THE CHRONICLE,

CAMBRIDGE—MD.

SATURDAY MORNING, March 28, 1846.

The Orphan's Court of Dorchester County will sit on Monday the 30th of March.

REV. THOMAS H. STOCKTON.—This distinguished divine, in a note to the Philadelphia North American, says:—"It is stated that I have 'entirely withdrawn from the jurisdiction of the Methodist Protestant Church.' This is not the fact. I have merely resigned my membership in the Maryland Annual Conference, Our general Conference is to be held in Cincinnati, in May. My future course depends in part, on its action."

CONVENTIONAL REFORM.—Even if the present Constitution of Maryland were very defective, and a Convention were better calculated to remedy those defects than two successive Legislatures, still before adopting this mode, it should be made apparent that the Legislature has a right to call a Convention. If it can be shown that this right exists, then the question of expediency may arise. But certainly the first and paramount question is concerning this right. We shall devote an article or two upon this question, and afterwards we may say something in addition to what we have said heretofore upon the question of expediency.—We will admit in the onset that we cannot call upon those who advocate this right to point out to us the article in the Constitution conferring upon the Legislature the power of calling a Convention. Should a question arise concerning the power of Congress to pass any measure, the advocates of the measure must show the article of the Constitution of the United States granting that power, because the Government of the United States is one of delegated powers, and no power exists in Congress except what is conferred by that instrument. But this is not the case with the Government of Maryland. Ours is one, not of delegated but general powers, and the Legislature can do any thing unless prohibited by the Constitution. We therefore who deny the right of the Legislature to call a Convention, must take the burthen of proof upon ourselves, and show that the exercise of such a power by the Legislature would be in conflict with the Constitution. Before calling the attention of our readers to those articles in the Bill of rights and Constitution, which we think clearly prohibit any amendment except by two successive Legislatures, we will briefly consider an argument used by the advocates of this right.—They assert that it is an inherent right in the people to alter and amend their government whenever its operation is subversive of the great design of all government—the happiness of the governed; that the fourth article of the Bill of rights strengthens and confirms this idea by declaring that "whenever the ends of government are prevented and public liberty is manifestly endangered and all other means of redress are ineffectual, the people may, and of right ought, to reform the old or establish a new government. The doctrine of non-resistance against arbitrary power is absurd, slavish, and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind." No one will for a moment deny the principles here laid down. They may be considered as political axioms. Government is designed for the happiness of the people, and when it plainly and signally fails to accomplish that object, and all means of redress by and under the constitution fail, there is an inherent right in the people—a right of which no one can deprive them, and which they cannot themselves surrender, to *revolutionise* their government and establish another more congenial to their happiness. *But this is not Constitutional reform, but revolution. It is an act, not under the constitution, but above it.* It was by this right, that our forefathers, when crushed down by British tyranny and oppression, threw off the galling yoke, absolved themselves from British allegiance, declared themselves a free and independent nation, and by their blood and valor erected the beautiful Republican institutions under which we live. Whenever a juncture arises in any country for the exercise of this right, there is no necessity for Legislative action, as the law cannot curtail this power neither can its sanction give it more potency.—The people through their own innate sovereignty, setting at defiance all law and constitution, may not merely amend or reform their government, but entirely overthrow and destroy it.—But if we understand the Conventional reformers they advocate a convention as a peaceable and constitutional mode of amending the Constitution. The inherent right of the people to *revolutionise* their government, applies not to those who design to act by and under the Constitution. Therefore the principles set forth in the 4th article of the Bill of rights, and the theory of inherent sovereignty in the people have no reference to the present question. The constitution—the terms of compact entered into by the people—the embodiment of the sovereign will, until altered, must be our guide in determining the question, whether or not the Legislature has the right to call a convention to amend the constitution. We designed in this article to make some comments upon the 42nd. article of the Bill of rights and the 59th article of the Constitution of this State, which we think, when construed together prove beyond all doubt that the Legislature is prohibited from amending the Constitution, except by two consecutive sessions of the Legislature, but we have already transcended the space which we assigned to ourselves, we will however add for the sake of connection the two articles referred to. The first says "*that this declaration of rights, or the form of Government to be established by this Convention, or any part of either of them, ought not to be altered, changed, or abolished by the Legislature of this State, but in such manner as this Convention shall prescribe and direct.*"—The second says "*a bill so to alter, change, or abolish the same, shall pass the General Assembly, and be published at least three months before a new election, and shall be confirmed by the General Assembly, after a new election of Delegates, in the first session after such new election.*" This latter article then goes on further to prohibit any alteration or amendment, except in the mode above pointed out as follows: "*This form of Government, and Bill of rights, and no part thereof, shall be altered, changed, or abolished, unless a bill so to alter, change or abolish shall pass the General Assembly, &c.*"

FROM WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of the American.

WASHINOTON, March 24.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT.

A Message from the President of the United States was suffered to sleep upon the table of the Senate for several hours to-day. The seal, however, was broken at three o'clock, and it proved to be the Message mentioned in my correspondence of yesterday. It recommends the giving of the "notice" to Great Britain, and maintains the precise position assumed in the opening message of December in regard to the Oregon question. The "notice" in the judgment of Mr. Polk ought to be given as speedily as possible.

Mr. POLK cites the fact that England is making preparations for war,—and perhaps for a war with the United States. The letter of Sir Robert Peel to the Queen is referred to as having reference to this determination of England to defend herself by extreme measures.

Mr. Polk earnestly advises that the "notice" should be given, and holds the same opinions that he advanced in December. It is provided for, he says, by the treaty of 1827, and is not, therefore, a war measure. In regard to our disturbed relations with Mexico, he says that they have required the presence of two thirds of the Standing Army in Texas, and have necessarily kept other places without troops.

He desires to preserve an honorable peace with Mexico, but at the last advices the Mexican Government had refused to receive our Minister. He intended to act with promptness and decision, and yet with a desire to preserve peace towards that power.

Mr. Polk quotes the maxim "in peace prepare for war," as the best means to preserve the peace of both nations.

The Message of Mr. Polk is brief, and more general than specific in its terms, but it has produced a strong impression of impending dangers here, and will create a corresponding feeling throughout the country.

OREGON QUESTION.—The National Intelligencer of yesterday says:

Every day adds strength to the conviction which we have all along felt, that the general sentiment of the country—the sentiment, that is, of the enlightened and disinterested portion of it—is against the extreme position taken in the outset by our Executive of "the whole of Oregon or none." Besides the evidence of this furnished by the public press, the development of opinion in the two Houses of Congress from day to day bears more significant and far more important testimony to the fact, and shows not only a willingness to concede to England's rights in the territory of which we have claimed the whole, but a disposition to see the dispute about it settled by a compromise which shall adopt as a basis the 49th degree of latitude—that is, a nearly equal division of the territory. This is a consolatory conviction for all those who, while they are ready to maintain their own country's rights, are content to let other nations have theirs, and who are not willing to incur the disasters and miseries of war for a claim which is in any fair sense untenable or doubtful. We have premised thus much for the purpose of expressing our satisfaction at learning the sentiments avowed by Mr. Senator NILES in his speech on Thursday, in which he declared his desire for compromise, and his willingness to adopt the line of forty-nine. This adds another to the gentlemen of the *extreme left* who have advanced to the *centre left* on this question, or rather across to the *centre right*, and renders probable the declaration of Mr. COLQUITT that there are two-thirds, if not three-fourths, of the Senate ready to abandon the extreme ground of *fifty-four forty*, which, at the opening of the year, we should have hesitated to credit. We "LOOK THEN TO THE SENATE" with increasing confidence.

FOREIGN NEWS.—The next foreign news will probably be received by the steamship Unicorn, which has now been out eight days from Liverpool. She will bring two weeks later intelligence

THE FOREIGN NEWS.—The point of greatest interest upon which the news bp the *Hibernia* was expected to have a bearing was the reception and the results of the intelligence in London of the rejection by our Government of Mr. PAKENHAM'S proposal to arbitrate.—The knowledge of that rejection, however, did not reach England until just before the sailing of the steamer. The latest advices from London are of the evening of the third inst. The Patrick Henry, which carried out the important news, arrived at Liverpool on the day before. The intelligence brought by that ship was first known in London on the morning of the third.

We have, therefore, nothing on that ssbject by the late arrival but the first impressions which such news would be likely to make in England. Evidently, in the estimation of the British people, the question at issue between the two countries has never before worn so serious an aspect. It is not surprising that such an impression should prevail. For the terms in which the proposal to arbitrate is rejected by our Government, indicate a great deal more than the mere refusal to accept that mode of seeking an adjustment. Virtually, essentially and by every principle of construction, they denote a foregone conclusion on that part of the American Government against any partition of the Oregon territory; they do, in fact, deny the existence of any right in the British Government to any portion of that territory.

Such was the general understanding on this side of the water, and for a while the danger of war was believed to be imminent. But inasmuch as consistency is no longer predicated of the Administration; or, since it has been discovered that the meaning of official language is not to be interpreted according to the obvious import of words; or, to give another form to the pharaseology—since there have been indications that the Administration will not be sustained in its exclusive assumptions if it ever really meant to abide by them—the apprehension of a hostile issue to this Oregon business has visibly decreased. But it was natural enough that in England the rejection of arbitration, and especially the manner of it and the grounds upon which it was put, should be regarded as a determined adherence to the position announced in the President's Message—part and parcel of the fixed policy of the Administration on the Oregon question—a retreration, indeed, of our "clear and unquestionable title," and a reiteration in a way so marked and emphatic that nothing short of a physical assertion of it bs the actual occupancy of the territory could have been more marked and emphatic.

But a recollection of the fact that the first assertion of our title to the whole of Oregon had been followed by a proffer to negotiate on the basis of the forty-ninth parallel, must soon have tranquilized the public mind in England, by suggesting that there was still room for compromise and negotiation, notwithstanding the apparent exclusiveness of our pretensions.

The great victory of the British troops over the Sikhs in India will doubtless lead to the extension of the Anglo-Indian empire in the East. Annexation in that quartor is, in British estimation, right and proper; elsewhere it is rapacious robbery. The sway of British power in India is extended by force of arms; thousands of resisting natives are slaughtered; annexation is effected by the strong hand and cemented by blood. Yet all this is called glorious; the victory of the British is extolted as an achievement equalled only by that of Waterloo. On this hemisphere a kindred people is joined to us at their urgent solicitation; the junction takes place peaceably; it is the result of mutual wishes, interests, sympathies. Yet this is denounced as an unprincipled act—as an alarmieg exhibition of an aggrandixing spirit, to check which the interference of European Powers is threatened in order to preserve an equilibrium among the nations on the American continent.

The passage of Sir ROBERT PEEL'S tariff measure by the decisive majority of ninety-seven in the House of Commons affords a pretty strong assurance of its final adoption by both Houses of Parliament. It is possible, and from the intimations in the Premier's speech and the threatened scarcity in Ireland, it seems quite probable, that instead of a prospective repeal of the Corn Laws, three years hence, the repeal will be immediate. The facts briefly stated by Sir ROBERT PEEL, showing the decay of the potatoes of the last crop in Ireland, give reason to apprehend a most fearful visitation of famine in that unhappy, ill governed, and much oppressed country.

—— B. Amerc'n.

TONE OF THE BRITISH PRESS.

The news of the refusal of our Government to arbitrate the Oregon difficulty created no little sensation in England. The tone of the British press on the subject may be gathered from the following extracts, prepared to our hands in the New York Express:

The London Standard says that the President has "abated none of that rabid violence which has characterised all his official proceedings in regard to England," and adds that there can be no clearer indication of Mr. Polk's wishes and intentions than is to be found in his answer to Mr. Pakenham's offer. The Standard adds:

"But will the American Congress confirm the insolent and unwarrantable tone adopted by this braggart? We think not. If we are to form any judgment of the opinions of the American people generally, in regard to this question, from the most respectable portion of the American press, there will be no war; for nine of these journals out of ten denounce the conduct of Mr. Polk in terms of strong, and we doubt not sincere reprobation America can gain nothing by a war with this country; whilst her sacrifices, as the New York Enquirer has shown, must be enormous. If she calculates so far on the pacific disposition of England as to attempt to obtain the vantage ground by insolence and braggadocio, she will have bitter reason to repeut of her mistake."

The Standard states in very strong and exaggerated terms the surprise excited in that country at the news that arbitration had been rejected. It is taken for granted that the pilot boat Romer was chartered by the British Minister to convey the intelligence to the British Government, and the Standard remarks that "well informed nautical men would have told Mr. Pakenham that the Patrick Henry would be the first vessel to reach England."

The Liverpool Courier of the 4th inst. says:

The news by the Patrick Henry, though not decisive of war, is still very important. Two offers were made, on the part of the English government, to leave the Oregon question to the decision of arbitrators, and both have been refused by the American government, on the ground that to consent to such arbitration would be to admit that this country possessed some claims to the disputed territory. The reason is absurd; and the consequences to which the refusal may lead may be most calamitious. But the Americans will only have themselves to blame if a war does ensue, for England has done all in her power to bring matters to a satisfactory and peaceful issue.

The other news by the packet is also important.—Mexico, it seems, is determined to refuse assent to the annexation of Texas to the United States; and if attacked, she will appeal to the governments of England, France, and Spain for assistance.

The *Journal des Debats* dwells upon the evils that would result to both countries, and especially to the United States, from war between them and Great Britain. The *Debats* points out at length how our commerce would suffer, and thinks great efforts would be made by England in the South for the emancipation of slaves.

In speaking of the prospects and probable issue of a war, the London Sun says:—

The money market is rather unsettled by the hostile tone of the American accounts received to day, as even commercial interest does not seem to keep the Executive of the United States within reasonable bounds as respects its pretensions. How much more Brother Jonathan would lose by a war than we should, a few facts will abundantly show. Last year the aggregate value of the imports into the United States and Great Britain was 10,000,000 dollars, and there was a large falling off in the importation of cotton manufactures, except calicoes. Now the Yankees supply us with more products than ever, and, manifestly, will be the most severe sufferers by a war.

The London Shipping Gazette says:—

The news from the United States, which has been received this morning, is of a much less pacific character than that brought us by the late arrivals; and justifies the fears we have repeatedly expressed of the determined spirit of hostility which pervades a powerful party in the United States. It appears from these advices that the Government of the United States flatly decline to refer the Oregon question to arbitration, and insist that England possesses no claim whatever on that territory. The newspapers of the Union, entirely opposed as they are to the offensive position towards England which has been assumed by their Government, profess to regard this latest of its demonstrations with unfeigned alarm, and to regard it as an act of defiance which will put an end to all further pacific negotiations.

* * * * * *

The present aspect of affairs is any thing but satisfactory.

In connection with this subject the following important communication from the London correspondent of the Boston Atlas will be read with interest:

HALL OF COMMERCE, LONDON, Monday eve. 3rd.

I have purposely put off writing till the last moment, in order to make you fully acquainted with the extraordinary effect produced to-day in city circles by the wholly unexpected and highly important intelligence received in town this morning, by the New York liner *Patrick Henry*, which vessel arrived at Liverpool yesterday.

At the Hall of Commerce and similar large commercial rooms, where merchants, stock brokers, and the city editors usually assemble, the American news was read with utter astonishment, while the sullness of death seemed to prevail at first, as if war had actually been declared. There was no loud talking and conversation—there was no private whispering, as is generally the case on the first receipt of news, but every one sat looking over the morning papers in silent amazement.

The official correspondence between Mr. Pakenham, Mr. Buchanan and Mr. McLane, on the Oregon question, communicating the fact that the American Government refuses to arbitrate on that question has produced this extraordinary panic to-day.

Well informed parties who have spoken at all on his subject, consider that the state of affairs between, Great Britain and the United States, has never assumed so warlike an aspect before,

Time has not yet permitted a full expression of public feeling on this news.

The morning Herald has, from the first, advocated peace, and has done much to calm the public mind, at different times, when Oregon difficulties have assumed a threotening aspect; but to-day this jurnal says: "It is with regret we give publicity to the intelligence this arrival communicates, inasmuch as it is of a character which completely reverses our former hopes of a peaceable settlement of the Oregon differences. Mr. President Polk and his advisers have now rushed into extremes, and appear determined to place the whole matter in the most offensive position to England."

In yesterday's money article in the Morning Post of to day it is said that "the American question creates little present uneasiness. It may be said to have been generally dismissed from the minds of speculators, as an element of disturbance in a monetary point of view.'

This remark shows how totally unprepared commercial classes were for the alarming news received to day.

Its immediate effect upon the Consol market this afternoon will be seen from the money articles in the evening papers.

Consols for the account were quoted yesterday at 97; to-day they are down to 95 7-8, which indicates plainly the extent of the panic—but I will quote a few lines from the evening journals.

The Sun says. "the money market is rather unsettled by the hostile tone of the American accounts received to day."

The Globe says, "The accounts to the 9th ult., from the United states, received this morning, have created quote a sensation in the city, especially with the parties connected with the American trade; who seem of accord that whatever the result may be, great present injury must be done to trade."

The Standard, demi official government organ, says,—'The accounts received this morning from the United States have taken all reflecting persons by surprise. It is now considered a settled question, that the maintenance of peaceful relations between the two countries does not depend upon the sense of justice, or the wisdom and discretion of the American executive, and dreadful as the alternative of war is, it will be with the utmost difficulty that any British ministry can now escape from it with honor. Such is the universal expression of feeling this morning, under the idea that every honorable mode of conciliatory compromise has been exhausted."

"The steady reflecting portion of the American merchants resident here are not those the least astounded by the intelligence. They seem now to have no doubt, in consequence of the decided part taken by the Executive, that the motion for giving notice of the termination of the Oregon occupation treaty will be passed by Congress, and, like other persons they admit that the result must be a cessation of all diplomatic relation between the two countries—*nous verrons.*"

Communication.

[For the "Cambridge Chronicle."]

MR. EDITOR:—Will you please publish in your paper the following contributions to the cause of Missions in the M. E. Church, made within the bounds of Cambridge Circuit? Other collections may yet be made, but at present the following is all that has been received by me for the past Conference year. This on the part of many is liberal, considering the large donations some of them have made toward our excellent Church edifice in town. Yours,

J. D. ONINS, Minister.

Cambridge, March 25th 1846.

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS, &c.

Bag collection in Cambridge,	$36,70
Rev'd. Stephen Hurst,	5,00
" A. C. Thompson,	5,00
" C. Anderson,	5,00
J. D. Onins and family,	5,00
Thomas H. Hicks, Esq.,	5,00
Mrs. Henrietta Stewart,	5,00
Mr. Levin Jones of T. P.	10,00
Rev. C. Straughn,	3,00
Miss Margaret Lecompte,	3,00
Mr. Wm. L. Hearn,	5,00
" J. C. Wright	2,00
J. R. Eccleston, Esq.	2,00
Miss Margaret Anderson,	2,00
" Jane Brown,	2,00
Mrs. —— Hurley,	2,00
" A. M. Stewart,	2,00
Congregation at Airies,	6,50
Mr. S. Cornor,	2,00
" A. C. Bamberger,	1,00
" Wm. F. Pattison,	1,00
Mrs. Rozzell,	1,00
" James,	1,00
Miss Martha Robinson,	1,00
Mrs. Faraquahson,	1,00
Mrs. J. C. Wright,	1,00
Miss M. A. Huskins,	1,00
Mrs. Drain,	1,00
Mrs. Augusta Creighton,	1,00
" Martha Marshall,	1,00
" Mary Alford,	1,00
Miss Bradshaw,	1,00
Mrs. Mary Hurst,	1,00
Miss Elizabeth Sherman,	1,00
" Mary Holmes	1,00
Mrs. Carey,	1,00
Miss Sally Hurst's missionary box,	1,44
Mrs. Drain's Sunday School class,	52
Miss Kitty Carroll,	1,00
Mrs. Thomas Dale, sen'r.,	1,00
" Michael Mitchell,	1,00
" J. W. Mitchell,	1,00
" A. Applegarth,	1,00
" J. Mitchell,	1,00
" Wm. G. Lecompte,	1,00
" Peter Wheeler,	1,00
Miss Mary Trippe,	1,00
Miss Ann Trippe,	1,00
Mr. Thomas Hubbard,	1,00
" Nehemiah Beckwith,	1,00
" Elijah Hurst,	5,00
Jas. A. Stewart, Wm. Wingate, and Sam'l. D. Lecompte, Esqr's. each 166 1-3	5,00
	$148,16

BALTIMORE PRICES CURRENT.

March 26,	1846.
FLOUR—Howard Street,	4 75
City Mills,	5 00
WHEAT—Prime White,	1 06
Prime Red,	1 10
CORN—White,	64
Yellow,	65
OATS,	40
RYE,	75

WAR OR NO WAB.—The eyes of the whole world are now turned upon the two great nations of England and America. The young republic, encouraged by her success in getting Texas between her thumb and finger, now says. Texas we have got, Oregon we *will*. Californina we *must* have. This has thrown into a fever England, jealous of the prosperity of her rival, and anxious to dispose of some of her vast surplus pauper population, is assuming a very belligerent attitude. Commerce and stocks are fluctuating—peace societies tottering—merchants, politicians, brokers, stock-jobbers, and all classes both sides, are anxious for news and the result. During all this excitement about saying or gaining a few more acres of land, or dollars and cents, there is a very large class of the human family, confined within the walls of the sick chamber, much *more* anxious to know how they shall be saved from death. All the lands and money in the world would they give to be restored.—all each who are suffering with chronic diseases, asthma, liver complaint and consumption. Dr Wistar presents his proclamation of peace, *health*, prosperity and happiness. See Treatise on Consumption, with directions for using his Balsam of Wild Cherry.

For sale in Cambridge by Thos. M. Flint.

Married.

By the Rev. R. E. Kemp on Sunday the 1st inst Mr. RICHARD M THOMPSON to Miss LOUISA CLIFTON

By the same. on Thursday the 12th Inst. Mr. JOSIAH SARD to Miss LOUISA CARROLL.

By the same on Thursday the 19th Inst. Rev. ELOW J. WAY of Philadelphia Conference to Miss MARY ANN daughter of JOHN ROWINS Esqr.

By the same on Tuesday the 24th Inst. Mr. HENRY HINNAMON to Miss SARAH HURLEY. all of Dorchester county.

Died.

Departed this life suddenly wit
breast at his residence, in Caro
Inst., TILGHMAN DAVIS in the 68t
Kind angels watch his slee
Until Jesus comes to awake
Then will he arise in sweet
And in his Savours immage

CHANCFRY

BY virtue of the High Court
State of Maryland I will ex
Saturday the 25th
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and 4o'clock, the real estate of
M. Insley late of Dorchester C
Posessed, consisting of a House a
situated on Water street, and wh
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The terms of sale as prescribed
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bond to the trustee with approved
The creditors of the said Lucin
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thereof in the Chancery office wi
the day of sale.

March 28, 1846. tds.

Notic

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the undersigned.

THOMAS ES
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March 28, 1846. tf
N. B. The materials to be f

Dorchester County

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Register of W

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Given under my hand an
March 1846.

AUGUSTUS T. W
March 28, 1846. 3w

Dorchester Coun

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Cambridge Chronicle, a pape
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Register of W

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Given under my hand and
1846.

JOSIAH LA
March 28, 1846. 3w

Dorchester Cou

On application of George
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In testimony that the fore
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L.S. chester county
hereunto set m
office affixed,
in the year of our Lord, 18

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Register of W

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Given under my hand a
1846.

GEORGE AU
March 28, 1846. 3w

NEW SPRING GOO
and for sale cheap
March 21st 1846.

EARLY PEAS & GA
and genuine assortment of
ceived & for sale by
Feb 21, '46.

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