to Europe in payment for goods purchased. In the second place, as our manufacturing establishments are broken down by competition with foreigners, the capital invested in them is lost, thousands of honest and industrious citizens are thrown out of employment, and the farms, to the extent it is derived of a home market for the sale of their surplus produce. In the third place, the destruction of our manufactures leaves the foreigner without competition in our market, and he consequently raises the price of the article sent here for sale, as is now seen in the increased cost of iron imported from England.—The prosperity and wealth of every nation must depend upon its productive industry. The farmer is stimulated to exertion by finding a ready market for his surplus produce, and benefited by being able to exchange them, without loss of time or expense of transportation, for the manufactures which his comfort or convenience requires. This is always done to the best advantage where a portion of the community in which he lives is engaged in other pursuits. But most manufactures require an amount of capital and a practical skill which cannot be commanded, unless they be protected for a time from ruinous competition from abroad. Hence the necessity of the Constitution authorizes for revenue, in such a manner as to protect and encourage the labor of our own citizens. Duties however should not be fixed at a rate so high as to exclude the foreign article, but should be so graduated as to enable the domestic manufacturer fairly to compete with the foreigner in our own markets, and by this competition to reduce the price of the manufactured article to the consumer to the lowest rate at which it can be produced. This policy would place the mechanic by the side of the farmer, and a mutually beneficial exchange of their respective commodities, and thus stimulate the industry of the whole country, and render us independent of foreign nations for the supplies required by the habits or necessities of the people.

Another question, wholly independent of protection, presents itself, and that is, whether the duties levied should be upon the value of the article at the place of shipment, or where it is practicable, a specific duty, graduated according to quantity, as ascertained by weight or measure. All our duties are at present levied upon a certain percentage is levied on the price of the goods at the port of shipment in a foreign country. Most commercial nations have found it indispensable, for the purpose of preventing fraud and perjury, to make the duties specific whenever the article is of such a uniform value in weight or measure as to justify such a duty. Legislation should never encourage dishonesty or crime. It is impossible that the revenue officers at the port where the goods are entered and the duties paid should know with certainty what they cost in the foreign country. Yet the law requires that they should levy the duty according to such cost. They are therefore com-

pelled to resort to very unsatisfactory evidence to ascertain what that cost was. They take the invoice of the importer, attested by his oath, as the best evidence of which the nature of the case admits. But every one must see that the invoice may be fabricated, and the oath by which honest importers pay a part only of the duties directly received from the treasury of the United States a reward for his fraud and perjury. The reports of the Secretary of the Treasury therefore made on this subject show conclusively, that these frauds have been practiced to a great extent. The tendency is to destroy that high moral character for which our merchants have long been distinguished; to defraud the Government of its revenue; and break down the honest importer by a dishonest competition; and, finally, to transfer the business of importation to foreign and irresponsible agents, to the great detriment of our own citizens. I therefore again earnestly recommend the adoption of specific duties, wherever it is practicable, or a home valuation, to prevent these frauds.

I would also again call your attention to the fact that the present tariff in some cases imposes a higher duty upon the raw material imported than upon the article manufactured from it, rates to the encouragement of the foreigner and the discouragement of our own citizens. For full and detailed information in regard to the general condition of our Indian affairs, I respectfully refer you to the report of the Secretary of the Interior and the accompanying documents. The Senate not having thought proper to ratify the treaties which had been negotiated with the tribes of Indians in California and Oregon, our relations with them have been left in a very unsatisfactory condition. In other parts of our territory particular districts of country have been vacant for the exclusive occupation of the Indians, and their right to the lands within those limits has not been acknowledged and respected. But in California and Oregon there has been no recognition by the Government of the exclusive right of the Indians to any part of the country. They are therefore mere tenants at sufferance, and liable to be driven from place to place, at the pleasure of the whites.

The treaties which have been rejected proposed to remedy this evil, by allotting to the different tribes districts of country suitable to their habits of life, and sufficient for their support. This provision, more than any other, it is believed, led to their rejection; and as no substitute for it has been adopted by Congress, it has been deemed advisable to attempt to enter into new treaties of a permanent character, although no effort has been spared by temporary arrangements to preserve friendly relations with them. If it be the desire of Congress to remove them from the country altogether, or to assign to them particular districts more remote from the settlements of the whites, it will be proper to do so by law the territory which they now occupy, and to provide the means necessary for removing them to it. Justice alike to our own citizens and to the Indians requires the prompt action of Congress on this subject.

The amendments proposed by the Senate, to the treaties which were negotiated with the Sioux Indians of Minnesota, have been submitted to the tribes who were parties to them, and have received their assent. A large tract of valuable territory has thus been opened for settlement and cultivation, and all danger of collision with these powerful and warlike bands has happily removed. The removal of the remnant of the tribe of Seminole Indians from Florida has long been a cherished object of the Government, and the one to which my attention has been steadily directed. Admitted by past experience of the difficulty and cost of the attempt to remove them by military force, resort has been had to conciliatory measures. By the invitation of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs several of the principal chiefs recently visited Washington, and whilst here acknowledged in writing the obligation of their tribe to remove with the least possible delay. Late advices from the special agent of the Government represent that they adhere to their promise, and that a council of their people has been called to make their preliminary arrangements. A general emigration may therefore be confidently expected at an early day.

The report from the General Land Office shows increased activity in our operations. Its survey of the northern boundary of Iowa has been completed with unexampled dispatch.—Within the last year 9,522,963 acres of public land have been surveyed, and 8,032,468 acres brought into market. In the last fiscal year there were sold 2,558,071 acres. Located with bounty land warrants 3,201,514 " Reported under swamp land grants 113,682 " Making a total of 4,870,967 " In addition, there were— Reported under swamp land grants 5,219,188 " For internal improvements, railroads, &c 3,025,920 " Making an aggregate of 13,115,175 " Being an increase in the amount of lands sold and located under land warrants of 593,229 acres over the previous year.

The whole amount thus sold, located under land warrants, reported under swamp land grants and selected for internal improvements, exceeds that of the previous year by 3,342,372 acres, and the sales would, without doubt, have been much larger but for the extensive reservations for railroads in Missouri, Mississippi, and Arkansas. For the quarter ending 30th September, 1852, there were sold 243,255 acres. Located with bounty land warrants 1,287,116 " Reported under swamp land grants 15,649 " Making an aggregate for the quarter of 4,131,253 " Much the larger portion of the labor of arranging and classifying the returns of the last census has been finished, and it will now devolve upon Congress to make the necessary provision for the publication of the results in such form as shall be deemed best.

The appointment of representation, on the basis of the new census, has been made by the Secretary of the Interior in conformity with the provisions of law relating to that subject, and the recent elections have been made in accordance with it. I commend to your favorable regard the suggestion contained in the report of the Secretary of the Interior that provision be made by law for the publication and distribution, periodically, of an analytical digest of all the patents which have been, or may hereafter be, granted for useful inventions and discoveries, with such descriptions and illustrations as may be necessary to present an intelligible view of their nature and operation. The cost of such publication could easily be defrayed out of the patent fund, and I am persuaded that it could be applied to no object more

advantages will not be confined to the United States, but, as in the case of China, will be equally enjoyed by all the other maritime powers. I have much satisfaction in stating that in all the steps preparatory to this expedition the Government of the United States has been materially aided by the good offices of the King of the Netherlands, the only European power having any commercial relations with Japan.

In passing from this survey of our foreign relations, I invite the attention of Congress to the condition of that department of the Government to which this branch of the public business is entrusted. Our intercourse with foreign powers has of late years greatly increased, both in consequences of our own growth and the introduction of many new States into the family of nations. In this way the Department of State has become overburdened. It has, by the recent establishment of the Department of the Interior, been relieved of some portion of the domestic business. If the residue of the business of that kind, such as the distribution of Congressional documents, the keeping, publishing and distribution of the laws of the United States, the execution of the copyright law, the subject of copyrights and patents, and some other subjects relating to interior administration, should be transferred from the Department of State, it would unquestionably be for the benefit of the public service. I would also suggest that the building appropriated to the State Department, is not fire proof; that there is reason to think there are defects in its construction, and that the archives of the Government in charge of the Department, with the precious collections of the manuscript papers of Washington, Jefferson, Hamilton, Madison, and Monroe, are exposed to destruction by fire. A similar remark may be made of the buildings appropriated to the War and Navy Departments.

The condition of the Treasury is exhibited in the annual report from that Department. The cash receipts into the Treasury for the fiscal year ending the 30th June last, exclusive of trust funds, were forty-nine millions seven hundred and twenty-eight thousand three hundred and eighty-eight dollars and eighty-nine cents, (\$49,728,336.89), and the expenditures for the same period, likewise exclusive of trust funds, were forty-six millions seven thousand eight hundred and ninety-six dollars and twenty cents, (\$46,907,896.20), of which nine millions four hundred and fifty-five thousand eight hundred and fifteen dollars and eighty-three cents (\$9,455,815.83) was an account of the principal and interest of the public debt, including the last instalment of the indemnity to Mexico, under the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, leaving a balance of \$14,682,136.37 in the Treasury on the first day of July last. Since this latter period, further purchases of the principal of the public debt have been made to the extent of two millions four hundred and fifty-six thousand five hundred and forty-seven dollars and forty-nine cents, (\$2,456,547.49), and the surplus in the Treasury will continue to be applied to that object, whenever the stock can be procured within the limits, as to price, authorized by law. The value of foreign merchandise imported during the last fiscal year was two hundred and seven millions two hundred and forty thousand one hundred and one dollar, (\$267,240,181); and the value of domestic productions exported was one hundred and forty-nine millions eight hundred and sixty-one thousand nine hundred and eleven dollars, (\$149,861,911), besides seven million two hundred and four thousand and twenty-six dollars (\$7,204,026) of foreign merchandise exported; making the aggregate of the entire exports one hundred and sixty-seven million six hundred and fifty-five thousand nine hundred and thirty-seven dollars, (\$167,065,937) exclusive of the above there was exported forty-two million five hundred and seven thousand two hundred and eighty-five dollars (\$42,507,285) in specie; and imported from foreign ports five million two hundred and sixty-two thousand six hundred and forty-three dollars, (\$5,262,642).

In my first annual message to Congress I called your attention to what seemed to me some defects in the present tariff, and recommended such modifications as in my judgment were best adapted to remedy its evils and promote the prosperity of the country. Nothing has since occurred to change my views on this important question. Without repeating the arguments contained in my former message, in favor of discriminating protective duties, I deem it my duty to call your attention to one or two other considerations affecting this subject. The first is, the effect of large importations of foreign goods upon our currency. Most of the gold of California, as far as it is coined, finds its way directly to Europe in payment for goods purchased. In the second place, as our manufacturing establishments are broken down by competition with foreigners, the capital invested in them is lost, thousands of honest and industrious citizens are thrown out of employment, and the farms, to the extent it is derived of a home market for the sale of their surplus produce. In the third place, the destruction of our manufactures leaves the foreigner without competition in our market, and he consequently raises the price of the article sent here for sale, as is now seen in the increased cost of iron imported from England.—The prosperity and wealth of every nation must depend upon its productive industry. The farmer is stimulated to exertion by finding a ready market for his surplus produce, and benefited by being able to exchange them, without loss of time or expense of transportation, for the manufactures which his comfort or convenience requires. This is always done to the best advantage where a portion of the community in which he lives is engaged in other pursuits. But most manufactures require an amount of capital and a practical skill which cannot be commanded, unless they be protected for a time from ruinous competition from abroad. Hence the necessity of the Constitution authorizes for revenue, in such a manner as to protect and encourage the labor of our own citizens. Duties however should not be fixed at a rate so high as to exclude the foreign article, but should be so graduated as to enable the domestic manufacturer fairly to compete with the foreigner in our own markets, and by this competition to reduce the price of the manufactured article to the consumer to the lowest rate at which it can be produced. This policy would place the mechanic by the side of the farmer, and a mutually beneficial exchange of their respective commodities, and thus stimulate the industry of the whole country, and render us independent of foreign nations for the supplies required by the habits or necessities of the people.

Another question, wholly independent of protection, presents itself, and that is, whether the duties levied should be upon the value of the article at the place of shipment, or where it is practicable, a specific duty, graduated according to quantity, as ascertained by weight or measure. All our duties are at present levied upon a certain percentage is levied on the price of the goods at the port of shipment in a foreign country. Most commercial nations have found it indispensable, for the purpose of preventing fraud and perjury, to make the duties specific whenever the article is of such a uniform value in weight or measure as to justify such a duty. Legislation should never encourage dishonesty or crime. It is impossible that the revenue officers at the port where the goods are entered and the duties paid should know with certainty what they cost in the foreign country. Yet the law requires that they should levy the duty according to such cost. They are therefore com-

pelled to resort to very unsatisfactory evidence to ascertain what that cost was. They take the invoice of the importer, attested by his oath, as the best evidence of which the nature of the case admits. But every one must see that the invoice may be fabricated, and the oath by which honest importers pay a part only of the duties directly received from the treasury of the United States a reward for his fraud and perjury. The reports of the Secretary of the Treasury therefore made on this subject show conclusively, that these frauds have been practiced to a great extent. The tendency is to destroy that high moral character for which our merchants have long been distinguished; to defraud the Government of its revenue; and break down the honest importer by a dishonest competition; and, finally, to transfer the business of importation to foreign and irresponsible agents, to the great detriment of our own citizens. I therefore again earnestly recommend the adoption of specific duties, wherever it is practicable, or a home valuation, to prevent these frauds.