ENOCH PRATT
BALTO.

THE JOURNAL.

ROCKVILLE, MD.

WEDNESDAY,::::::APRIL 23, 1845.

☞ By reference to the intelligence from England, which we publish in to-day's paper, it will be seen that the proceedings in the British Parliament, in relation to the Oregon territory, present quite a threatening aspect of affairs. The assertion by President Polk, in his inaugural address, of the clear and unquestionable right of the United States to Oregon, is not only condemned on account of being entirely out of place, but is met with a counter assertion quite as positive, viz. that "Great Britain possesses, in her opinion, clear and unquestionable rights which she is fully prepared to maintain."

Both parties in this controversy have now taken their stand upon this question, and from the decision with which their respective rights are set forth, there is reason to apprehend a serious difficulty between the two countries. If the matter can be settled by negotiation, without prejudice to the rights of either party, it would be more acceptable to the people of both countries than a resort to hostilities.

Virginia Elections.—So far as the results of the late elections in Virginia are known to us, we have reason to believe that Archibald Atkinson, the late member, is re-elected to Congress from the Norfolk district; George C. Droomgoole, from the Mecklenburgh district; Shelton F. Leake, from the Albemarle district: James A. Seddon, from the Richmond district; Thomas H. Bayly, from the Accomac district; Robert M. T. Hunter, from the Westmoreland district; John S. Pendleton, from the Loudoun district; and Henry Bedinger, from the Frederick district; all of them Democrats except Mr. Pendleton, and being a Whig loss of two members as compared with the last Congress.

In the State Legislature the Whigs have lost one member in Hanover, one in Spottsylvania, one in Caroline, one in Elizabeth City and Warwick, one in in Fairfax, one in Essex, one in Gloucester, and one in Accomac—making eight in all—and have gained two in Frederick. There is a report that they have also gained two in Hampshire, but we have no authentic intelligence of the fact.

An unusual degree of indifference prevailed in many of the counties, and in some of them divisions existed in the ranks of our friends. Under such circumstances it was to have been expected that the Whigs would lose ground, if they did not entirely lose their ascendency in the House of Delegates, which we apprehend to be the true state of the case.—*Nat. Int.*

Disgraceful Affair.—*Riot at the University of Virginia.*—We learn from the Richmond Star, that a disgraceful riot has occurred at the University of Virginia, growing out of some ill feeling between the students and Professor W. E. Rogers. It appears there is a *Caliathumpian band* of students attached to the institution, who make it a point to disturb the Faculty almost nightly, and that Prof. Rogers and another of the Faculty openly denounced the proceeding, which caused their houses to be mobbed. The college windows and doors were also broken open, and on Friday night last an attempt was made to blow up the old trees around the building. This made it necessary for the Faculty to call on the police, and finally the military, and the University is now, says the Star, in the possession of five hundred soldiers, (citizens.) The students have held a meeting and pledged themselves to restore order if the military be withdrawn, but the Faculty say they require something more than pledges.—Hon. W. C. Rives addressed the Faculty and Students on Monday upon the subject. Most of the students have left; the Faculty, it is understood, will resign; and for the present the college appears to be broken up.

Since the above was in type, we learn from the Charlottsville Advocate, of Friday, that the disorderly students of the University have been expelled, order restored, and the lectures resumed.

☞ "Arthur's Magazine," for May, and "Sketches of Irish Character," by Mrs. S. G. Hall, are upon our table. These works commend themselves to the lovers of polite literature, by the interesting and instructive reading which they contain. They are embellished with beautifully executed pictorial representations.

☞ The May number of the "Columbian Magazine" has been received. We are much pleased with the contents of this work, and take pleasure in recommending it to the reading public. It is accompanied with a very neat plate of fashions, which will, no doubt, render it quite interesting to the ladies, whose patronage we would especially bespeak for this periodical.

☞ We have also the May number of the "Ladies' National Magazine," the engravings of which are elegant, and the reading matter such as fully to sustain the high character it has heretofore acquired. This, too, contains a beautiful plate of fashions.

For the Maryland Journal.

A plain country farmer, having received the commission of justice of the peace, waited on the celebrated Dr. Johnson, and requested the Doctor to instruct him on some law points, so as to enable him to decide correctly in the cases that might be brought before him for trial. The Doctor advised him to have nothing to do with the lawyers in making up his decisions—"for," said he, "if you do, you will, in all probability, decide ninety-nine wrong out of every hundred: whereas, if you are careful, and attend strictly to the *justice* and evidence in the matters before you, you will almost to a certainty do right in your decisions between the parties."

Now, I think it will be conceded that justices of the peace, when engaged in business before them, should be careful not to suffer unprincipled pettifoggers to take possession of their offices, and to brow beat them, by telling them "this thing is law, and that thing is law"—things that conflict with common sense and common honesty. I have been led to these remarks by lately witnessing what seemed to me to be an exceedingly novel case, which was before one of our magistrate's for trial; and I would here detail a portion of what transpired at the trial, but that I understand that one of the parties in the case has declared his determination to have an exact statement of the case made out, which he intends to publish.

The U. States and Great Britain. The intelligence from England by the Caledonia has furnished matter for speculation to the newspapers, and the question of peace or war is discussed with much earnestness in all our leading journals. The general conclusion seems to be, among the whig papers, that the threatening aspect of things will change as the crises approaches, and that the indisposition of both nations to go to war will prompt them, after a due manifestation of bravado, to adopt some conciliatory arrangement by which peace may be preserved.

The difficulties about the Maine boundary question, it is urged, once wore a more serious appearance than the present misunderstanding; yet at the very time when a collision seemed inevitable, an amicable adjustment of the whole matter was had. So it is now argued with reference to the Oregon. Each party will take every step in the quarrel except the *last* step; and both will pause when they find themselves on the brink of a war, of which neither will be able to foretell the end or foresee the consequences.

This mode of reasoning would be applicable to every case of difficulty, and might be used to show that war never would occur. The cry of "*wolf, wolf,*" was often deceptive, but the wolf came at last.

Arbitration—compromise—is it likely that these will be effectual to settle the dispute? Let us look at the position of our government. Mr. Polk stands committed by the declaration in his inaugural that our right to the Oregon is clear and indisputable—a declaration which whether made properly or improperly is nevertheless made, and must stand. He cannot withdraw or modify it. The country would not permit him to do either if he were so disposed.

We here say nothing of parties. It is the President of the United States whose position is assailed; the question is a national one. When the bill to occupy Oregon was lost, and barely lost in the Senate, the vote of Mr. Buchanan was recorded in its favor. Within a few days afterwards that gentleman was made Secretary of State; and when he gave his vote for the bill of occupation he knew, in all probability, that he was soon to go into the State Department. He is a shrewd enough politician to appreciate the spirit of the times. His course, if significant of nothing else, is generally calculated with a sagacious reference to the tendencies of things; in this case it has its meaning.

It is the determination of our people to take possession of the Oregon—to take it exclusively, and to take the whole of it. Who doubts it? Is not the occupation of that country looked to as a thing of course? It has been regarded as a question of time merely; and if it were left to time it would be settled gradually and quietly by the settlement of our emigrants in the country. But the issue is hastened; it seems to be upon us even now.

We might speak of the manner in which the matter has been precipitated to its present position. There is cause for regret that it was not managed differently. But since the past cannot be helped, it will be more to the purpose to look towards possible results, and see how we are prepared for them.

Let us suppose that congress meets and passes a bill for the occupation of the Oregon—such a bill as that which almost passed at the last session. The year's notice specified in the bill would not postpone a collission with England for twelve months. Not at all. For that notice was merely to signify that after a given time the Government of the United States would occupy the Oregon; it was a notice to quit—of which the British subjects in Oregon might have the benefit. Such a bill, if passed, would bring on hostilities at once—unless England should conclude to give up her claims, which she would hardly do.

Now what are our preparations for war with a power like England? The most important material of war is money. Upon the breaking out of hostilities, the first thing would be a loan. The Government would require it to be negotiated forthwith. Where would it be obtained? Could we borrw money abroad? Could it be had of our capitalists at home?

This is a matter of the first consideration. If the administration is fixed in its purpose of maintaining a position which may lead to war, it should devise before hand the financial plans for supplying the means to carry it on. We should go into the conflict crippled in advance if we began without credit and without the confidence which a well-organized government commands. The depressed condition of the stocks of the non-paying States would then have a blighting effect upon the national credit. In truth, we believe the government could not do a better thing, in view of war, than to fund the State debts into national stock, assume the whole, and thus exhibit to the world a compact nationality, ready to meet any conflict or danger. With the confidence of its own citizens, with their loyalty and patriotic affections thus wedded to the Republic, we could clear our own path without needing foreign assistance. But this is too fruitful a subject to be fully considered in one article.—*Balt. Amer.*

Potomac Fisheries.—The National Intelligencer, of Monday last, says:—"The Potomac fisheries are fast drawing to a close. From all we can learn the fisheries on the Virginia side of the Potomac have been most successful during the present season. Shad was selling at Alexandria on Saturday at from 8 to $8 50 per hundred; herring at $4 25 per thousand."

The Alexandria Gazette says: "Yesterday there was a very small supply, and herrings were selling at $4a4.25 per thousand; shad $8.25a8.50 per hundred. This week will about close the fisheries for the season. From the best information we can obtain, the quantity of herrings cured at the different landings on the Potomac, including the fish wharf, is from 25,000 to 30,000. In consequence of the high price of fresh shad, during the season, very few have been salted, and the quantity in market does not exceed 150 barrels. We quote gross herrings at $3.62½ per barrel; shad at $8.25, sales."

Post Office Department—The following order has been issued by the present Postmaster General, which will prove acceptable to publishers:

Money for newspaper subscriptions, not exceeding $10 in each case, may be paid to a Postmaster for the purpose of being paid to the publisher of a newspaper at any other office. The Postmaster is, in such case, to give to the person paying the money, a receipt therefor and to advise forthwith the Postmaster who is to pay said amount of such deposit.—Upon presentation of this receipt, the amount is to be paid over. The Postmaster receiving the amount is to debit himself therewith in his account, and the Postmaster paying that amount is to credit himself therewith in his account of contingent expenses.

Good if True.—The editor of the Frederick Examiner says he is informed that all the defaulting counties except *Calvert* are manfully retrieving their lost standing by paying up their delinquencies, by degrees, and Calvert, he further learns, is preparing to make amends for her sins by one big payment. This is certainly good news, if true; and if not true now, we would fain hope it will be so ere long. If it don't come to this before the next session of the Legislature, we apprehend it will come to it thereafter. The *payers* of the State taxes are long-suffering and of considerable patience, but they are becoming daily more anxious for the conversion of their *non-paying* fellow citizens.

Annexation of Texas.—The New Orleans papers declare their unqualified belief in the determination of the Texan Government to delay action on the annexing resolutions to the last possible moment. They say that Mr. Smith, the Texan Secretary of State, is now on his way to Boston, where he will take the steamer of the 1st proximo for England.

The Oregon Question.—Sir Geo. Simpson, president, or one of the leading directors of the British Northwest Fur Company, was one of the passengers in the Caledonia. He brought out instructions, it is said, to Mr. Pakenham, the British Minister at Washington, from his government at home, relative to the Oregon question.

Gov. Dorr—A letter published in the Madisonian, from Rhode Island, says it is thought that the Gov. Fenner Legislature will liberate Dorr before the inauguration Governor takes his seat.

The sum of $146,894 have already been subscribed for the relief of the sufferers in Pittsburg; and it is probable this amount will be increased to two hundred thousand dollars before the subscriptions cease.

FOREIGN NEWS.

VERY IMPORTANT FROM EUROPE.

SEVEN DAYS LATER.

The Caledonia, Capt. Lott, arrived at Boston at 11 o'clock on Monday night.

The intelligence received by her is of a character more important than any that has reached us since the war of 1812.

There has been an important debate in the British Parliament on the Oregon, disclosing the view of England on that subject, it was deemed so important that the opinion of the British Ministry should be known in America that the Caledonia was detained one day in order to bring out the debate on the question which took place in Parliament on the 4th instant, and which we give in another column.

The debate exhibits the ultimatum of the British Government on this question, and we only now expect a serious difficulty between England and America. We do not see what is to prevent it.—America has assumed her position, and England has now taken hers. Neither, therefore, can recede an inch.

This state of things affected the money and cotton markets on the 5th instant. Cotton became firm and consols declined.

IMPORTANT DEBATE ON OREGON.

House of Lords, April 4th—Midnight. Lord Clarendon, in the House of Lords, introduced the subject of the Oregon Territory, in order to elicit from the Government some information as to our relations with the United States upon this question, and the course it was intended to pursue in case Congress, acting upon the expressed opinion of the President, should proceed to take possession of the country, or to annex it to the United States.

His Lordship, after briefly noticing the conduct of America towards Texas, and the extraordinary terms in which Mr. Polk had declared the unequivocal right of the United States to the whole territory, temperately reviewed the grounds on which the British claims are founded, and concluded by expressing his anxious hope, that while whatever could be justly claimed should be readily conceded, the Government would not shrink from vindicating, if necessary, the nations's honor, or upholding her interests.

He was succeeded in a long speech from the Earl of Aberdeen, who deprecated war and hasty action, and hoped the question would finally be settled amicably. Should it be otherwise, he observed, "I can only say that we possess rights which, in our opinion, are clear and unquestionable—and, by the blessing of God, and your support, those rights we are fully prepared to maintain." Received with loud cheers.

House of Commons—Midnight—April 4. Lord J. Russel, on reading the order for going into committee of supply, called the attention of the House to that portion of the message of the President of the U. S. relative to Oregon. He did not design to enter into the question of the foreign policy of her Majesty's Government, or even of their policy on the Oregon subject, nor did he in any way wish to embarrass their proceedings.

But the inaugural address of President Polk had taken this question out of the ordinary course of diplomatic arrangement, and required some notice on the part of members of that House. That distinguished functionary had adopted a course entirely new, which, if it were not met with something unusual on their parts, would let questions of great national importance be decided hereafter by popular addresses from the head of the Government, and by the popular action resulting therefrom.

The President in his message had alluded to the annexation of Texas to the United States, an allusion which he only noticed for the purpose of showing that the present policy of the executive Government of the United States tended to territorial aggrandizement. In his next sentence the President declared his intention to assert and maintain by all constitutional means, the right of the United States to that portion of their territory which was situated beyond the Rocky Mountains.

"Our title," said he, "to the country of Oregon, is clear and unquestionable, and already are our people preparing to perfect that title by occupying it with their wives and children." In consequence of their declaration, he (Lord J. Russell,) felt compelled to call the attention of the house and the country to this question, in order that they might see how far the President was justified in saying that his title to the country of the Oregon was clear and unquestionable, and in declaring his intention to take it into his possession without any regard to those treaties, which were generally the bonds of peace between independent nations.

Sir R. Peel, after admitting the gravity of the question, and referring to the negotiations of Mr. Canning to effect an adjustment of the respective claims of the United States and of Great Britain, which ended in failure, gave a brief account of the correspondence which has taken place between the present Government and the American executive. So recently as the 18th of February last, the late President, Mr. Tyler, in a message to the Senate, assigned as a reason for not complying with a request to produce the correspondence, that the negotiations were still pending, that they had been conducted in an amicable spirit, and that considerable progress had been made in them. He (Sir R. Peel) could confirm the assertion to the "amicable spirit," but not as to the "progress."—However, on the 4th of March following the new President, Mr. Polk delivered that inaugural address which contained the reference to the Oregon.—No diplomatic communications had taken place since; and that was known was contained in the address.

He considered it his duty not to despair of a favorable result; but if it were otherwise, he would not then object to lay on the table of the House the whole of the correspondence which had taken place. He deeply regretted that the President of the United States, in defiance of all usage, should have made the reference he did, during pending negotiations, and pointed to other contingencies. Not only did *he* regret the reference, but the tone and temper in which it was made.

As the subject had been brought under discussion, he felt it to be his duty, on the part of the Government, to state, in language the most temperate, but at the same time the most decisive, that they considered that we have a right to this territory of Oregon which is clear and unquestionable; that we desire an amicable adjustment of the difference between ourselves and the United States; but that, having exhausted every effort to obtain it, if our rights are invaded, we are resolved and prepared to maintain them.

A tremendous burst of cheers from all parts of the house followed this annunciation.

The subject then dropped.

Ireland.—*Ferocious Faction Fight.* The Tipperary Vindicator thus states, "Tuesday, the fair day of Killaloe, was disgraced by a bloody affray between contending factions of the Terry Alts, when 600 of those deluded men proceeded from the Tipperary side of the Shannon to fight among themselves like dogs, for no other cause but that, having been engaged in a systematic hostility against the laws in perpetrating midnight depredations on the poor and defenceless." The police were not in sufficient numbers to be of any use.

From Mexico.—*The city of Mexico desolated by an Earthquake.*—The New Orleans Bee has received a copy of the Vera Cusano of the 12th inst., received by the same arrival the news which we published yesterday, containing the account of an *awful earthquake* which desolated the city of Mexico on the 7th inst.

At the moment we write, says the Siglo of the 8th, the inhabitants of the capital of the republic are still under the influence of the horrors excited by the earthquake of yesterday, the disastrous effects of which we are still imperfectly acquainted with.

Yesterday, at 52 minutes past 3 o'clock P. M. the oscillations began, slight at first and then stronger. The direction of the motion appeared to be north and south. It lasted about two minutes.—The shocks were terrible, nothing like them was ever experienced before, and the condition of the buildings too surely proves the absence of all exaggeration.

We were by chance upon the great square at the time, and we witnessed a spectacle not easily forgotton. In an instant the multitude, but a moment previous tranquil and listless, were upon their knees, praying to the Almighty and counting with anxiety the shocks which threatened to convert the most beautiful city in the New World into a vast theatre of ruins. The chains surrounding the portico were violently agitated; the flags of the pavement yawned open, the trees bent frightfully, the buildings and lofty edifices oscillated to and fro, the immense arrow which crowns the summit of the cathedral vibrated with astonishing rapidity. At 56 minutes past three the movements had ceased.

It is impossible yet to ascertain the extent of destruction. Not a house or a door but bears the marks of this terrible calamity. Many of them are cracked and greatly injured, others are tottering, and others entirely fallen. San Lorenzo, La Misericordia, Tompeate, Zapo and Victoria streets, and the Grand street, have particularly suffered. The aqueducts were broken in several places. The bridge of Tezontale is demolished. The Hospital of Saint Lazarus is in ruins, and the churches of San Lorenzo and San Ferdinand greatly injured.—The magnificent chapel of Saint Teresa no longer exists. At the first shock the cupola, a building of astonishing strength and great beauty, fell, and was soon followed by the vault beneath the tabernacle and the tabernacle itself.

Fortunately all those in a church so much frequented, succeeded in escaping. At 8 o'clock last evening, seventeen persons had been taken from the ruins of other buildings and carried to the Hospital.

At three-quarters past 6, and a quarter past 7, two more shocks were felt.—They were, however, slight, and occasioned nothing but a temporary renewal of terror.

The authorities did every thing that zeal and humanity could suggest, to carry help to the victims, and restore the aqueducts which furnish water to the city.

Lynch Law and Murder in Missouri.—Two young men, of a family named Turnbull, residing in Lincoln county, Missouri, being suspected of being horse thieves and counterfeiters, were recently attacked in their father's house, by a band of men said to be composed of the most respectable citizens, styling themselves "Regulators," with the intention of punishing them under the Lynch code. The door of the house was broken open with an axe, after an unsuccessful attempt to fire it, when a general fight ensued. A young man named Davis was killed; another, named Norvall or Noris, was stabbed in the head, from the effects of which he was not expected to live, and a third of the attacking party was wounded slightly.—One of the Turnbulls was shot in the neck, and was dying at the last accounts. The other was shot in the thigh, and was not expected to survive; they are both young—one a boy, 15 or 16 years old. Great excitement followed throughout the county, and threats were made that the whole Turnbull family should be exterminated.

The Lynch code was also put in force in Scott county, Missouri, about three weeks since, a gang of robbers and incendiaries being adjudged to receive one thousand stripes each, to be administered in "broken doses" for several successive days.

Retrenchment.—The Postmaster General has abolished the offices of ten travelling agents and five deputies, of the Department, thus saving the government, annually, some $25,000.

A New Name.—The proprietors of the Madisonian, in thorough contempt for the proposition of the New York Historical Society, have resolved to call their paper the *United States Journal.*—It will take its new name on the first of May next.

A Scene at the President's House. An insane person, named Milton Fowler, walked into the President's at Washington, on Friday, the Madisonian says, carrying under each arm a loaf of bread and in each hand a bottle of wine. Having deposited his provisions, with extreme nicety, in a safe place, and after resting a few moments on one of the very softest cushions of the reception room, he drew a knife and attempted to enter the private room of the ladies. They called for assistance and he was sent to jail.

Noble.—A servant girl, who had lived for some time in the family of Dr. Herron, at Pittsburg, went to him since the fire and informed him that she had saved several hundred dollars, which she wished him to take and distribute among the sufferers.

A Clean Sweep.—John Murray was committed the other day, by the Mayor of Philadelphia, for stealing a wash-tub, a slop-bucket, and a hand-bucket and a hand-basin. After such a desperate attempt to do the clean thing, we do not wonder at his finding himself *all in the suds.*

Thanksgiving.—Friday last, was observed in Pittburg as a day of humiliation and prayer, and no papers were issued in that city on Saturday.

Died,

At his residence in Hancock, on the 21st instant, Mr. R. White Watkins, formerly of this county, in the — year of his age.

☞ **Notice.**—The ninth Lecture of the course will be delivered before the Rockville Union Lyceum, in the M. E. Church, on TUESDAY, the 6th of May next, at early candle light, by Benj. Hallowell, Esq. By order,
ap 30 S. C. BUSEY, Sec'y.

CAUTION.

I HEREBY forewarn all persons from trusting, harboring, or employing my son, Charles Wheeler Green. In all cases I shall demand and enforce payment for services which he may render, if such comes to my knowledge.
ap 30—1t GEO. W. GREEN.

NOTICE.

THE subscriber respectfully notifies all persons indebted to him, that they must make payment by the 15th of May next, for longer indulgence will not be given. Those who disregard this notice, after that day, will find their accounts in the hands of proper officers for collection. I'm in earnest.
ap 30 GASSAWAY MARTIN.

WE are authorised to announce **John W. Baker** as a candidate for the Sheriffalty of 1845.
Oct. 6th 1842.

WE are authorised to announce **Daniel H. Candler** as a candidate for the Sheriffalty of 1845.
Oct 3, 1842

MAGISTRATES BLANKS for sale at this office. mar 19