

United States.

WASHINGTON, 9TH DEC., 1840.
TWENTY SIXTH CONGRESS.

No quorum was formed in either House on Monday, and none in the Senate on Tuesday; and it was not till after the arrival of the cars from Baltimore on Wednesday that the latter body was able to announce a quorum to the House. Hon. W. R. King, of Ala. President *pro tem.*, had meantime arrived, and now took the chair. About 1 o'clock, the usual messages of form were interchanged, and transmitted to the President.

In the House on Wednesday the Speaker took the chair at 12 o'clock, and about two-thirds of the members answered to their names. The usual formalities of opening the session were despatched. Newspapers for the members were ordered, and a resolution for the election of Chaplains agreed to. The hour of 12 was fixed for the daily meeting of the House until further orders.

Mr. J. Q. Adams now called up his resolution for rescinding the rule made last winter, by which all petitions and memorials relating in any manner to slavery are thenceforth rejected without any action or hearing whatever. Mr. Jenifer, of Md. moved that the resolution of Mr. A. do lie on the table.

After some brief observations by Messrs. Adams, Jenifer and Banks, of Va., Mr. L. Williams of N. C. suggested that the House was now thin, and even the mover (Mr. W. Cost Johnson) of the resolution of last winter was not present. He therefore trusted that this important proposition would not be pressed until there should be a full attendance of members.

A postponement was carried.—Ayes 82, Noes 58. At half past 1 o'clock, the Committees having waited on the President, the Annual Message was received in the Senate by the hand of Mr. A. Van Buren, Private Secretary, and in the House by H. A. Garland, Clerk.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate,
and House of Representatives:

Our devout gratitude is due to the Supreme Being for having graciously continued to our beloved country, through the vicissitudes of another year, the invaluable blessings of health, plenty and peace. Seldom has this favored land been so generally exempted from the ravages of disease, or the labor of the husbandman more amply rewarded; and never before have our relations with other countries been placed on a more favorable basis than that which they so happily occupy at this critical juncture in the affairs of the world. A rigid and persevering abstinence from all interference with the domestic and political relations of other states, alike due to the genius and distinctive character of our government and to the principles by which it is directed; a faithful observance, in the management of our foreign relations, of the practice of speaking plainly, dealing justly, and requiring truth and justice in return, as the best conservatives of the peace of nations; a strict impartiality in our manifestation of friendship, in the commercial privileges we concede, and those we require from others; these, accompanied by a disposition as prompt to maintain, in every emergency, our own rights, as we are from principle averse to the invasion of those of others, have given to our country and government a standing in the great family of nations, of which we have just cause to be proud, and the advantages of which are experienced by our citizens throughout every portion of the earth to which their enterprising and adventurous spirit may carry them. Few, if any, remain insensible to the value of our friendship, or ignorant of the terms on which it can be acquired, and by which it can alone be preserved.

A series of questions of long standing, difficult in their adjustment, and important in their consequences, in which the rights of our citizens and the honour of the country were deeply involved, have in the course of a few years, (the most of them during the successful administration of my immediate predecessor,) been brought to a satisfactory conclusion; and the most important of those remaining are, I am happy to believe, in a fair way of being speedily and satisfactorily adjusted.

With all the Powers of the world our relations are those of honorable peace. Since your adjournment, nothing serious has occurred to interrupt or threaten this desirable harmony. If clouds have lowered about the other hemispheres, they have not cast their portentous shadows upon our happy shores. Bound by no entangling alliances, yet linked by a common nature and interest with the other nations of mankind, our aspirations are for the preservation of peace, in whose solid and civilizing triumphs all may participate with a generous emulation. Yet it behooves us to be prepared for any event, and to be always ready to maintain those just and enlightened principles of national intercourse, for which this government has ever contended. In the shock of contending empires, it is only by assuming a resolute bearing, and clothing themselves with defensive armour, that neutral nations can maintain their independent rights.

The excitement which grew out of the territorial controversy between the United States and Great Britain, having in a great measure subsided, it is hoped that a favorable period is approaching for its final settlement. Both governments must now be convinced of the dangers with which the question is fraught; and it must be their desire, as it is their interest, that this perpetual cause of irritation should be removed as speedily as practicable. In my last annual message you were informed that the proposition for a commission of exploration and survey promised by Great Britain had been received, and that a counter project, including also a provision for the certain and final adjustment of the limits in dispute was then before the British government, for its consideration. The answer of that government, accompanied by additional propositions of its own, was received through the minister here, since your separation. These were promptly considered—such as were deemed correct in principle, and consistent with a due regard to the just rights of the United States and of the state of

Maine, concurred in; and the reasons for dissenting from the residue, with an additional suggestion on our part, communicated by the Secretary of State to Mr. Fox. That minister, not feeling himself sufficiently instructed upon some of the points raised in the discussion, felt it to be his duty to refer the matter to his own government for its further decision. Having now been for some time under its advisement, a speedy answer may be confidently expected. From the character of the points still in difference, and the undoubted disposition of both parties to bring the matter to an early conclusion, I look with entire confidence to a prompt and satisfactory termination of the negotiation. Three commissioners were appointed shortly after the adjournment of Congress, under the act of the last session providing for the exploration and survey of the line which separates the States of Maine and New Hampshire from the British Provinces; they have been actively employed until their progress was interrupted by the inclemency of the season, and will resume their labours as soon as practical in the ensuing year.

It is understood that their respective examinations will throw new light upon the subject in controversy, and serve to remove any erroneous impressions which may have been made elsewhere prejudicial to the rights of the United States. It was, among other reasons, with a view of preventing the embarrassments which, in our peculiar system of government, impede and complicate negotiations involving the territorial rights of a State, that I thought it my duty, as you have been informed on a previous occasion, to propose to the British Government through its Minister at Washington, that early steps should be taken to adjust the points at difference on the line of boundary from the entrance of Lake Superior to the most northwestern point of the Lake of the Woods, by the arbitration of a friendly Power, in conformity with the seventh article of the treaty of Ghent. No answer has yet been returned by the British Government to this proposition.

With Austria, France, Prussia, and the remaining Powers of Europe, I am happy to inform you our relations continue to be of the most friendly character. With Belgium, a treaty of commerce and navigation, based upon liberal principles of reciprocity and equality, was concluded in March last, and, having been ratified by the Belgian Government, will be duly laid before the Senate. It is a subject of congratulation that provides for the satisfactory adjustment of a long standing question of controversy; thus removing the only obstacle which could obstruct the friendly and mutually advantageous intercourse between the two nations.

A messenger has been despatched with the Hanoverian treaty to Berlin, where, according to stipulation, the ratifications are to be exchanged. I am happy to announce to you that, after many delays and difficulties, a treaty of commerce and navigation, between the United States and Portugal, was concluded and signed at Lisbon on the 26th of August last, by the plenipotentiaries of the two Governments. Its stipulations are founded upon those principles of mutual liberality and advantage which the United States have always sought to make the basis of their intercourse with foreign Powers, and it is hoped they will tend to foster and strengthen the commercial intercourse of the two countries.

Under the appropriation of the last session of Congress, an agent has been sent to Germany for the purpose of promoting the interests of the tobacco trade.

The Commissioners appointed under the convention for the adjustment of claims of citizens of the United States upon Mexico, having met and organized at Washington in August last, the papers in the possession of the Government, relating to those claims, were communicated to the board. The claims not embraced by that convention are now the subject of negotiation between the two Governments, through the medium of our Minister at Mexico.

Nothing has occurred to disturb the harmony of our relations with the different Governments of South America. I regret, however, to be obliged to inform you that the claims of our citizens upon the late Republic of Colombia have not yet been satisfied by the separate Governments into which it has been resolved.

The charge d'affaires of Brazil having expressed the intention of his Government not to prolong the treaty of 1828, it will cease to be obligatory upon either party on the 12th day of December, 1841, when the extensive commercial intercourse between the United States and that vast empire will no longer be regulated by express stipulations.

It affords me pleasure to communicate to you that the Government of Chili has entered into an agreement to indemnify the claimants in the case of the Macedonian, for American property seized in 1819; and to add, that information has also been received which justifies the hope of an early adjustment of the remaining claims upon that Government.

The commissioners appointed in pursuance of the convention between the United States and Texas, for marking the boundary between them, have, according to the last report received from our commissioner, surveyed and established the whole extent of the boundary north along the western bank of the Sabine river, from its entrance into the Gulf of Mexico to the thirty second degree of north latitude. The commission adjourned on the 16th of June last to re-assemble on the 1st of November, for the purpose of establishing accurately the intersection of the thirty second degree of latitude with the western bank of the Sabine, and the meridian line thence to Red river. It is presumed that the work will be concluded in the present season.

The present sound condition of their finances, and the success with which embarrassments in regard to them, at times apparently insurmountable, have been overcome, are matters upon which the people and Government of the United States may well congratulate themselves. An overflowing treasury, however it may be regarded as an evidence of public prosperity, is seldom conducive to the permanent welfare of any people; and experience has demonstrated its incompatibility with the salutary

action of political institutions like those of the United States. Our safest reliance for financial efficiency and independence has, on the contrary, been found to consist in ample resources unencumbered with debt; and, in this respect, the Federal Government occupies a singularly fortunate and enviable position.

A report from the secretary of war, presenting a detailed view of the affairs of that department accompanies this communication.

The desultory duties connected with the removal of the Indians, in which the army has been constantly engaged on the northern and western frontiers, and in Florida, have rendered it impracticable to carry into full effect the plan recommended by the Secretary for improving its discipline. In every instance where the regiments have been concentrated, they have made great progress; and the best results may be anticipated from a continuance of this system. During the last season, a part of the troops have been employed in removing Indians from the interior to the territory assigned them in the west—a duty which they have performed efficiently, and with praiseworthy humanity; and that portion of them which has been stationed in Florida, continued active operations there throughout the heats of summer.

The policy of the United States in regard to the Indians, of which a succinct account is given in my Message of 1838, and of the wisdom and expediency of which I am fully satisfied, has been continued in active operation throughout the whole period of my administration. Since the Spring of 1837, more than forty thousand Indians have been removed to their new homes West of the Mississippi, and I am happy to add, that all accounts concur in representing the result of this measure as eminently beneficial to that people.

The emigration of the Seminoles alone has been attended with serious difficulty, and occasioned bloodshed—hostilities having been commenced by the Indians in Florida, under the apprehension that they would be compelled, by force, to comply with their treaty stipulations.

The execution of the treaty of Payne's Landing, signed in 1832, but not ratified until 1834, was postponed at the solicitation of the Indians, until 1837, when they again renewed their agreement to remove peaceably to their new homes in the West. In the face of this solemn and renewed compact, they broke their faith and commenced hostilities by the massacre of Major Dade's command, the murder of their agent, General Thompson, and other acts of cruel treachery.—When this alarming and unexpected intelligence reached the seat of government, every effort appears to have been made to reinforce General Clinch, who commanded the troops then in Florida. General Eustis was despatched with reinforcements from Charleston—troops were called out from Alabama, Tennessee and Georgia; and General Scott was sent to take the command with ample powers and ample means. At the first alarm, Gen. Gaines organised a force at New Orleans, and without waiting for orders, landed in Florida, where he delivered over the troops he had brought with him to Gen. Scott.

Governor Call was subsequently appointed to conduct a summer campaign, and at the close of it, was replaced by General Jessup. These events and changes took place under the administration of my predecessor. Notwithstanding the exertions of the experienced officers who had command there for eighteen months, on entering upon the administration of the government I found the territory of Florida a prey to Indian atrocities. A strenuous effort was immediately made to bring those hostilities to a close; and the army, under General Jessup, was reinforced until it amounted to ten thousand men, and furnished with abundant supplies of every description. In this campaign a great number of the enemy were captured and destroyed; but the character of the contest only was changed. The Indians, having been defeated in every engagement, dispersed in small bands throughout the country, and became an enterprising, formidable and ruthless banditti.

General Taylor, who succeeded General Jessup, used his best exertions to subdue them, and was seconded in his efforts by the officers under his command; but he, too, failed to protect the territory from their depredations. By an act of signal and cruel treachery, they broke the truce made with them by General Macomb, who was sent from Washington for the purpose of carrying into effect the expressed wishes of Congress, and have continued their devastations ever since. General Armstrong, who was in Florida when General Taylor left the army, by permission assumed the command, and after active summer operations, was met by propositions for peace; and, from the fortunate coincidence of the arrival in Florida, at the same period, of a delegation from the Seminoles, who are happily settled west of the Mississippi, and are now anxious to persuade their countrymen to join them there, hopes were for some time entertained that the Indians might be induced to leave the territory without further difficulty.

These hopes have proved fallacious, and hostilities have again been renewed throughout the whole of the territory. That this contest has endured so long it is to be attributed to causes beyond the control of the government. Experienced generals have had the command of the troops; officers and soldiers have alike distinguished themselves by their activity, patience, and enduring courage; the army has been constantly furnished with supplies of every description; and we must look for the causes which have so long protracted the issue of the contest, in the vast extent of the theatre of hostilities, the almost insurmountable obstacles presented by the nature of the country, the climate, and the wily character of the savages.

The sites for marine hospitals on the rivers and lakes, which I was authorized to select and cause to be purchased, have all been designated; but the appropriation not proving sufficient, conditional arrangements only have been made for their acquisition. It is for Congress to decide whether those conditional purchases shall be sanctioned, and the humane intentions of the law carried into effect.

The navy, as will appear from the accom-

panying report of the secretary, has been usefully and honorably employed in the protection of our commerce and citizens in the Mediterranean, the Pacific, on the coast of Brazil, and in the Gulf of Mexico.

A small squadron, consisting of the frigate Constellation and the sloop of war, Boston, under commodore Kearney, is now on its way to the China and Indian seas, for the purpose of attending to our interests in that quarter; and commander Aulick, in the sloop of war, Yorktown, has been instructed to visit the Sandwich and Society islands, and the coasts of New Zealand and Japan, together with other ports and islands frequented by our whale ships, for the purpose of giving them countenance and protection, should they be required. Other smaller vessels have been, and still are, employed in prosecuting the surveys of the coast of the United States, directed by various acts of Congress; and those which have been completed will shortly be laid before you.

The exploring expedition, at the latest date, was preparing to leave the Bay of Islands, New Zealand, in further prosecution of objects, which have, thus far, been successfully accomplished. The discovery of a new continent, which was first seen in latitude 66 deg. 2 min. south, longitude 154 deg. 27 min. east, and afterwards in latitude 66 deg. 31 min. south, longitude 153 deg. 40 min. east, by Lieutenant Wilkes and Hudson, for an extent of eighteen hundred miles, but on which they were prevented from landing by vast bodies of ice which encompassed it, is one of the honourable results of the enterprise. Lieut. Wilkes bears testimony to the zeal and good conduct of his officers and men; and it is but justice to that officer to state that he appears to have performed the duties assigned him with an arduous, ability, and perseverance, which give every assurance of an honourable issue to the undertaking.

The suppression of the African slave trade has received the continued attention of the Government. The brig Dolphin and schooner Grampus have been employed during the last season on the coast of Africa, for the purpose of preventing such portions of that trade as was said to be prosecuted under the American flag. After cruising off those parts of the coast most usually resorted to by slavers, until the commencement of the rainy seasons, these vessels returned to the United States for supplies, and have since been despatched on a similar service. From the reports of the commanding officers, it appears that the trade is now principally carried on under Portuguese colors; and they express the opinion that the apprehension of their presence on the slave coast has, in a great degree, arrested the prostitution of the American flag to this inhuman purpose.

It is hoped that, by continuing to maintain this force in that quarter, and by the exertions of the officers in command, much will be done to put a stop to whatever portion of this traffic may have been carried on under the American flag, and to prevent its use in a trade, which, while it violates the laws, is equally an outrage on the rights of others and the feelings of humanity. The efforts of the several governments who are anxiously seeking to suppress this traffic must, however, be directed against the facilities afforded by what are now recognized as legitimate commercial pursuits, before that object can be fully accomplished.

Supplies of provisions, water casks, merchandise, and articles connected with the prosecution of the slave trade, are, it is understood, freely carried by vessels of different nations to the slave factories; and the effects of the factors are transported openly from one slave station to another, without interruption or punishment by either of the nations to which they belong, engaged in the commerce of that region. I submit to your judgments whether this Government, having been the first to prohibit, by adequate penalties, the slave trade—the first to declare it piracy—should not be the first, also, to forbid its citizens all trade with the slave factories on the coast of Africa, giving an example to all nations in this respect, which, if fairly followed, cannot fail to produce the most effective results in breaking up those dens of iniquity.

BRANCH OF THE N. Y. ALBION AT LIVERPOOL.

The improvements in Steam Navigation, and the greatly increased number of Steam vessels running between the British Empire and this Continent, cannot fail to enlarge exceedingly the relations between those countries, and to render intelligence interesting upon an increased number of subjects. Taking all this into consideration, and being anxiously desirous to contribute to the utmost towards the information of our readers, on these matters, we have made arrangements at very considerable expense, which we trust will answer the end effectually.

This Journal being published weekly, it must necessarily happen, occasionally, that we should be late in publishing the Foreign Intelligence brought by the Steam Vessels between our regular days of publication. To obviate this, we have fixed a BRANCH of this establishment at Liverpool, at which place a paper will be printed, on each day of sailing of the Steam Packets from that port, and at the latest possible moment, for forwarding by the Steam Packets from other ports; containing the very latest intelligence on all subjects that can be of interest to either the American or the British reader on this side of the Atlantic. In particular we would say that the contents will consist of all that regards the money market and monetary matters, the state of American and principal European Stocks and Securities, exchanges, and monetary facilities; the Cotton, Tobacco, and other markets for American produce; the manufacturing and other trades of Great Britain; Parliamentary and political proceedings; latest London Gazettes; Foreign transactions and events, public affairs; remarkable circumstances, &c. &c.; thus making the paper a compendium of all that is valuable and interesting as news, ready to be forwarded in every direction at the earliest moment after it is landed upon these shores.

We shall always avail ourselves of Mr. Cunard's Steamers, and the Papers for the Lower Provinces will be landed at Halifax by those steamers, except we have more immediate

means of communication. The Colonial Shipping Intelligence and Colonial markets will receive minute attention.

We trust our readers will perceive the importance of this arrangement, which is made entirely with a view to their accommodation. To render it such at the least possible expense the paper will be furnished to *Albion Subscribers* at the low rate of two dollars per annum, and to non-subscribers to this journal at four dollars per annum, payable in advance. The plan will be in operation early in the ensuing year.

Persons wishing to become subscribers to this work will have the goodness to notify such intention without delay, so that the necessary orders may be given, to commence with the beginning of the series.

If, in places where small bills do not circulate, it be inconvenient to remit two dollars, orders for the paper from our present subscribers will be respected without such remittance. Non-subscribers to the Albion who may wish to order the new paper separately or in conjunction with the Albion, may remit five dollars on account.

Subscribers in the West Indies and in South America can have the new paper forwarded to them direct from Liverpool by signifying their wishes to that effect.

We cannot avoid again anticipating the approbation of our subscribers for this novel effort to put before them the latest and most authentic intelligence from the old world at the earliest possible moment after its arrival in this country. The low price at which we charge the new paper is a sufficient indication that gain is not so much our object as gratification to our readers. For the annual sum of eight dollars the *Albion* and its *Plates*, together with an *English paper* by every steamer, may be obtained, which in this era of cheap publications must be duly appreciated.

ROYAL GAZETTE.

FREDERICTON, DECEMBER 23, 1840.

Central Bank of New Brunswick.

WILLIAM J. BEDELL, President.
SAMUEL W. BARRIE, Cashier.
Discount Days.....Tuesdays and Fridays.
Director this week.....J. A. BECKWITH.
Bills or Notes offered for discount must be left at the Bank, enclosed and directed to the Cashier before two o'clock on Mondays and Thursdays.

Commercial Bank of New Brunswick.

FREDERICTON BRANCH.
ARCHIBALD SCOTT, Cashier.
Discount Days.....Mondays and Thursdays.
Manager for this week.....JOHN GREGORY.
Hours of business from 10 to 3.
Notes or Bills for discount are to be left at the Bank, enclosed to the Cashier, before 3 o'clock on Saturdays and Wednesdays.

Bank of British North America.

FREDERICTON BRANCH.
GEORGE TAYLOR, Manager.
Discount Days.....Wednesdays, and Saturdays.
Director this week.....SFAFFORD BARKER.
Hours of business, from 10 to 3.
Notes and Bills for Discount to be left before 3 o'clock on the days preceding the Discount Days.

Saving's Bank.

Trustee for next week.....ASA COY.

Central Fire Insurance Company.

Office open every day, at Mr. Mincham's Brick House, opposite the Parade, (Sunday excepted,) from 11 to 2 o'clock.

B. WOLHAUTEN, President.
Committee for the present month.
F. E. BECKWITH and W. A. McLEAN.

Alms House and Work House.

Commissioner for the week commencing to-morrow.
B. WOLHAUTEN.

KING'S COLLEGE.

The Terminal Examination of the Students took place on Wednesday the 16th instant, and His Excellency the Chancellor honored it with his presence. It was conducted in the accustomed manner, and the result was not less satisfactory, than on former occasions, in all the branches of a Collegiate Education.

The Teachers spoke in strong terms of the gratification they had derived from the conduct of all the Students in every respect; and His Excellency warmly commended all who were concerned in the business of the day, at the same time congratulating the country upon the possession of an Institution, which appeared to answer so well the purposes for which it was instituted.

It may be confidently affirmed that in no Institution of this kind is academical discipline better maintained than in King's College, Fredericton, at the present time; and it is not unreasonably hoped that this late regulation, providing for the due enforcement of the Statutes as regards Tutors, will prove an effectual security against any future falling off in this respect.

The Parents or guardians of Students are again requested to take notice that the choice of their respective Tutors is in their own hands, with no other restriction than such as is imposed by the statutes; and that each of the now resident Professors is prepared, in that capacity, "to assist and direct the private studies, and inspect the religious and moral conduct," of such of the students as shall be committed to his care. They are also informed that they will be subject to no additional expense by this regulation, the Tutor's fee remaining precisely what it was before.

THE COLLEGIATE SCHOOL.

This School was examined, previously to, its being closed for the Christmas vacation, on Monday the 21st instant; and the Scholars acquitted themselves in a manner highly creditable to themselves and their instructors.

The President and Professors of King's College, with several other gentlemen, took part in this Examination; and, during a considerable portion of the time it occupied, it was conducted under the eye of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, who again on this occasion manifested the interest which he takes in the progress of education in this Province.