THE CHRONICLE.

SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 18, 1847.

FOR PRESIDENT

GEN'L. ZACHARY TAYLOR,

☞One years subscription to the "Chronicle" was due us on the 5th of December, inst..—A *line* to the wise is sufficient.

☞Hon. J. A. PEARCE, U. S. S. has our thanks for a copy of proceedings of the Senate.

WASHINGTON COUNTY COURT. The case of *Hope H. Slatter* vs. *David T. Wilson*, which we notice in another column, as being before the Court, was given to the Jury late on Wednesday evening. After a short absence they returned a verdict of $765 damages for the Plaintiff.

MR. GRAVES, a celebrated teacher of penmanship, is in our town for the purpose of giving lessons in his art. His plan is to form small classes that he may more clearly illustrate his system.—We have seen specimens of the improvement of pupils under his tuition which afford the most ample testimony as to the superiority of his system, as well as the facility with which it is acquired; rendering the awkward scribbler a business-like beautiful penman.

MR. CLAY'S SPEECH.

The following just remarks upon Mr. Clay's Great Speech, from the *Albany Evening Journal*, jump so completely in unison with our own opinions upon it, that we adopt them as our own in every particular. In a few days we shall have occasion to descant more at large upon this wonderful production of the most extraordinary man of the age.—*National Whig.*

"MR. CLAY'S SPEECH.—We rose from the perusal of Mr. Clay's speech more deeply than ever impressed with regard and veneration for the statesman who possesses the frankness and the courage, in a crisis like this, to freely declare his whole thoughts upon the momentous question which claims the attention of the American people. It is the just, truthful, and clear exposition of the origin, character, and consequences of the Mexican war. And it is as commendable in tone and temper, as it is honest and forcible in sentiment and argument. No intelligent, right-minded American can read this speech, whatever may have been his opinions or prepossessions, without assenting to the truth and justice of most of its positions. And most men will be carried along with the speaker, by the force of his reasoning and the power of his appeals, from his premises to his conclusions.

"This speech was made for the people. It is the voice of a statesman who enjoys the benefit of forty years experience, in their service, to his countrymen. It is the appeal of a patriot in whose favor nearly half of the votes of the Republic were cast, in 1844, for President, against the Administration of his successful competitor.

"Three years ago, in a letter from Raleigh, N. Carolina, Mr. Clay warned the Republic of the consequences of the then scheme of Texas Annexation. That letter was prophetic. But the prophecy and prophet were rejected. The people preferred James K. Polk, with slavery, war, and national debt, to Henry Clay, with peace, prosperity, and happiness. The apprehensions, therefore, of 1844, constitute the history of 1847.

"If the American people, with their sad experience of the last three years, were now enabled, by the deposit of a ballot, to place the country where it stood in 1844, how many would refuse to do it? Or, if the contest of 1844 were to be reviewed to-morrow, and the success of Mr. Clay would wipe out all the memories and retrieve all blunders of the present Administration, how many votes would be given for James K. Polk?

"We have our own crude thoughts regarding the course which ought to be pursued, by the Whig party, in relation to the war, but we will not now set them up against the well-considered and deliberate judgment of an enlightened, experienced, and devoted statesman and patriot—Mr. Clay has uttered the honest sentiments and convictions of his head and heart. He has done this that his countrymen may know, now that they are about to elect a President, upon what principles he could administer the Government. It remains for the people to say whether these views are in accordance with their own.

MR. WINTHROP'S SPEECH ON TAKING THE CHAIR.

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives of the United States:

I am deeply sensible of the honor which you have conferred upon me by the vote which has just been announced, and I pray leave to express my most grateful acknowledgments to those who have thought me worthy of so distinguished a mark of their confidence.

When I remember by whom this chair has been filled in other years, and, still more, when I reflect on the constitutional character of the body before me, I cannot but feel that you have assigned me a position worthy of any man's ambition, and far above the rightful reach of my own.

I approach the discharge of its duties with a profound impression at once of their dignity and of their difficulty.

Seven years of service as a member of this branch of the National Legislature have more than sufficed to teach me that this is no place of mere formal routine or ceremonious repose. Severe labors, perplexing cares, trying responsibilities, await any one who is called to it, even under the most auspicious and favorable circumstances. How, then, can I help trembling at the task which you have imposed on me, in the existing condition of this House and of the country.

In a time of war, in a time of high political excitement, in a time of momentous national controversy, I see before me the Representatives of the People almost equally divided, not merely, as the votes this morning have already indicated, in their preference for persons, but in opinion and in principle, on many of the most important questions on which they have assembled to deliberate.

May I not reasonably claim, in advance, from you all, something more than an ordinary measure of forbearance and indulgence, for whatever of inability I may manifest, in meeting the exigencies and embarrassments which I cannot hope to escape? And may I not reasonably implore, with something more than common fervency, upon your labors and upon my own, the blessing of that Almighty Power, whose recorded attribute it is, that "He maketh men to be of one mind in a house?

Let us enter, gentlemen, upon our work of legislation with a solemn sense of our responsibility to God and to our country. However we may be divided on questions of immediate policy, we are united by the closest ties of permanent interest and permanent obligation. We are the representatives of twenty millions of people, bound together by common laws and a common liberty. A common flag floats daily over us, on which there is not one of us who would see a stain rest, and from which there is not one of us who would see a star struck. And we have a common Constitution, to which the oaths of allegiance, which it will be my first duty to administer to you, will be only, I am persuaded, the formal expression of those sentiments of devotion which are already cherished in all our hearts.

There may be no differences of opinion as to the powers which this constitution confers upon us; but the purposes for which it was created are inscibed upon its face in language which cannot be misconstrued. It was ordained and established "to form a more perfect union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity."

Union, justice, domestic tranquility, the common defence, the general welfare, and the security of liberty for us and for those who shall come after us, are thus the great objects for which we are to exercise whatever powers have been entrusted to us. And I hazard nothing in saying that there have been few periods in our national history when the eyes of the whole people have been turned more intently and more anxiously towards the Capitol than they are at this moment, to see what is to be done, here and now, for the vindication and promotion of these lofty ends.

Let us resolve, then, that those eyes shall at least witness on our part duties discharged with diligence, deliberations conducted with dignity, and efforts honestly and earnestly made for the peace, prosperity, and honor of the Republic.

I shall esteem it the highest privilege of my public life if I shall be permitted to contribute any thing to these results by a faithful and impartial administration of the office which I have now accepted.

COMMUNICATION WITH OREGON.—In the course of the next year a line of steamers will be in operation from Astoria to Panama to connect with another line from Chagres to New York, touching at Havana, Savannah and Charleston. The Pacific steamers, three in number, are to be each of not less than one thousand tons burthen. Five steamers of similar size will form the line from Chagres to New York. These steamers are in process of construction under contracts with the Secretary of the Navy, in accordance with an act of the last Congress.

The President recommends that five additional steamers be authorized under contracts to be made with the Post Master General, the terms to be similar to those already observed. That is to say, the vessels are to be the property of the contractors, but they are to be built under the superintendence and direction of a naval constructor in the employ of the Navy Department and to be so constructed as to render them convertible at the least expense into war steamers of the first class. A prescribed number of naval officers as well as a post office agent are to be on board of them; and authority is reserved to the Department at all times to exercise control over the vessels, and to take them for the exclusive use and service of the United States upon making proper compensation to the owners.

The facilities of communication with Oregon which these steamers will soon furnish cannot fail to mark the opening of a great commercial era. From the mouth of the Columbia to New York, by the route above indicated, the passage might be made, we should suppose, in some thirty days. The overland transit from Panama to Chagres would make the period longer—especially for the transmission of merchandize. But at all events the means of communication between our Atlantic ports and Pacific would be so greatly facilitated that the route thus opened would no doubt be extended by steamers running from Oregon to China and the East Indies. On that smooth and tranquil ocean which from its characteristics of quiet has received the appellation of *Pacific*, steamers would find their best capabilities of speed and tonage most available. For the transmission of the maile alone a line of steamers from Astoria to Canton might be fairly required, so soon as the lines now projected to Panama and Chagres are fully in operation.

A resolution offered in the Senate by Mr. PEARCE of Maryland, and unanimously adopted on Thursday, call for copies of the military reconnoissance made by Lieut. EMORY of the route to San Diego in California, as traversed by Gen. KEARNY, and of Col. COOKE's route to California after diverging from Gen. KEARNY's track.—It has been stated in some of the newspapers that Col. COOKE explored a route from the valley of the Rio Grande to that of the Gila entirely free from mountainous obstructions and admirably adapted to the making of a railroad. The forthcomeing information will throw light upon this statement. If the fact should be confirmed a route to the Bay of San Francisco will be ascertained possessing extroadinary advantages.

And now we ask, when these glorious victories have been purchased by the blood of all—is it proper—is it decent, that your narrow-minded politicians should arise and say, "You have helped to win it all, and now you shall have no part of the spoils of victory.—*Union of Saturday night.*

No—no—no! Remember, good reader, that it is the Presidential Journal which has the shamelessness to propound this question, when, ever since the war began, it has been daily heaping loads of abuse upon the Whig party, whose blood has been poured out in rivers upon every field, because it will not bow down and worship the Executive for all that is good and right. Whig generalship and Whig valor have won for the country all the glory of this war, and yet the Administration and its mouth-piece refuse to allow Whigs to have any part in the *opima spolia.*—And not only this, they denounce the Whig party as Moral Traitors, and make war upon the two master spirits of our successes in the field, Tayler and Scott, because they are Whigs. Away, then, with such consummate hypocrasy as stands out in the above paragraph! It is the offspring of the narrowest-minded politicians.

The coinage of the U. S. branch mint at New Orleans, for the month ending November 31, 1847, amounted to $400,000.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Dec. 8, 1847.

We make the following extract from the annual Report of the Secretary of the Treasury:

The receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1847, were—

From customs	$23,747,864	66
From public lands	2,498,355	20
From miscellaneous sources	100,560	54
From avails of treasury notes and loans	25,679,199	45
Total receipts	52,025,989	82
Add balance in treasury, July 1, 1846	9,126,439	08
Total means	61,152,428	90
The expenditures during thesame fiscal year were	59,451,177	65
Leaving a balance in the treasury July 1, 1847, of	1,701,251	25

As appears in detail by accompanying statement

The estimated receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1848, are—

From customs, first quarter, by actual returns	11,106,257	41
From customs, for second, third, and fourth qrs., as estimated	19,893,743	59
	31,000,000	00
From sales of public lands	3,500,000	00
From miscellaneous sources	400,000	00
Total receipts	34,900,000	00
From avails of treasury notes and loans	6,285,294	55
	41,185,294	55
Add balance in treasury July 1, 1847	1,701,251	25
To means, as estimated,	42,886,545	80

Expenditures, viz:

The actual expenditures for the first quarter, ending September 30, 1847, were $16,469,194 69, as appears in detail by accompanying statement B.

The estimated expenditures for the public service during the other three quarters, from the 1st of October, 1847, to 30th of June, 1848, are:

Civil list, foreign intercourse and miscellaneous	$5,486,180	42
Army proper, including volunteers	19,080,864	58
Fortifications, ordnance, arming militia, &c.	2,036,446	50
Indian department	1,720,680	26
Pensions	1,063,523	66
Naval establishm't	10,241,074	47
Int. on public debt & treasury notes	2,250,577	18
Treasury notesoutstanding, & payable when presented	267,139	31
	58,615,660	07
Excess of expenditures over means, 1st July, 1848	$15,729,114	27

The estimated receipts, means, and expenditures for the fiscal year commencing 1st July, '48, and ending 30th June, 1849, are:

From customs	$32,000,000 00
From sales of public lands	3,000,000 00
From miscellaneous sources	100,000 00
Total revenue	$35,100,000 00
Deduct deficit 1st July, 1848,	15,727,114 27
	$19,370,885 73

Expenditures.

The expenditures during the same period, as estimated by the several Departments of State, Treasury, War, Navy, and Postmaster General, are:

The balance of former appropriations, which will be required to be expended in this year	$1,475,210 77
Permanent and indefinite appropriations	4,587,577 82
Specific appropriations asked for this year	49,582,153 13
	$55,644,941 72

This sum is composed of the following particulars:

Civil list, foreign intercourse, & miscellaneous	$5,613,061 52
Army proper, volunteers, and military academy	32,007,028 42
Fortifications, ordnance, arming militia, &c.	2,045,169 90
Pensions	1,694,318 84
Indian department	926,401 81
Naval establishment	10,905,558 55
Interest on public debt and treasury notes	3,453,402 68
	$55,644,941 72
Deduct means remaining applicable to service of fiscal year ending 30th June, 1849	19,370,885 73
Excess of expenditures over means 1st July, 1849	$36,274,055 99

It will be perceived that if the war is continued until the 1st July next, and no additional revenue provided by Congress, nor any sums received from military contributions in Mexico, there would be a deficit in the treasury on that day of $15,726,114 27. For the reasons hereafter stated, under the operations of the constitutional treasury, it will not be necessary hereafter to retain in the treasury, to meet the wants of the government, and afford a constant supply for all their enlarged operations to the mint and branch mints, a sum exceeding $3,000,000. Adding this to the deficit in the treasury on the 1st of July next, it makes the sum of $18,729,114 27 to be supplied during that period; to meet which, if the expenditures authorized and estimated should take place prior to that date, a loan for that sum would be required if no additional revenue was derived from any source whatever. It is believed, however, that if Congress would adopt the following measures, which are recommended to their favorable consideration, additional revenue to the amount of $4,500,000 per annum might be realized: First, from a duty on tea and coffee of 25 per cent. ad valorem, $3,000,000 per annum; from the reduction and graduation in the price of the public lands, $1,000,000 per annum; and from the extension of the pre-emption privilege to every *bona fide* settler on our unsurveyed lands wherever the Indian title may be extinguished, $500,000 per annum. Should these measures be adopted by Congress, the loan might be reduced to a sum not exceeding, at the most, $17,000,000. In estimating the loan at $17,000,000, allowance is made for the fact that these measures for additional revenue could not all go into effect, so as to produce the full amount during the time intervening between the present period and the 1st July next; after that date, it is not doubted that they would produce the full amount of $4,500,000 per annum. The President of the United States has, however, directed contributions to be levied in Mexico in every form that may be sanctioned by the law of nations. These contributions consist, first, in diminishing the estimated expenditures, by obtaining, as far as practicable, supplies for the army in Mexico; second, by duties on imports, as a military contribution; third, by enforcing the Mexican duty upon exports; fourth, by directing the seizure and appropriation to the support of the war and the army of all the internal revenues of Mexico, except transit duties, whether assessed by the general government of Mexico, or by any department, city, or town thereof. By the acts of September 2, 1789, and the 10th of May, 1800, it is the duty of this department to report to Congress estimates of the probable amount that will be derived from all sources combined, in order that no larger loan may be asked or effected than would be requisite after deducting the amount thus estimated.

THIRTIETH CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

Correspondence of the Balt. American.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13, 1847.

The Hall of the House of Representatives was used for another than working day purposes yesterday. Bishop Hughes, of N. Y., preached a sermon upon the invitation of John Quincy Adams, and several of the most distinguished members of the House. The audience was numerously large—more so, with one exception, than any I remember ever to have seen at the capitol. The sermon was in excellent taste, and upon the subject of the social, political and religious improvement of mankind, and the great good conferred upon the human family in all these particulars by the doctrines and example of the Saviour. It is nearly a score of years since a Catholic prelate has preached in the Hall of the House, and none since the Rev. Charles Constantine Pise, now of New York, was made Chaplain.

There was a marked interest manifested in the appointment of Committees this morning in the House. I believe they give general satisfaction, though there are of course some few personal disappointments.

Mr. Vinton's selection as Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means is peculiarly appropriate. Mr. V. is one of the oldest members of the House, one of the most national, one of the most liberal, and one of the most experienced. Andrew Stewart is very happily placed at the head of the Committee on Manufactures; an interest which he has defended with marked interest and ability. Mr. J. R Ingersoll, at the head of the Judiciary Committee, will confer honor upon the place. It is one of the most important Committees of the body, and every day growing more and more important from the amount of legal business accumulating in the country.

Truman Smith, at the head of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, is an excellent appointment. He is an old member, and one of the most sterling of the House. Mr. Schenck of Ohio, at the head of the Committee on Roads and Canals; Mr. Thompson of Ia., over the Committee on Contested Elections, Mr. Caleb B. Smith, Chairman of the Territorial Committee, and Mr. Botts, at the head of the Military Committee, are all excellent appointments.

So also is that of Mr. King of Geo. at the head of the Naval Committee in which, as a subordinate officer, he has done good service. Mr. Hunt of N. Y., Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, has been for several years a member of the House, and is ably sustained by his fellow members.

Upon the whole, with so many new members, more than one half of the whole number, and all these, except by reputation, strangers to Mr. Winthrop, the Speaker, he has done well and afforded a high degree of satisfaction to those who have placed him where he is.

The announcement of the death of the late Senator Huntington, of Conn., by his former colleague, Mr. Rockwell, closed the services of the day in the House.

A SLAVE CASE.—A case is pending before Washington County Court, being an action brought by Hope H. Slatter, for damages sustained in the purchase of negro (Bill Gross) convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to transportation. Wilson, as the Sheriff of the county, by the act of his deputy, sold the negro to Slatter without making him acquainted with the fact of his being a convict. The negro was forfeited in New Orleans where Slatter had taken him against the laws of the State of Louisiana. Slatter having lost the price of the negro, now seeks to recover damages for the deception practiced upon him by Wilson's deputy. The case had not been given to the jury on Tuesday.

The physical frame of Mr. Clay is a wonderful one. He has just left this city, after a visit of some days, and he seems as vigorous and as firm in his movements as at any time in the past twenty years. We have been in the habit of seeing him a great deal since his return from Ghent, and his walk is now as easy, vigorous and elastic, his eye as undimmed apparently, and as mind his active and strong as when he ruled the country through Congress in the days of Mr. Madison, and sent his burning eloquence, during Mr. Monroe,s term, to cheer the patriots of South America in their efforts to be a free people. History will award him a brilliant page in her records, and posterity will look back upon him as one of the proudest monuments of American greatness.—His example will cheer the destitute youth in his lonely studies, and stimulate him to tread the paths of usefulness that have conducted Henry Clay to an undying name.—*Louisville Courier.*

'The Dear Little Fellow!'—'Ma, has Flour been sick!'

'Sick? why no you sarpin! what under the canopy made you ask that question?—Coz the express says *'Flour is better'*—dont see how it could be better of it hadn't ben *wuss,* nor how it could a ben *wuss,* of't had'nt ben sick. That's the how oh't mother.'

'Jake' 'Wal, mother?'

'You'l be the death of somebody.

'Yethem!'

CONGRESSIONAL.

UNITED STATES SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13, 1847.

Mr. Slicer was re-elected Chaplain, receiving 31 out of 46 votes.

On motion by Mr. Mangum, the following gentlemen were appointed *Chairmen* of the Standing Committees:

Foreign Relations—Mr. Sevier.
Finance—Mr. Atherton.
Commerce—Mr. Dix.
Manufactures—Mr. Dickinson.
Agriculture—Mr. Sturgeon.
Military Affairs—Mr. Cass.
Militia—Mr. Rusk.
Naval Affairs—Mr. Fairfield.
Public Lands—Mr. Breese.
Private Land Claims—Mr. Yulee.
Indian Affairs—Mr. Atchison.
Claims—Mr. Mason.
Revolutionary Claims—Mr. Bright.
Judiciary—Mr. Ashley.
Post Office and Post Roads—Mr. Niles.
Roads and Canals—Mr. Hannegan.
Pensions—Mr. Johnson of La.
District of Columbia—Mr. Cameron.
Petents and the Patent Office—Mr. Westcott.
Retrenchment—Mr. Turney.
Territories—Mr. Douglass.
Public Buildings—Mr. Hunter.
Contingent Expenses—Mr. Felch.
Printing—Mr. Bradbury.
Engrossed Bills—Mr. Downs.
Enrolled Bills—Mr. Rusk.
Joint Committee on the Library—Mr. Pearce.

The Vice President presented the annual report of the Treasury Department upon the subject of Commerce and Navigation; of which 5000 extra copies were ordered to be printed.

Mr. Hale at his own request was excused from serving upon any of the Committees.

Mr. Dickinson submitted the following resolutions, which were ordered to be printed:

Resolved, That true policy requires the Government of the U. S. to strengthen its political and commercial relations upon this Continent by the annexation of such contiguous territory as may conduce to that end and can be justly obtained—and that neither in such acquisition nor in the territorial organization thereof, can any conditions be constitutionally imposed or institutions be provided for or established inconsistent with the right of the people thereof to form a free sovereign State, with the powers and privileges of the original members of the Confederacy.

Resolved, That in organizing a territorial government for territory belonging to the United States, the principals of self government upon which our federative system rests will be best promoted—the true spirit and meaning of the constitution be observed and the confederacy strengthened by leaving all questions concerning the domestic policy therein to the Legislatures chosen by the people thereof.

A number of bills were introduced, read twice, and referred to appropriate committees.

Mr. Cameron offered the usual resolution to furnish new Senators with books, which, after considerable debate, was referred to the Committee on the Library, and—The Senate adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15, 1847.

The Vice President presented the annual report of the Superintendent of the Coast Survey, which was ordered to be printed, together with 1,250 extra copies.

Mr. Calhoun submitted the following resolutions, which were ordered to be printed:

Resolved, That to conquer and hold Mexico, either as a province or incorporating it into the Union, is inconsistent with the avowed object of the war, contrary to the settled policy of the Government, in conflict with its character and genius, and, in the end, must be subversive of all our free and popular institutions.

Resolved. That no line of policy in the farther prosecution of the war should be adopted which may tend to consequences so disastrous.

Mr. Downs offered a resolution which was adopted, instructing the military committee to inquire into the expediency of erecting a military hospital for disabled volunteers at New Orleans.

Mr. Niles offered a resolution which was adopted, admitting the heads of the different bureaux in the several departments to the floor of the Senate.

After some other business of no general interest, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The journal of yesterday's proceeding being read Mr. Barringer asked that his colleague, Mr. Sheppard, who is suffering from illness, or a chronic disease not likely to be speedily remedied, might be excused from serving on the Committee on Agriculture. The request was granted by the House.

Mr. Linn Boyd observed that the Speaker had done him the honor to place him upon two committees, and he respectfully asked to be excused from serving on one of them—the Committee on Accounts. The House granted his request.

Mr. Giddings obtained the leave of the House to make a statement personal to himself; whereupon he sent to the Clerk's desk the National Whig of a recent date, and had read a part of a communication and an editorial article in said paper, censuring himself and Messrs. Tuck and Palfrey, calling them "putrid excrescences," &c., for their votes in the selections of the officers of the House.

When the Clerk had finished reading the articles, Mr. Giddings gave what he understood to be the history of the National Whig and its editor, after which he read to the House a prepared definition of his own political position.

Mr. Henly submitted a joint resolution to repeal a part of the newspaper postage law passed in March last.

Mr. Tallmadge presented the memorial of Jas. Monroe contesting the seat of David S. Jackson, of New York city.

Mr. Levin offered a resolution requiring the Postmaster of the House to keep an open account with the members for their wrapping paper and envelopes, subject to inspection.

After some remarks from Mr. Cobb of Georgia, upon the abuses which he said had been practised in this business, the resolution was, on his motion, referred to the Committee on Accounts, in order that the matter might be enquired into.

On Mr. Pollock's motion, the House now proceeded to elect a Chaplain.

Mr. Levin nominated R. W. Cushman, Baprist.

Mr. Ashman nominated Orville Dewey, Congregationalist.

Mr. McLane nominated John N. McJilton, Episcopalian Methodist.

Mr. Adams nominated Royal R. Gurley, Presbyterian.