

sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth." In urging this point, I only express what I feel myself and intend to act upon. I have lately become a member of another society which has been formed for the purpose of extending the gospel more widely in our Province: but this, instead of lessening my attachment to the Bible society, has only led me to appreciate more highly its distinctive claims. —Sir! I value this society, because it opens a way for me to communicate with the most distant, and most abject of the human family. I value it because it tends to union and not to divisions. I value it because it recognizes a great principle of Christian responsibility, a principle upon which Christians will have to act more fully and more unitedly, before the Gospel attains its final triumph. I value it, Sir, because the good have loved it and the Lord has blessed it; and, lastly, I value it, because, in perfect harmony with its spirit, I can join in other kindred societies, and yet cling with undiminished affection to an institution, which I do regard, and shall ever regard, as an honour to our nation, and a blessing to the world.

United States News.

From the Boston Courier.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—*The Oregon Discussion in Congress.*—The speech of Mr. Adams, upon the Oregon question, in the House of Representatives, continues to be the subject of much speculation, and there is an apprehension felt that it may have a bad influence upon the country. It is due to Mr. Adams to state that the opinions he gave utterance to on Friday, are those which he has long entertained. In all private conversations he has advocated the giving of "the one year's notice," and the occupation of the whole of Oregon. It is a matter of surprise, however, with many, that Mr. Adams should be in favour of such hasty and summary action, and yet see no danger that may arise from it; and still mope a matter of surprise, that while he is in favour of such extreme remedies, he will do nothing for the defences of the country. The speech of Mr. Adams created a marked sensation in the House of Representatives—and while many of the administration members from the West applauded it to the echo, it was heard with sincere regret by perhaps all of his colleagues, and by the great majority of his personal and political friends. Mr. Winthrop availed himself of the earliest opportunity to counteract the influence of the speech, by expressing his own opposition to Mr. Adams' opinions, and by declaring it to be his conviction that he did not represent any large body of the people of Massachusetts. Massachusetts he believed, was for an honorable compromise of this question, either by continued negotiation, or by arbitration. He did not believe that the world would justify the nation in the settlement of this question by other than pacific means—and least of all would it justify us if we should refuse to compromise it, after having offered the 49th degree of north latitude. So far as I can learn, Mr. Winthrop's opinions harmonize with all his colleagues, excepting Mr. Adams. His speech, certainly, left a good impression upon the minds of those who heard it, and the floor of the House was filled with Senators and Representatives, while he spoke, and the galleries were also crowded with strangers. There is so much demagoguism in Congress, that it is just now indulged in by many of both parties. The dominant party, representing the West, are crying out for war, or war measures, because war is popular in the West, when involved in this Oregon question. The few western Whig members, for there are but few, in self-defence join in the chorus and echo the common cry for "the whole of Oregon." Others believing that there is no sincerity in this clamor, and regarding it as no more than a political game, join in the cry, and thus it has become general,—almost every one who speaks, however, declaring that there can be no war, and yet all such declaring themselves friendly to measures calculated to lead to it. You hear, however, occasionally, more serious opinions, and there is real danger of alarm when such men as Mr. Adams take the stand he has, for the immediate notice, and that notice to be followed up by the occupation of the whole country.—Responsible men tell you, also, that in some sections of the country, the people are ripe for war for the whole of Oregon—and where they are not, men are ready to declare that the "people must be prepared for war," and "educated for war." Sentiments like these, so unbecoming a Christian people,

are much more fitting the military despots of Europe than a Republican government.

The debate of Saturday and Friday will alternately shock and amuse all who read it. Mr. Adams's historical reference to the manner in which the great Frederick stole the province of Silesia, sending an ambassador to Vienna to negotiate for it, at the same moment that he sent an army to take possession of it, is condemned as an instance of much better diplomacy than political morality. The annexation of Texas affords, perhaps, the only parallel to this. We are negotiating for the Rio Grande as a boundary between us and Mexico, at the very moment we have an army upon the banks of the river. Mr. Adams supposes we may treat England in the same manner—but if such is the intention of the government, the recommendation ought not to have been quite so public. A series of blunders seem to have been acted upon this whole question. Thus, two or three years ago, England got the first idea from us, through Mr. Calhoun, that as soon as we got strong, we would take the whole of Oregon. England at once became alarmed at "the wise and masterly inactivity," thus recommended, and ever since then, has become quite as anxious as we are to give "the one year's notice," and to bring the joint occupancy to a close.

Western members, you will also observe, take up the very moral idea, that if the whole of Oregon is not ours by treaty, title and settlement, then it is ours by "a manifest destiny," as it is called, which overrides all these claims. There is no answering such an appeal as this. The poet tells us that

"There is a divinity, which shapes our ends,
Rough hew them how we may,"

and religion tells us that there is a Providence in all things; but this word "destiny" overrides all appeals like these, and makes it honourable to follow wherever ambition or avarice may lead us. The "manifest destiny" we possess, is only the robber destiny of superior strength, if we have it, or greater facilities of settlement, or some power incident to the adventurous enterprise of our people.

A much more reasonable and common sense sort of destiny is that pointed out by Mr. C. J. Ingersoll, of Pennsylvania, who, unscrupulous and erratic as he is, occasionally gives utterance to what is both moral and sensible. He is for compromising this question with Great Britain, by propagation, as he calls it. In the seven thousand and more Americans already in Oregon and in the men, women and children who will go there, he finds a more certain security for our interests, than in all the armaments of Great Britain, or all the defences that money could make.

The debate, which will be continued this morning and perhaps longer, will probably develop new plans of compromise and new methods of war. It is certain, however, that the debate is most premature, and nearly all profess greatly to regret that it was commenced. It is by no means certain where and how it will end. It is probable, however, that the one year's notice will be given and that very speedily, by the House of Representatives, but the success of such a measure is by no means certain in the Senate. Mr. Calhoun's friends have a strength there which is not yet wholly developed, and it is not certain that all the Whig members will resist the giving of the notice. There will, however, be no "jumping legislation," as it was called when the Texas bill was passed in the House, under the previous question. Moderation and deliberation will probably characterize the decision of the senate, at least upon this subject.

The bill before the House, upon which the debate of the two days past has taken place, is simply a bill from the Committee, on Military Affairs, for raising two companies of riflemen, and for giving the President a discretionary power to add ten bayonets to each company of dragoons, artillery and infantry. It would increase the army altogether about fourteen hundred men, and is brought forward as a peace measure. The army, with this increase, would be no larger than it was in 1808 and 1815, and the military committee declare that the bill was brought forward with no reference to the Oregon question.

The Oregon bill, from the Committee on Territories, has been postponed to Tuesday next, but the merits of the whole question have been opened in the debate already commenced.

The city is full of rumors in regard to questions of some and no importance, but as a story told today often proves untrue to-morrow, it is hardly worth while to repeat them.

John Quincy Adams.—Our readers will remember the blood and thunder speech of Mr. Adams, a few days since, and the sensation it produced in Congress, and elsewhere. On Wednesday last, 7th instant, the same gentleman said,—

"In the sentiments I have expressed in this House, in relation to the great question now before it—namely, the giving the twelve months' notice to the British Government, of the termination of the convention by which our hands and feet are manacled and fettered from the assertion of our unquestionable right—I abstained purposely from any reference whatever to Northern or Southern interests on this question. I abstained from inquiry into any of the consequences which a war with Great Britain would bring on the North and the South. I know very well that calamitous consequences will be the result, both to the North and the South, if that war should take place. I declared that I did not believe it would take place. I repeat, I do not believe that it will occur under any circumstances. I do not believe that it would occur, if, the very day after the notice shall have been given, we should send a body of troops to take possession of the whole territory. I do not believe that the Government of Great Britain or the people of Great Britain, will ever make a war, or support a ministry that would make a war, for Oregon, as part of the territory of Great Britain.

But, Sir, there are other circumstances which I apprehend will prevent the occurrence of war; and my greatest apprehension is, that it will be by the ultimate backing out of the present administration and its supporters from the ground it has taken.

(Great confusion in the hall.)

From the N. Y. Journal of Commerce.

Effects of Bullying.—The preparation of the national heart for war is already causing no little mischief. It has stopped the auction sales of real estate, and knocked down the price of stocks, though in the latter case other influences co-operated. Shipments to China have been suspended, and other long voyages deferred. European merchants and bankers, of the most cautious class, had, before the last steamer came away, withdrawn their facilities from American operations. One highly respectable house here, received a notice withdrawing a former liberty to draw against shipments,—the house on the other side remarking that in the present attitude of the relations between England and the United States, they did not deem it expedient to advance on produce until actually landed in Europe. The effect of these precautions is unfavourable to the prices of all our products. The letters by the last steamer say that the underwriters were beginning to insert a clause excepting war risks. Much farther effort to prepare the national heart for war, will so embarrass our commerce as very materially to lighten the national purse.

From the New York Express.

MEXICO.

The news from Mexico is of high importance and of profound interest to the United States. A counter revolution, we learn, was to be successful in the city of Mexico, which, on the 5th or 6th of December, would overthrow the Herera Government, and establish a new Paredes Government, the ruling principle of which would be war with the United States.

We deem this news of high importance, because there is but little doubt that Great Britain will improve the counter revolution to strengthen her interest in, if not to form an alliance with, Mexico, and so defeat the intended designs of Mr. Slidell upon California, if not as to the Rio Grande boundary. So Mr. Slidell, who was duly expected in the city of Mexico on the 4th ult., will find, when he arrives, the Government that signified to him a welcome, displaced, and another Government established in its stead, inimical to the United States, and in favour of declaring war! The peaceable acquisition of California, and indeed all negotiation with Mexico, are then for the present at an end.

What course will Great Britain now pursue in Mexico? that is the question, the great question of the day. In the present threatening attitude of the U. States, is there any doubt that she will strengthen Mexico, and strengthen herself on this continent, by an alliance with her,—that she will do her best to snatch California from us, her best, also, to keep unsettled our south-western boundary, and in short, improve every opportunity to embitter our relations with Mexico, and to make more favourable her own? We confess we fear such a result.

And what is our Government to do with Mexico? that is the next great question. In our perilous relations with Great Britain shall we *dilly dally* with Mexico until England is in a position to use her, or shall we take the bold step, and compel Mexico to make peace at once? The Home Squadron certainly ought this moment to be on its way back to Vera Cruz. The army at Corpus Christi ought to be re-inforced,—for we apprehend, from the tone and temper of the United States, that our Oregon battle is to be fought more in the Gulf of Mexico than on the River Columbia.

HAYTI.

The schr. Silas Wright, Capt. Conklin, from Port au Prince, at New York, brought advices to the 13th ult. The French Admiral had determined to blockade Port au Prince and bombard the town, if the Haytiens did not pay \$16,000 as an indemnity to the French Consular Agent recently driven thence. The blacks of Hayti, it is said, are becoming very insolent to foreigners.

Still Later.—The Danish ship Louisa, 20 days from St. Domingo, arrived at Charleston on the 2nd inst., and by her the Mercury learns that the Haytiens were mustering all their forces for the purpose of attacking the Dominicans in the Spanish part of the Island. The captain states that he was informed by a highly intelligent merchant, that the port of Port au Platt was closed and no vessel allowed to enter, in consequence of which, and the disturbed state of affairs, many merchants were leaving for Europe.

Colonial News.

From the Montreal Transcript.

Militia of Canada.—Necessity for Organization, and Preparation for War!—We have given elsewhere an article from the Quebec Gazette, on the subject of Militia, which contains what appears to us to be some very excellent suggestions on the necessity of training, &c., so as to be prepared in case of an invasion. Although, as our contemporary observes, there may be no immediate danger of war and invasion, there is no knowing when the crisis may arrive, and our situation is such relatively to the people of the United States, as to make it most important that we should not be caught "a napping."—A little military discipline, therefore, can do no harm, even should the peaceable relations of two countries be preserved, whilst if a war broke out, it would be felt very advantageously. Under any circumstances we believe, indeed, that, with the spirit which animates the large mass of the Colonists, an invading army would soon be driven back again over the frontier; but this result would be much assisted by proper organization in times of peace. Proper subordination is above all important. For the want of this, as is shown in the letter signed "Queenston," inserted in a former paper, American Generals can never rely on the reasonable success of any of their plans, and will always be beaten in the open field by a more disciplined enemy.

In regard to the Militia corps now being raised, we trust that a uniformity of dress will be insisted on, and that it will not be, as in the United States, where every corps is left to follow its own taste in these matters. To be efficient, the militia should be placed as much on the footing of the regular army as possible, and there should be nothing in their dress which would directly make them known to an enemy.

KINGSTON, Canada, Dec. 23.

Some of the speakers in the United States Congress throw out the idea that they would be able to possess themselves of Canada in case of a war, and this idea seems to be prevalent in many quarters among our neighbors. Yet they are assuredly deceiving themselves. They tried to take Canada in the last war, but were totally defeated; and the same fate awaits any renewed attempt. If they suppose that they would receive any great support from the people of this province, they are mistaken; our political differences are confined to ourselves, and do not in any degree favour any nearer connection with the United States. We would be on friendly terms with them, if we may; but we do not desire any closer union.—Even those few among us who once might have favoured a union with the United States have seen enough to cure them of any such tendency; and MacKenzie himself, in his late book, declares that if he had known as much of the leaders of political parties in the Union as he does now he would never have en-