

power; secondly, because not even the federal government itself could have such a right. In calling the territory "disputed," Mr. Van Buren admits so much; for over a disputed territory the parties litigant can exercise but a joint authority, save when the jurisdiction is provisionally reserved, as it generally and rationally is to the party in possession. The proceedings of the Governor and state of Maine, commenced and conducted as they were without the authority of the national government, were clearly as piratical as the invasion of Prescott or Navy Island—and with the national authority, such proceedings, commenced and conducted without communication with the British government, must constitute an act of hostility. There is no other term—the invasion of the Aroostook territory was an act of piracy or an act of war. Mr. Van Buren confesses as much in practice, though he does not dare to characterize the affair as it deserves, for we find that he requires the Governor of Maine to withdraw his pirate expedition.

We confess that though probably the danger of war is for the present postponed, the impression produced upon us by this affair is unsatisfactory. We do not forget that at the very commencement of the Canada rebellion Mr. Van Buren disinterred this question of the Maine and New Brunswick boundary, and put it in the front of his Message to Congress as one particularly suiting the time. The apology for Fairfield's outrage upon the law of nations is altogether of a piece with the palliative terms employed by the President when speaking of former pirates, and it seems but too clear that Mr. Van Buren is not the man to avert very long that war between Great Britain and the States—the first effect of which will be to involve both nations in enormous expense; the next to break up the American Confederation—indeed, the acknowledgment of the right of Maine to make war by herself is a great step towards that; and the last and worst result, to throw back for centuries the civilization of our Republican kinsmen.

From the Morning Herald, March 20. Whilst the desire is universal throughout the United States to subvert all traces of English dominion in North America, the commercial relations which connect the southern states with England have induced in the more wealthy classes of traders a feeling of exceeding reluctance to engage in hostilities with this country. This feeling of reluctance on the part of American commercialists will, however, avail only to a very limited extent towards the prevention of war—for the commercial aristocracy of America is itself regarded as a tyranny, as a vast social nuisance, by the ultra-democratic party throughout the federal union. The conquest of the Canadas would scarcely be hailed with more joy by the loco-focos, than would the subversion of the power of the monied classes. The same process, however, bids fair to attain both objects. The Canadas can be added to the federal union only by conquest; and a war with Great Britain would consign half the monied men in the United States to bankruptcy. A successful war with Great Britain, therefore, would not only add prodigiously to the solid power of the United States, but would transfer to the ultra-democratic party, the entire management of public affairs.

If we would avoid the disgrace of expulsion from North America—if we would avert the loss of our noblest colonies, 20,000 troops must be, forthwith, dispatched to Canada, and 10 sail-of-the-line appointed to the North American station. If we should even submit to the cunning aggressions of Mr. Van Buren, and to the insolence of his confederates—if, in fact, we should tamely and basely agree to the loss of the Canadas, still we should not by such measures avert the risk of war with the United States and with Russia. No;—we should only, by such a betrayal of the national honour, change the scene of conflict. We should, ultimately, and at no distant period, be compelled to decide on the shores of Ireland, or on the shores of England herself, that quarrel, which may much more appropriately and successfully be determined on the soil of Canada. A contest with the United States is, we repeat, inevitable unless England shall forthwith make preparations for war on a scale sufficiently formidable to induce Mr. Van Buren to abandon his present policy.

From the London Standard, March 21. The government of the United States is a pure democracy—the President is nothing—the Senate nothing—the Representative Assembly of a little weight as either; the populace govern, and, as always happens under the rule of the populace, the worst class of the community exercise the functions of government. It is in these circumstances quite idle to calculate from the practice of regular governments, in ancient or modern times, upon the course which the republic is likely to pursue towards Great Britain; but it is right to be prepared for the worst. We have to deal with a state like to which nothing before ever existed. There never was a democracy in which political power was so universally diffused, or descended so low; for we must always bear in mind that in the old republics the mass of the lower orders, being slaves, were wholly excluded from political influence. It is easy indeed to predict what will be the end of the North American anarchy. South America already exhibits the chart of its fate. The union will be discovered, the northern states will separate from the southern, those east of the Alleghanies from the western states, and then exterminating and barbarian wars for centuries. This is the Euthanasia, if we may so abuse the term of North American liberty—and every reflecting man at either side of the Atlantic knows that to this fate the commonwealth is doomed, whether the British authority be perpetuated in or expelled from the American continent. Hitherto the sole bond of union among the States has been a jealousy, not to say hatred, of Great Britain. A half savage and a lawless people must have something to hate; and the most crafty of the Republican politicians have seen the advantage of turning this malevolent propensity upon Great Britain as the object upon which it could be most easily and most cheaply indulged. The policy, however, has been urged too fast and too far; for when did democratic politicians ever look 20, or even two years before them? The populace have been taught to hate the nation from which they derive their origin, and the populace are masters; the populace have, accordingly, taken the first opportunity to command a war, which, whatever its effects upon this empire, must precipitate the ruin of their own country. This war, when it shall commence—if it may not be said to have commenced already—will be distinguished from all the other wars that have afflicted mankind, as being a war of unmixt popular passion and gratuitous hatred, without the least alloy of vengeance, pride, or ambition; and it will have the result of all passionate indulgences.

The mischief to this empire will, however, be very great, and great in proportion is the guilt of those who have, as far as was within their power, invited the occasion of that mischief. We have alluded to the origin of the hostile disposition of the American Republicans, because a consideration of the influence at work ought to be borne in mind by those who are charged with the duty of preserving peace between the United States and England. Passion in the individual is rarely controlled by reason, popular passion never. The disposition of the Republicans being known, it ought to have been met in the only way in which such dispositions can be at any time restrained—by exhibiting proof of the certainty of immediate punishment upon the first step to its indulgence. Let us suppose an American President, who would naturally wish to preserve peace, in a condition to say to the people:—

"Whatever your disposition or my disposition towards Great Britain, we must not think of war at present. She has fleets that would sweep our military marine and our commerce from the seas. She has so effectually encouraged the industry of her colonies within the last 20 years, that she is wholly independent of us for a supply of cotton or of any other material necessary to her manufacturers. How, then, can we injure her? In Canada? The history of our own revolution has, however, taught us how easily a few brave men can defend a wild country against tens of thousands, and late events have shown that Canada is not without a brave population, warmly attached to Great Britain, to say nothing of the immense military force—the conquerors of Napoleon, that may be transmitted from Europe—in a present war, then we can have no prospect but immediate ruin to our agricultural southern states, and to our commerce, with signal disgrace to our arms." Would not an appeal like this operate as an effectual sedative upon even republican madness? Now, let us hear what Mr. Van Buren must say if he speak the truth, and what every Republican American will understand him to think: "We have no ground of quarrel with Great Britain; but then it must be confessed the opportunity is tempting. She has dismantled her fleets, she cannot maintain the honour of the flag in the Euxine, in the Gulf of Mexico, or the La Plata, even against the smallest squadrons of Russia or France. Her commerce would therefore afford a rich booty to privateers during a year or two of war, and we might have the good luck, as in 1812, to find one or two of her frigates at disadvantage, so as to exalt our naval glory: for a year or two, at least, we should be masters of the sea. Then, Great Britain has so neglected her colonies that a million and a half of her people would be for that some year or two thrown out of employment by the want of our cotton, and this might give her employment enough at home for her veteran troops, without sending them to Canada; so that we should have time enough to visit Quebec and Montreal. All this I concede, but Great Britain has indefatigable energy and almost inexhaustible resources; if undisturbed by European or Asiatic war, she might, and probably would, at the end of a year or two"—What sanguine Republican would listen to one word more? What sanguine Republican, animated with long-nourished hatred, and influenced by cupidity, would care for a reversion of disaster at the end of two years, more than at the end of 20 centuries? Look at the American war of 1812. On the side of the Americans that was the most absurd and impolitic war in which a nation ever engaged—they threw away by it the carrying trade of the whole world. Yet they did engage in it from pure disinterested hatred of Great Britain, aided by the thievish itch of privateering. They were punished accordingly; but how little does the remembrance of that punishment now influence them? Look to the belligerent mania pervading the states at this moment. What is the inference that we draw? That the impending American war is a war caused by economy and retrenchment, and that if we are to avoid war with the republic while she remains what she is, we can do so only by maintaining a great naval superiority, and encouraging in our own colonies the growth of cotton, and of those other raw materials of manufacture for which at present we seem to be dependent upon her. The republic is a democracy—no engagements of Presidents or legislatures will ever afford any pledge of peace. We believe Mr. Van Buren to be a prudent well disposed man. We are willing to entertain the same favorable opinion of a majority of the Senate and Legislative Assembly; but, as we have said, they really are nothing. The populace is the sovereign of the United States, and where that populace wills in concert, nothing but the fear of immediate punishment extending to itself will control the popular will.

The following, in consequence of a recent decision in the House of Lords, and the spirit of the country evinced in certain new elections, and the general result of the Registrations relates to a probable

CHANGE OF MINISTERS. The defeat of the Ministers in the House of Lords, on the 21st March, is thus spoken of in the Standard:—"In the House of Lords, the Earl of Roden moved for the appointment of a Committee, to inquire into the state of Ireland, as regards crimes, since the year 1835. The motion, which was characterized by Lord Melbourne (we quote the Morning Chronicle's report) as "an incultation, a condemnation, a pure censure, and nothing else, upon the Government," was, after a debate continued to four o'clock in the morning, carried by a majority of 63 to 58. We need scarcely, after quoting the foregoing confession of Lord Melbourne, say, carried in defiance of the most anxious preparations, and the fiercest opposition of the Ministerial party. The majority is small, but it is decisive, in consequence of the part taken in the debate by the Duke of Wellington, whose opinion has so much influence upon his brother Peers, that we are convinced would have caused that majority to be multiplied twenty or thirty fold had His Grace's sentiments upon the subject been as well known a week ago as they are now."

The Duke of Wellington supported Lord Roden's motion for enquiry, in what Lord Melbourne called "the boldest speech he ever heard delivered in that House." The Noble Duke rested his support of the motion principally, on the following grounds. First, The solemn boast of the Government, that Ireland had been tranquilized—a boast which had been contradicted by the official returns. Second, The impossibility of detecting the perpetrators of the murder of Lord Norbury, and many other murders.—Third, The (at length) confessed existence of the Ribbon Conspiracy. Lord J. Russell said he wished, before proceeding with the Committee of Supply, to postpone several orders that stood on the paper, and in moving the postponement of the committee on the Irish Municipal Corporation Bill until the 15th of April, he wished to state to the House the intentions of government. It was his intention, in the first week after the recess, on one of the first days after the house met, to ask the opinion of the House as to the government of Ireland during the last few years. [Hear.] It appeared from a minute of the proceedings in the House of Lords, that last night, or rather early this morning, that the House agreed to appoint a select committee to inquire into the state of crime and outrages in Ireland since the year 1835. [Hear.] Now, without entering into the argument as to whether that inquiry was a proper one or not, it must be obvious to all, that fixing the year 1835 as the date of inquiry into crime and outrage, there must be a general belief throughout the empire, and more especially in that part to which it referred, that it was intended the inquiry should be conducted by one branch of the legislature only and confined to one administration. There was another point of importance, too, in the proposed inquiry, and that was, it trench upon one of the highest prerogatives of the Crown, viz., the prerogative of mercy. [Hear.] He did not say that there were not arguments to justify the House of Lords in taking such a course, but they were arguments which might not, perhaps, convince the House of Commons; and this he would say, that no person could possibly be found to carry on the Government of Ireland with safety and satisfaction, unless that he was assured that he possessed the confidence of the House of Commons. It was absolutely necessary to know whether that House would sanction the principle of inquiry, limited to the year 1835, as now entertained. The Noble Lord proceeded to say that in accordance with Lord Melbourne's often-expressed declaration that he would hold office as long as he continued to possess the confidence of the House of Commons [hear, hear.] it was incumbent upon him (Lord J. Russell) to bring that question at the earliest possible moment to an issue. [Hear, hear.] He should ask the House whether they adhered to the principles on which the government of Ireland had of late been conducted. [Hear, hear.] He was perfectly aware that, as a government, the present administration had not been able to carry all those

independent of us for a supply of cotton or of any other material necessary to her manufacturers. How, then, can we injure her? In Canada? The history of our own revolution has, however, taught us how easily a few brave men can defend a wild country against tens of thousands, and late events have shown that Canada is not without a brave population, warmly attached to Great Britain, to say nothing of the immense military force—the conquerors of Napoleon, that may be transmitted from Europe—in a present war, then we can have no prospect but immediate ruin to our agricultural southern states, and to our commerce, with signal disgrace to our arms." Would not an appeal like this operate as an effectual sedative upon even republican madness? Now, let us hear what Mr. Van Buren must say if he speak the truth, and what every Republican American will understand him to think: "We have no ground of quarrel with Great Britain; but then it must be confessed the opportunity is tempting. She has dismantled her fleets, she cannot maintain the honour of the flag in the Euxine, in the Gulf of Mexico, or the La Plata, even against the smallest squadrons of Russia or France. Her commerce would therefore afford a rich booty to privateers during a year or two of war, and we might have the good luck, as in 1812, to find one or two of her frigates at disadvantage, so as to exalt our naval glory: for a year or two, at least, we should be masters of the sea. Then, Great Britain has so neglected her colonies that a million and a half of her people would be for that some year or two thrown out of employment by the want of our cotton, and this might give her employment enough at home for her veteran troops, without sending them to Canada; so that we should have time enough to visit Quebec and Montreal. All this I concede, but Great Britain has indefatigable energy and almost inexhaustible resources; if undisturbed by European or Asiatic war, she might, and probably would, at the end of a year or two"—What sanguine Republican would listen to one word more? What sanguine Republican, animated with long-nourished hatred, and influenced by cupidity, would care for a reversion of disaster at the end of two years, more than at the end of 20 centuries? Look at the American war of 1812. On the side of the Americans that was the most absurd and impolitic war in which a nation ever engaged—they threw away by it the carrying trade of the whole world. Yet they did engage in it from pure disinterested hatred of Great Britain, aided by the thievish itch of privateering. They were punished accordingly; but how little does the remembrance of that punishment now influence them? Look to the belligerent mania pervading the states at this moment. What is the inference that we draw? That the impending American war is a war caused by economy and retrenchment, and that if we are to avoid war with the republic while she remains what she is, we can do so only by maintaining a great naval superiority, and encouraging in our own colonies the growth of cotton, and of those other raw materials of manufacture for which at present we seem to be dependent upon her. The republic is a democracy—no engagements of Presidents or legislatures will ever afford any pledge of peace. We believe Mr. Van Buren to be a prudent well disposed man. We are willing to entertain the same favorable opinion of a majority of the Senate and Legislative Assembly; but, as we have said, they really are nothing. The populace is the sovereign of the United States, and where that populace wills in concert, nothing but the fear of immediate punishment extending to itself will control the popular will.

The following is from the London Morning Post, The intelligence from India confirms the worst anticipations. The army of Sir John Keane was retreating, the Sindes having assumed a decidedly hostile position. Capt. Barnes, who had been sent forward to reconnoitre, reported that the passes were all strongly fortified, and would be, as he judged, obstinately defended. The troops were suffering from want of provisions and other necessities, and it is stated that the loss of men already amounted to 3,000, although they have not as yet encountered an enemy. The directors of the East India company are extremely urgent in their demands that the European army in India shall be reinforced to a great extent, and with the utmost speed. The fortress of Aden, in Arabia, had been taken by a British expedition from Bombay, 13 British soldiers and 150 of the Arabs being killed. The prospect of an extensive war with the Burmese was becoming daily stronger.

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Since the last Election, the Conservatives in the City of Dublin have added to their numbers 511 voters, all duly registered. This will give them a majority of at least 400 over O'Connell in a new contest.

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From the St. James's Chronicle, March 21. The Belgian affair may at length be considered as settled, even by the Belgians themselves. On Tuesday last, the Chamber of Deputies at Brussels agreed to the *Projet de Loi* by which Belgium accedes to the determination of the Conference of London. In a house of 100 members the majority was 16, the numbers having been— For the measure ... .. 58 Against it ... .. 42 It was fully expected that the concurrence of the Senate would be obtained in the course of the present week. The city of Brussels continued in a tranquil state, but it remained to be seen how it would be received in the provinces. The funds had risen in consequence of this *quasi* decision of the question.

FRANCE. RESIGNATION OF THE FRENCH MINISTRY. We have received the Paris journals of Saturday and Sunday. The unfavourable tendency of the elections, which have given a majority of 20 to the coalition, has caused the ministry to resign. Marshal Saut was in consequence sent for by the King, and had a long audience of His Majesty. The result of the interview is of course unknown, but the Paris journals are filled with speculations upon it, and conjectural Cabinet lists. The *coalitionists*, in anticipation of the possession of office, are making preparations to ease their position by throwing the Belgian grievance overboard. The affairs of Belgium, they say, have been settled, though in a manner of which they highly disapprove, and the question cannot be opened again.

UPPER CANADA. HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. Mr. Speaker, reported that he had received from the Governor of the British America Fire and Life Assurance Company, in obedience to the orders of the House, a letter with a statement of the affairs of that Institution, which was as follows: Capital Stock paid in £11,502 10s. 0d. Amount of property insured £214,530 0s. 0d. Amount of losses since March 1836, promptly paid £417 18s. 9d. Reserved profits Jan. 31st, 1838, £146 10s. 10d. The Address to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, for information respecting the confiscation of the property of persons convicted of High Treason, was read the third time and passed. The Bill to prevent the felling of Trees, into the Grand River, was read the second time.

At Wellington Square, the lady of W. J. Kerr Esq. of a son. MARRIED. On the 17th inst. at Whitby, by the Rev. T. S. Kennedy, Dr. Nicol of the Township of Darlington, to Maria Alves, eldest daughter of Dr. Boyes, of the former place. DIED. At the Rectory, Richmond U. C., on the 12th April, John Middleton, only son of the Rev. R. V. Rogers, aged 18 months. List of Letters received to Friday, April 26th: Rev. R. D. Cartwright; J. Somerville Esq. [with three cases]; Lord Bishop of Montreal; R. P. Crooks Esq.; J. Kent Esq. with rem. in full vol. 2; Rev. W. Macaulay; J. W. Gamble Esq.; Rev. J. G. Geddes; Rev. T. S. Kennedy; Rev. H. J. Grasset, ad. sub.

Wednesday, 10th April, 1839.—The bill to prevent the felling of trees into the Grand River was read the third time and passed. The Address to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, thanking him for the prompt measures adopted by him during the late invasions, was read the third time. On the question for passing the Address, In amendment, Mr. Gowan, seconded by Mr. Kearnes, moves, That the Address do not now pass, but that it be amended by adding the following words—"We feel it incumbent on us, on this occasion, further to state to Your Excellency that we are fully sensible that among the duties growing out of the peculiar state of things, which has existed in this Province, during the period of Your Excellency's administration, that the disposal of the convicted Traitors and Brigands has been most painful and difficult; and we beg to assure Your Excellency, that while we express our deep obligation for the firmness with which you sanctioned the infliction of such punishments as the security of the country imperatively demanded, we are fully sensible that your whole conduct has evinced a disposition to exercise mercy, in a degree that could not have been expected even by our enemies, and to which they must themselves admit they had but slender claims."

The petition of the Magistrates of the District of Gore, in General Quarter Sessions assembled, praying for authority to levy an additional rate of one penny in the pound on all ratable property in said District for five years, to liquidate the District debt, was read. And of Thomas Markland and one hundred and thirty-eight others, of the Town of Kingston, praying for the repeal of the Act Incorporating the said Town, and that the old Police Laws may be established therein until the end of next Session, to give an opportunity of preparing a new Act of Incorporation. Mr. Solicitor General, gives notice that he will to-morrow, move for leave to bring in a Bill to determine the authority of the Heir and Devisee commissioners. Mr. Thomson gives notice, that he will on to-morrow, move that an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying him to transmit to this House, a copy of the commission under which the Government was administered in 1836. Mr. Ferrie from the Committee to draft an Address to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, for copies of any communications from Officers of Chartered Banks, reported a draft, which was received and read three times, and passed. Mr. Mathewson, seconded by Mr. Manahan, moves that an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, on the subject of the imprisonment of Messrs. Thebodo and Hope, in the Kingston Gaol, and that Messrs. Sherwood and Rykert be a Committee to draft, report and present the same.

The House was again put into a Committee of the whole on the Bill, to authorise the issuing of Bills of credit. On the question for passing the Bill, the yeas and nays were taken as follows:—Yeas 19.—Nays 18.—Majority 1. The Bill to invest the Casual and Territorial Revenue in the Legislature, was read the second time. Thursday, 11th April.—The Bill to authorise the issuing of Bills of Credit, was read the third time. On the question for passing the Bill. In amendment, Mr. Sherwood, seconded by Mr. Murney, moves that the Bill do not now pass, but that it be amended by striking out the words "two hundred and fifty" and inserting instead thereof the words "one hundred." The question of amendment was decided in the negative by a majority of two. In amendment, Mr. Sherwood, seconded by Mr. Thomson, moves that the Bill do not now pass, but that the following be added as a rider—"And be it enacted, that no portion of the Bills of Credit authorised to be issued by this Act, shall be made use of for the purpose of completing any public work, until the interest upon the sum advanced for any such public work shall be first paid." The question of amendment was carried in the affirmative by a majority of nine, and ordered accordingly. Mr. Robinson gives notice, that he will on to-morrow move Resolutions to be transmitted by the Speaker to certain influential members of the Imperial Parliament, expressing the desire of this House, that in all measures relating to this Province, which are, or may be brought before them, they will be pleased to use their best exertions that the same may be passed in a manner adapted to promote the best interests of this Province, and to perpetuate its connexion with the mother country. Mr. Murney, from the Committee to wait upon His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor with the Address of this House praying for information respecting the confiscation of the property of persons convicted of High Treason, reported delivering the same, and that His Excellency had been pleased to make thereto the following answer: Gentlemen,—I request you will inform the House of Assembly that no steps have yet been taken by the Government on the subject matter mentioned in this Address. Mr. Burwell seconded by Mr. McLean, moves, that the 31st rule of this House be dispensed with so far as relates to the amendments made by the Honorable the Legislative Council in and to the Bill entitled "An Act to enable Her Majesty to make a grant of land to James Fitzgibbon, Esq." and that the amendments be now read a second time. Which was carried, and the amendments were read a second time and concurred in.

Friday, 12th April.—Pursuant to the order of the day, the House was again put into a Committee of the whole on the report of the Select Committee, on the report of the Committee of the whole on the Clergy Reserves.—[Resolutions given last week.] The amendments made by the Honorable the Legislative Council in and to the Bill sent up from this House, entitled "An Act to establish a second Market in the Town of Hamilton—to enable the Corporation of the said Town to effect a loan—and for other purposes therein mentioned," were read the first time.

On Monday last, the Bill for the division of the Clergy Reserves, after a long debate, was negatived in the Assembly by a vote of 27 to 16; but it was subsequently re-committed. We understand that a Bill for re-investing the Clergy Reserves in the Queen and Parliament, has been introduced in the Legislative Council by the Hon. John Macaulay; which will probably pass that House. The members of the St. George's Society at Toronto, celebrated the day with the customary honours on Tuesday last. An excellent Sermon was preached by the Rev. H. Scadding on the occasion; and at the dinner in the evening, "the Church of England" was toasted with vehement applause. His Excellency the Lieut. Governor formed one of the party. The report of five men having gone over the Falls, is contradicted. The Editor of the *St. Catharines Journal* states that the information communicated to him to that effect, proves to be incorrect.

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