UNITED STATES.

House of Representatives, Jan 2.

On a bill introduced by Mr. Haralson containing provisions for raising two regiments of Riflemen, and also for increasing the infantry, artillery and dragoons, the Hon. John Quincy Adams addressed the House as follows. As much importance has been attached to his sentiments, we give them entire :—

"This measure now proposed to be referred is one, which for a variety of reasons, is as important as any question which has hitherto come, or will hereafter come before this house for discussion. It is difficut to speak on one of the bills relating to this subject without a reference to all the others. For example : this is a bill to raise two regiments of riflemen. Now I find there has been reported in another part of this building a bill providing for one regiment of mounted riflemen. The question then presents itself to me—how are these two bills to go together? and whether they ought not to be considered together? If but one regiment only of mounted riflemen is necessary to be maintained, then it does not follow that two regiments of unmounted riflemen are needed : the one bill depends in a measure upon the other. I refer to this merely as an illustration to show the variety of measures which are at the same time in contemplation of the house. I find further, in the same bill to which I have just alluded an appropriation of — dollars, for the expense of any military defences which the President may deem necessary on the line of our communication with Oregon. Now the importance of that provision depends on the sum which shall be put into the hands of the President. All I infer from this, is contemplated that other expenses (and in my opinion very heavy ones) must be considered as concurrent measures with the raising of these regiments of riflemen. This is not the only measure that will be necessary, and therefore it may be doubtful if there is any necessity for wasting the time of this house in discussing the question whether these two regiments of riflemen shall be raised, unless the necessity is made apparent for their employment.—Why, what reason is there that two regiments or one regiment shall be raised at this time? We have heretofore gone through some measures which presented a prospect of war: we have gone through them, and there has been no war. We are at profound peace with all the world. Why then increase our military establishment? It must be recollected that the spirit which prevailed in this house, two, three, or four years ago, was very different as to this matter of increasing our military force. We who were then here voted not only to prevent the increase of our military establishment, but we reduced it by very nearly one third. That was four years ago, when the prospect of war was quite as great as now and I will take this opportunity to say that *I do not believe at all* IN ANY DANGER *of war at this time.*

I do not see any testimonials of the probability of a war at this time; but if any danger is apprehended by any gentleman here, it appears to me that the very first measure to be taken—that which should precede all military measures of any kind—is to give notice to Great Britain that we mean to terminate the existing joint occupany of Oregon. That is the first measure to be taken. How can gentlemen apprehend war otherwise? Does Great Britain tell us that she shall take offence at the continuance of the treaty of joint occupancy? She does not, though I have heard of some question being made in England whether they shall not give us notice of the termination of the joint occupancy. Yet it is not a joint occupation, and I have been surprised at the language held by some gentlemen on the subject. The treaty acknowledges no occupation of the territory by either party; it is a commercial convention for free navigation but it does not admit by either party the occupation of one inch of territory by the other. It is no occupation. But, whatever it is, neither party can permanently occupy the country without notice to the other to terminate the convention of commerce and trade, which would not be permitted without such convention. It is not a treaty of joint occupation: it is a treaty for the exercise of navigation rights, commercial rights and trading rights with the Indians. It precludes the occupation of the country by either party. Exclusive occupation cannot be assumed by either without notice. Of all the measures for occupancy and for assuming jurisdiction over citizens of the United States who have gone into Oregon, and are there in actual possession, notice is the first thing. Twelve months after that notice shall have been given the right will accrue to the United States to occupy any part of the territory they may think proper.

In the bill which passed at the last session I myself moved, as a first section to the bill, that such notice should be given. The house did not think proper to agree to it, and passed the bill without any notice.

Mr. C. J. Ingersoll. No; it was put into the bill at the last moment.

Mr. Adams. But the bill did not pass the senate, so the insertion was immeterial. But this is a material fact to me, because I proposed it as constituting the first section of the bill. I declared myself ready then, and I am ready now to give such notice. [Great sensation.] I hope it will be given and that we shall do it as the first measure to be taken—to be followed afterwards by a *real occupation of the whole territory.* [Great sensation in the house and an incipient clap, which, however, was promptly arrested by the speaker, who called loudly to order.] But it is indispensible that we shall first give notice.

The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Douglass) says that it appears to him there is a game playing here—a remark which is quite incomprehensible to me. I shall not enquire to what the gentleman alluded, but I confess, I was very much surpised to hear that the Committee on Foreign Affairs will not report to the House such notice.

Mr. C. J. Ingersoll. I know of no member of that committee who has said so.

Mr. Douglass. I said so, because I had heard that such was their determination.

Mr. Adams resumed. I have heard it from various quarters; and if the report is delayed much longer, I shall believe it. [A laugh.] If it is so, I shall deplore it; I shall deeply regret if a majority of that committee shall not be ready to give that notice. All the other measures must depend on that. While we sit talking here about regiments of riflemen, and regiments of infantry, and stockade forts, and sappers and miners, and pontoniers, Great Britain is arming her steam-vessels, equipping her frigates and line-of battle ships, and sending troops over here to be ready. *I would press a resolution giving notice* THIS DAY, if I hoped that a majority of the house could be obtained to effect the measure.

Mr. Wentworth here moved that rules be suspended to allow an opportunity for such a motion; but the motion was pronounced to be out of order.

Mr. Adams resumed. I feel myself scarcely authorised to hope that I should be successful should I make the motion. But for this I would have moved it on the first day of the session. Because I have so profound a sense of the duty of adhering to treaties, I feel debarred from the least act of hostility, or even from meeting hostility manifested elsewhere, till notice shall have been given. While our convention remains, I will vote no increase of the army or navy no fort, or stockade, no riflemen, no Infantry, no sappers, or miners. All must depend on that. If this bill shall be made the special order for Tuesday, I hope it will be arranged by the gentlemen who manage the business of this house, that the question of giving notice shall come up on the same day, and shall be taken up before anything else. It is mere wasting of time and whistling to the wind to talk about raising a military force until our conscience is clear from the obligation of the convention.

And it does not follow that, if we give notice, there must of necessity be war; nor does it even follow that we shall then take possession. It will only be saying to Great Britain: After negotiating twenty years about this matter, we do not choose to negotiate any longer; we shall take possession of what is our own; and then, if to settle the question what is our own, you wish to negotiate, we will negotiate as long as you please. *We may negotiate after we take possession.* [Much laughter.] That is the military way of doing business. [Increased merriment.] When the great Frederick came to the throne of Prussia, his father had prepared and equipped for him an army of an hundred thousand men. Meeting, shortly after, the Austrian Minister, the latter said to him: "Your father has given you a great army; but our troops have seen the wolf: yours have not." "Well, well," said Frederick "I will give them an opportunity to see the wolf."—Frederick then added in his memoir: "I had some excellent old pretensions to an Austrian province which some of my ancestors had owned one or two hundred years before, and I sent an ambassador to the court of Vienna stating my claim, and presenting a full exposition of my right to the province.—The same day my ambassador was received in Vienna I entered Silesia with my army." [A laugh] So you see that, on the very day his army entered Silesia, he gave notice to the court of Vienna that the convention for the joint occupation of Silesia was ended. [Loud and prolonged laughter.]

I say, therefore, that I hope the first measure adopted by Congress will be to give in the most solemn manner, the notice to Great Britain which the treaty requires; then the coast will be clear for us to do what we please. It does not, I repeate it does not follow as a necessary consequence that, because we give this notice, we must take possession, though it is my hope that we shall. It does not necessarily draw after it a war; and if Great Britain chooses to take such notice as an act of hostility on our part, and forthwith commence hostilities on hers, we have been told that we shall all be but one party, and God Almighty grant that it may be so! If it shall be so the war will have less of those very extraordinary terrors which my friend from South Carolina (Mr. Holmes) has now just discovered, notwithstanding the extreme military propensities which he manifested on this floor last year.

The gentleman was a most valient man when Texas was in question. But I shall draw no comparison as to what we witnessed then, and what we now see; but this I will say, that I hope, if war shall come—which God forbid, and of which I entertain no fears at all—the whole country will have but one heart and one united hand. And of this I am very sure that in that case, Great Britain will not long occupy Oregon, or anything else north of the Canada line. [Great sensation and incipent indications of applause.] But if you will agree to give notice, strong as my horror of war, and of all military establishments, if there should be the breath of life in me, I hope I shall be willing to go as far as any in making any sacrifice to render that war successful and glorious. I can say no more. But, till notice is given, I am not prepared to vote any preliminary measure of a military kind. I suppose however, that we may without giving notice, extend our laws and our protection to our brethern who have settled at least in that part of Oregon which is not claimed by Great Britain; but there can be no need of increasing our army and navy in order to do that. I hope that such an act will not be offensive to Great Britain, and that she will not think of going to war about it.

But, if we are going to take actual occupation of the country, then some additional force will be needed to our army, and in that case, however unwilling I have ever been to increase our military establishment, I think I should get over my difficulties especially if a disposition should be manifested by Great Britain to take offence at the measure I have just mentioned. All our military preparation must depend on notice to Great Britain; we must not have our hands and feet bound: the obligations of joint occupancy must be dissolved, and we left free to act according as the interests of our country may require.

I believe it will not be necessary for me to refer to any other part of this subject. There have been, as I understand, two applications made to this house by fellow-citizens of ours settled beyond the Rocky Mountains, for the protection of this Government. The Chairman of the committee on Foreign Affairs (Mr. C. J. Ingersoll) presented, as I think, one memorial, while another from a different quarter is also before the Territorial Committee—possibly it is a copy of the same.

Mr. C. J. Ingersoll. No; they are different memorials from different persons.

Mr. Adams. I think it is time that this house should consider what are our duties to our countrymen there. I confess that I know them very imperfectly. I have of course seen the reports of Lieutenants Wilkes and Fremont; they contain much valuable information; but that sort of information which we now want it was not the object of those expeditions to obtain. I am in favour of protecting these persons as far as we can.

I believe I have now said all that is at present necessary. I have said perhaps more than I should, and certainly more than I intended; I am not able to go further. The most important point I wished to state is, that to give notic should be our first measure. Then let us protect our emigrating citizens, and our own frontier, by stockade forts and such an increase of our military establishment as may be necessary; but I am against all other measures unless that is done first.

Correspondence of the Boston Courier.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.

THE OREGON DISCUSSION IN CONGRESS.—The speech of Mr. Adams, upon the Oregon question, in the House of Representatives, continues to be the subject of much speculation, and there is an apprehension felt that it may have a bad influence upon the country. It is due to Mr. Adams to state that the opinions he gave utterance to on Friday are those which he has long entertained. In all private conversations he has advocated the giving of "the one year's notice," and the occupation of the whole of Oregon. It is a matter of surprise, however, with many, that Mr. Adams should be in favor of such hasty and summary action, and yet see no danger that may arise from it; and still more a matter of surprise, that while he is in favour of such extreme remedies, he will do nothing for the defences of the country. The speech of Mr. Adams created a marked sensation in the House of Representatives—and while many of the administration members from the West applauded it to the echo, it was heard with sincere regret by perhaps all of his colleagues, and by the great majority of his personal and political friends. Mr. Winthrop availed himself of the earliest opportunity to counteract the influence of the speech, by expressing his own opposition to Mr. Adams's opinions, and by declaring it to be his conviction that he did not represent any large body of the people of Massachusetts. Massachusetts he believed, was for an honorable compromise of this question, either by continued negotiation, or by arbitration. He did not believe that the world would justify the nation in the settlement of this question by other than pacific means—and least of all would it justify us if we should refuse to compromise it, after having offered the 49th degree of north latitude.

So far as I can learn, Mr. Winthrop's opinions harmonize with all his colleagues, excepting Mr. Adams. His speech, certainly, left a good impression upon the minds of those who heard it, and the floor of the House was filled with Senators and Representatives, while he spoke, and the galleries were also crowded with strangers. There is so much demagoguesm in Congress, that it is just now indulged in by many of both parties. The dominant party, representing the West, are crying out for war, or war measures, because war is popular in the West, when involved in this Oregon question. The few western Whig members, for there are but few, in self-defence join in the chorus and echo the common cry for "the whole of Oregon." Others, believing that there is no sincerity in this clamor, and regarding it as no more than a political game, join in the cry, and thus it has become general,—almost every one who speaks, however, declaring that there can be no war, and yet all such declaring themselves friendly to measures calculated to lead to it. You hear, however, occasionally, more serious opinions, and there is real danger of alarm when such men as Mr. Adams take the stand he has, for the immediate notice, and that notice to be followed up by the occupation of the whole country.—Responsible men tell you, also, that in some sections of the country, the people are ripe for war for the whole of Oregon—and where they are not, men are ready to declare that the "people must be prepared for war," and "educated for war." Sentiments like these, so unbecoming a Christian people, are much more fitting the military despotisms of Europe than a Republican government.

The debate of Saturday and Friday will alternately shock and amuse all who read it. Mr. Adams' historical reference to the manner in which the great Frederick stole the province of Silesia:—sending an ambassador to Vienna to negotiate for it, at the same moment that he sent an army to take possession of it, is condemned as an instance of much better diplomacy than political morality. The annexation of Texas affords, perhaps, the only parallel to this. We are negotiating for the Rio Grande as a boundary between us and Mexico, at the very moment we have an army upon the banks of the river. Mr. Adams supposes we may treat England in the same manner—but if such is the intention of the government, the recommendation ought not to have been quite so public. A series of blunders seems to have been acted upon this whole question. Thus, two or three years ago, England got the first idea from us, through Mr. Calhoun, that as soon as we got strong, we would take possession of the whole of Oregon. England at once became alarmed at "the wise and masterly inactivity," thus recommended, and ever since then, has become quite as anxious as we are, to give "the one year's notice," and to bring the joint occupancy to a close.

Western members, you will also observe, take up the very moral idea, that if the whole of Oregon is not ours by treaty, title and settlement, then it is ours by "*a manifest destiny*," as it is called, which over rides all these claims. There is no answering such an appeal as this. The poet tells us that

"There is a divinity, which shapes our ends,
Rough hew them how we may."

and religion tells us that there is a Providence in all things; but this word 'destiny' overrides all appeals like these, and makes it honourable to follow wherever ambition or avarice may lead us. The "manifest destiny" we possess, is only the robber destiny of superior strength, if we have it, or greater facilities of settlement, or some power incident to the adventurous enterprise of our people.

A much more reasonable and common sense sort of destiny is that pointed out by Mr. C. J. Ingersoll of Pennsylvania, who, unscrupulous and erratic as he is, occasionally gives utterance to what is both moral and sensible. He is for compromising this question with Great Britain, by propagation, as he calls it. In the seven thousand and more Americans already in Oregon, and in the men, women and children who will go there, he finds a more certain security for our interests, than in all the armaments of Great Britain, or all the defences that money could make.

The debate, which will be continued this morning and perhaps longer, will probably develope new plans of compromise and new methods of war. It is certain, however, that the debate is most premature, and nearly all profess greatly to regret that it was commenced. It is by no means certain where and how it will end. It is probable, however, that the one year's notice will be given, and that very speedily, by the House of Representatives, but the success of such a measure is by no means certain in the Senate. Mr. Calhoun's friends have a strength there which is not yet wholly developed, and it is not certain that all the Whig members will resist the giving of the notice. There will, however be no 'jumping legislation,' as it was called when the Texas bill was passed in the House, under the previous question. Moderation and deliberation will probably characterize the decisions of the senate, at least upon this subject.

The bill before the House, upon which the debate of the two days past has taken place, is simply a bill from the Committee on Military Affairs, for raising two companies of riflemen, and for giving the President a discretionary power to add ten bayonets to each company of dragoons, artillery and infantry. It would increase the army altogether about fourteen hundred men, and is brought forward as a peace measure. The army, with this increase, would be no larger than it was in 1808 and 1815, and the military committee declare that the bill was brought forward with no reference to the Oregon question.

The Oregon bill, from the Committee on Territories, has been postponded to Tuesday next, but the merits of the whole questions have been opened in the debate already commenced.

The city is full of rumors in regard to questions of some and no importance, but as a story told to-day often provos untrue to morrow, it is hardly worth while to repeat them.

WASHINGTON, January 6.

Important Report from the Committee on Foreign Affairs.—The Committee on Foreign Relations, this morning, unexpectedly to most of the members reported through their chairman, Mr. C. J. Ingersoll of Pensylvania, a joint resolution for giving the one year's notice to Great Britain, of the termination of the convention between England and the United States for the joint occupancy of the Oregon territory. The resolution was received in a manner suitable to the importance of the subject, and the rules were suspended almost unanimously. Another followed, to make it the special order of the day for the first Monday in February. So distant a day as this—though but three weeks off—created so much displeasure in the minds of the more ultra members, that they clamorously cried out against it. "Now," "To-morrow," "Next week," were heard. Mr. Ingersoll persisted in his motion, nevertheless, and thus drowned down all clamor. A motion was also made to refer the resolution to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union. This opened the whole subject to debate. The Committee, however, were not unanimous in their report.

Mr. Davis of Kentucky, as one of the Committee, made a minority report, in opposition to giving the notice to Congress, and contending that it belonged to the treaty-making power. This conclusion was sustained by a brief argument, and ended with a resolution designed to refer the whole subject to the Executive, and the Senate, as a part of the treaty-making power.

Mr. Giddings of Ohio opened the discussion, and his speech was an argument in favor of giving the notice at once, though he had voted against it at the last session of Congress. He was in favor of this notice now, in order to balance the slaves territory, which had been obtained by the acquisition of Texas. He preferred war to a balance of slave states, and would only say to gentlemen of the South, that they had made their own bed, and they might now lie upon it. He wished for Oregon, that free states might be made of it. War might, and probably would, come of the notice, unless Mr. Polk should back out of his position; and war would probably lead to the introduction of black regiments into the slave states, and these black troops would probably excite the slaves to insurrection. If such a struggle came, he would only say, Let justice be done to the slaves! Mr. Giddings was several times called to order for his speech, but the debate had been so general, and the idea having before been advanced, that he was through.

Mr. McDowell, an administration member from Ohio, also advocated the giving of the notice, and the possession of the whole of Oregon. He blamed the Executive for the compromise he had offered, and declared that he would not be justified by the country in renewing it. He was for extreme measures for securing the whole country, and cared little for the consequences which might flow from the manner or character of the claim. As a Western man, he had advocated and voted for the annexation of Texas; and, regardless of black regiments or anything else, he now called upon the South to stand by "the whole of Oregon."

Mr. Rhett of South Carolina, (a member of the Committee on Foreign Relations, and one of the peculiar friends of Mr. Calhoun) replied to the ultra members of his party. He voted against giving the notice last year, and should oppose it now, because it was impolitic to give it. The termination of the convention, or the giving of the notice to terminate it, would inevitably lead to a war; and, such a war, unprepared as we were, might prove disastrous. The power of England was never so great as it was at present, either upon this continent or the other. In a war with her, Europe would be on her side, for it would soon be understood that we were waging war not alone for territory, but upon the very system of Monarchy, which was at the basis of all European governments. We had every thing to gain by keeping the question where it was, and every thing to lose by changing it. We were gaining power daily by the continuance of the convention, and England was losing it. Wherefore, then, disturb it?

Mr. Rhett passed from the merits of this question to an unfortunate reference to John Quincy Adams. "The gentlemen from Massachusetts, now so zealous for our rights," said Mr. Rhett, "was opposed to the last war."

Mr. Adams rose, with some feeling pictured in his countenance, and asked—"Does the gentleman from South Carolina allude to me?"

Mr. Rhett. "I do."

Mr. Adams. "In 1809, I was appointed by the President of the United States as Minister to Russia, and I was appointed for my attachment to the principles of Mr. Jefferson in opposition to Great Britain. I supposed that the gentleman was not ignorant of this part of my history. The great anxiety of that gentleman to involve me in difficulty, reminds me of the romance of Don Quiotte, where the Squire of the Knight is represented as being lashed for the great love he bore his Dulcinea. For Massachusetts I have the profoundest regard; but to charge me with sustaining her measures during the war, or those who sustained them, shows a great ignorance of my position. To be charged here, too,—first, with voting against the war; and secondly, with opposing war measures, I hope may rather be imputed to the ignorance of the gentleman from South Carolina, than to any malignant intention."

Mr. Rhett left this subject, to remind Mr. Adams of his constant hostility to the South, and of his alliance this morning with the member from Ohio (Mr. Giddings) who was for defacing the South with blood that should be shed by the insurrection of her negroes. Upon this subject, he added, with another a game is playing—a game to make political capital, a game of gambling—in order to secure a President for the West, and war was to be incurred to secure this."

Mr Sims of Missouri followed in the debate, in a speech full of the war fury of the ultra members from the West, and advocating our claim to the whole territory, and opposing the least surrender of the soil. The floor was given next to Mr. Hilliard, of Alabama, who will address the House to-morrow.

The Senate adjourned after a session of ten minutes,—Senators appearing anxious to listen to the debate in the House, which, under Mr. Adam's lead on Friday last, has been made to assume the greatest importance.

Upon the whole question, indeed, more interest has been felt to-day, than ever before. The Joint Resolution to give the notice is certain to pass the House of Representatives; and I grieve to inform you, under the influence which I fear this notice is to have, that the measure will be acquiesced in, in the Senate, and that too, by Whig votes. There are Whig Senators enough to prevent this notice, if they will unite with Mr. Calhoun, who is in favor of further negotiations, and of comprising the question upon the 49th degree of north latitude. Public opinion is here misrepresented in a thousand ways, but worst of all, by men who will run the risk of incurring a war for the sake of saving a party.

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THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, JANUARY 16, 1846.

THE OREGON QUESTION.—In our last number we asserted that the Americans after all their fustian and bombast, were showing evident symptoms of "backing out." Our idea was then predicated on the pacific speech of Mr. CALHOUN, which speech, backed by the Press generally, argued that all parties were disposed rather to settle the question by negotiation than an appeal to arms. Our latest American papers however furnish us with the speech of JOHN Q. ADAMS, a speech couched in a decided and warlike tone, and that too from a man who has always been found foremost in the Whig Ranks, a strenuous advocate for peace, and a conciliatory line of conduct towards Great Britain. We must acknowledge that we were by no means prepared for such a speech, nor from such a quarter, and are equally at a loss to account for the change of sentiment in that gentleman, as to whether it rises from an abandonment of former political views, or from a "pressure from without." It is a fact no longer a secret, and to the Americans, (we mean the legitimate or Washingtonian Americans,) a melancholy fact, that, the voice of the country is no longer in the hands of the people of the country, but is usurped by a mass of foreigners the refuse of the civilized world, that have resorted to a land whose government and authorities are but passing shadows; a land where with the semblance of an Executive power, all real power is in the hands of a worthless and besotted mob. Such being the case we shall not be surprised at the most reckless, unjust, and madning position being assumed, and to them who are at all involved politically, it will be difficult, however much they may feel averse to the mass, to keep themselves from being borne along with the furious tide that is now sweeping them to a precipice. As a proof of the perfectlunacy of the nation, we quote the following words of Mr. Ingersoll—

"He repeated, whilst he had heard with delight the remarks of the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Adams), because, well known as that gentleman was both here and in Europe, his opinions would have an immense and inestimably pacific influence, no war for Oregon if it can be avoided; if not, no *peace whilst England has an inch of ground on American soil.*"

OUR Washington papers furnish us with dates to the 6th instant, from which we find that the Committee on Foreign Relations have reported in favor of notifying England of a termination of the joint occupancy of Oregon territory. We have in this impression given a summary of the speeches on the subject, and to which we would direct the attention of our readers.—The hostile position assumed by America we think must call for more than a passing notice from England, and much as we deprecate the idea of war, especially between two nations claiming one common origin, yet England stands, and always has stood on too proud an eminence to permit herself either to be menaced, or even dictated to, by a nation as yet scarcely half fledged.

We quote from the New York Albion, 10th inst:—Mr. Ingersoll then moved, which he was directed to do by the Committee of Foreign Relations, that the resolution be taken up for consideration on the first Monday in February. On this motion a very interesting debate arose and continued throughout the day when an adjournment took place. In the course of this day's debate a very remarkable speech was made by Mr. Geddings, of Ohio, in which he announced his change of opinion. On a former occasioned, he said, he had been opposed to giving the notice to Great Britain, but since then, the Union had been changed in its essential elements [by the admission of Texas] and a slave holding oligarchy now holds the entire direction of the government.—The southern portion of the Union, he averred, now holds the balance of power in the United States.—Under these circumstances, he continued:—

"I am led to the conclusion, to the irresistible conclusion, that war, with all its horrors and devastation of public morals, is infinitely preferable to a supine inactive submission to the slave holding power, that is to controul this nation, if left in its present situation. I wish to be distinctly understood that I have seen enough of war to form an opinion of its effects, its miseries, and the extent of its curse. Yet sir, *I greatly prefer them*, for a few years, to the quiet apathy which has already subjected us to a change of the Government formed by our fathers."

"Let no one say that I desire a slave insurrection: but, sir, I doubt not that hundreds of thousands of honest and patriotic hearts will 'laugh at your calamity and mock when your fear cometh.' No, sir; should a servile insurrection take place—should massacre and blood mark the footsteps of those who have for ages been oppressed, my prayer to God shall be that *justice—stern, unyielding, and unalterable justice, may be awarded to the master and to the slave.*"

Other parts of his speech were even more emphatic and startling. Mr. Geddings is one of the party called Abolitionists, who sees in the admission of Texas into the Union, an additional permanency given to the slave system of this country; and he considers this so great an evil that he prefers war to the continuance of peace—as war would break up this slave system or neutralize it, either by a slave insurrection promoted by British invasion, or by the conquest and annoxation to the Northern portion of the Union of some of the British Provinces. Such is the purport of his speech as we understand it. In addition to this, it is affirmed by a portion of the press, that the moving cause of Mr. Adams's warlike oration was this same Abolition sentiment, and that he and Mr. Geddings acted with a perfect understanding of each other's views. We know not how far this may be true, but if the supposition be well founded, it follows that the war party has received an accession of strength by the adhesion of the Anti-Slavery portion of the country. Under such circumstances it is difficult to say how matters will terminate.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—On Friday evening last M. H. Perley, Esq. gave his second and last Lecture on Oregon before a crowded house, who were much gratified at the masterly manner in which the learned gentleman brought the subject before them.

On Monday the public were *enlightened* by a very *lucid* lecture on "the Colonial Empire," by Mr. Watts, of Fredericton. During the lecture of this gentleman he observed with *much wisdom* that England had been guilty of an injustice toward the Mauritius and some other of the Colonies, in so long withholding from them a Representative body, &c. The lecturer here infringed one of the best rules of the Institute, by introducing politics in its hall, as well as shewing himself a disaffected, and rather, we should say, an unsound member of the community. Mr. Watts' dictation to England, while it proved the man to be over-gifted with the organ of self esteem, proved also a great deficiency in another organ of his cranium, viz: the organ of Reverence, as well as a lack of magnitude in the intellectual department. If Mr. W. thinks to amuse or edify the people of this City with his disapprobation of the British Government, we can distinctly inform him that he has made an egregious blunder in his calculation.

SCHOOL EXAMINATION.—The half yearly examination of Mr. Chamberlain's School was held on Tuesday and Wednesday last, when the Revd. Mr. Stavely and Mr. George N. Smith were present and took an active interest in the proceedings.—The first class in Geography underwent a long and strict examination in general terms, and in reference to the Maps; throughout which the answers were equally creditable to the pupils and to their teacher. A silver medal awarded to Master D. Raymond as head of this class; Master J. Youngbusband being 2nd, and Miss A. Smith 3d. Second class—Misses H. Jones, P. Lynam, and S. A. Porter. Third class, Masters C. Handford, A. Chamberlain, and J. Beck.

The Students of Mensuration shewed much ability in the numerous exercises they went through and gave admirable responses to many searching questions put to them.—Master T. O'Brien proved himself the first scholar in this department.

In Grammar, the first class, by prompt and correct answering, evinced great progress in this indispensable branch of education, and a silver medal was awarded to Miss Alethea T. Smith, as the best grammarian; 2nd. Master F. H. Prink, 3d, Master J. Chamberlain. Second class, Miss H. Jones, Master H. Scovil, Miss P. Lynam. Third class, Master A. Chamberlain, C. Handford, and J. D. Mackintyre. Fourth Class, Master G. Hudson, G. Jones, and C. Turnbull. Master O'Brien and Miss Mary Watts excelled in penmanship.

We understand that the Examinators expressed their approbation of the inductive and analytical methods adopted by Mr. Chamberlain in teaching both Arimetic and Grammer; by which means the children get a knowledge of what they learn, and are able to answer questions by reason and reflection, proving that they are not answering merely by memory without comprehension of the sense.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, arrived in this City on Saturday last, and took lodgings at the Saint John Hotel. Rumours ascribes this visit of his Excellency to the purpose of forming a Council previous to the meeting of the House of Assembly, and how far he has been successful we are not informed. Sir Wm. left yesterday morning for Fredericton.

NOVA SCOTIA.—The Legislature of Nova Scotia was opened by his Excellency Lord Falkland, on Saturday last. The topics adverted to in his Excellency's Speech on the failure of the potatoe crop and the necessity of devising means to alleviate consequent distress; the great Railroad to Quebec; protection of the Fisheries; and instructions from Her Majesty's Government relative to the relinquishment of the Casual and Territorial Revenues in exchange for an established Civil List.

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*We have much pleasure in publishing the following Addresses to His Honor Judge Street, at his first presiding on the Bench of the Supreme Court in this City:

To His Honor GEORGE F. STREET, *Esquire, one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Supreme Court in the Province of New Brunswick.*

We the undersigned Magistrates for the City and County of Saint John, respectfully offer our sincere congratulations upon your Honor's elevation to a seat on the Bench of the Supreme Court of this Province; and we avail ourselves of this your Honor's first occasion in presiding as Judge of the Circuit Court in this City and County, to express the high sense we entertain of the talent, legal acquirements and honorable principles which your Honor's experience will happily bring to the important trust of aiding in the Civil Jurisprudence of this Province. It has at all times been a matter of gratifying consideration, to know that the Administration of Justice has been conducted by Gentlemen who were eminently qualified by great legal acquirements, sound judgement, and unsullied integrity; and it is not less gratifying in the present instance;—and we feel proud that Her Majesty has been pleased to confer this favour upon a Gentleman born and brought up in this Province, and who for so many years has discharged with integrity, equally creditable to himself and advantageous to the Country, various and highly important Offices of trust under the Government; thereby affording the most gratifying assurance of the faithful administration of Justice in the important situation to which your Honor is now elevated.

With our best wishes for your Honor's long continued health and happiness, we have the pleasure to subscribe ourselves.

Your Honor's most Obt. Servants.

(Signed)	
W. B. Kinnear, Recorder,	William Scovil.
James Peters.	Charles Simonds.
Hugh Johnston,	Noah Disbrow,
B. L. Peters,	Charles Ward.
William Leavitt,	L. H. DeVeber,
Jacob Allan,	John Wishart,
James Moran,	James Gallagher,
Robert Payne,	Walker Tisdale
W. H. Street,	John Kerr.
James Kirk,	

MR. RECORDER AND GENTLEMEN.—

I sincerely thank you for this gratifying and complimentary Address of congratulation upon my promotion to the Bench of the Supreme Court of this Province, springing, as I am sure it does from the kindly personal feelings I have always experienced from you.

I can assure you it is a matter of deep satisfaction to me to find that my public conduct, in the different Offices I have heretofore filled, has been so highly approved of and appreciated by so respectable and influential a Body, as those Magistrates of the City and County of St. John, who have kindly presented me with this flattering expression of their feeling.

I most cordially participate in the sentiments you express of the advantages this Province has heretofore derived, from having had the administration of Justice conducted by gentlemen so eminently qualified in legal acquirements, sound judgment, and unblemished integrity, as those with whom I am now associated together with the highly respected and esteemed individual whose advanced age and unusal long period of service have induced him voluntarily to retire at a great personal sacrifice to himself,—and it shall be my first object in future, to extend all the best energies of my mind to prevent the public sustaining any serious loss, by my accession to the Bench in lieu of him—trusting as I do to receive from you and all other Magistrates in the Province such aid and assistance as your Official situations may from time to time call on you to afford, in maintaining the supremacy of the laws and preserving good order in the different communities to which you and they belong.

In conclusion, allow me also to return to you my best thanks for the good wishes you have expressed for my continued health and happiness, and in the hope that we may meet here as often as my Judicial duties may call me to this place, with the same mutual good feeling now expressed.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient servant,
GEO. FRED. STREET.

ADDRESS TO JUDGE STREET.

The Grand Jury met Yesterday morning in the Court Room at half past 9 o'clock, and presented the following Address to his Honour Judge Street.

To His Honour Mr. Justice STREET.

May it please Your Honour—

We the Grand Jury for the City and County of Saint John, congratulate Your Honour upon your elevation to the Bench of the Supreme Court of Judicature for this Province.

While we deeply regret that bodily infirmity should have caused the resignation of your Honour's venerable predecessor, Mr. Justice Botsford, (for whom we all entertain the highest respect; and whose long and faithful services we trust will not be allowed to remain unrequited) we are much gratified that our gracious Sovereign should have selected in the person of your Honour, to fill the vacancy thus created, a gentleman from the Bar of New Brunswick, whose professional talents and attainments, honourable feelings, and independent conduct,—long known and highly esteemed in this community,—give us an earnest that your Judicial career will be alike creditable to your Honour and to the Bench of this Province, and will tend more and more to strengthen our attachment to our Sovereign, and to the Laws and Constitution of our Country.

That your Honour may long be permitted in this life so to dispense justice tempered with mercy as finally yourself to receive from the Great Judge of the Universe that sentence which will convey with it life everlasting, is our sincere wish.

(On behalf of the Jurors.)
EDWARD L. JARVIS,
Foreman.

St. John, N. B., 15th January, 1846.

To this Address his Honour made a very feeling and excellent reply, extemporaneously; which was listened to by the gentlemen of the Jury with great attention.

MILITARY MOVEMENTS.—We are informed that the 77th Regiment are expected here from Jamaica in the course of the next month.—*Halifax Recorder.*

THE CIRCUIT COURT for this city and county commenced its sittings on Tuesday last, His Honor Mr. Justice Street presiding. This being the first term at which Mr. Street presides since his appointment to the Bench of New Brunswick, the Members of the Bar resident in St. John met His Honor in a body at the Saint John Hotel, and by the Hon. W. B. Kinnear, as the senior member, expressed their high satisfaction at the elevation of His Honor to the Bench, to which His Honor made an admirable reply; the Bar then escorted him to the Court House. On taking his seat, his Honor addressed the Grand Jury at considerable length—explaining their duties, and referring to the present state of society in this community, the means at the disposal of the authorities for suppressing crime and urged the necessity of a better organized system for the protection of life and property. His Honor referred to several cases of assault, and observed that it was better to prevent crime, by adopting energetic precautionary measures, than afterwards to be compelled to punish its authors by the severity of the law, and remarked on the tendency such a course would have on public morals and general security. The address was characterised by sound legal knowledge, and was delivered in a very clear and energetic manner.—*New Brunswicker.*

ONE DAY LATER FROM ENGLAND.

English dates one day later have been received in town by the barque Corsair, which left Liverpool on the 5th Dec. We have Liverpool papers by her to that date. The most important item which a day has brought forth, is the announcement in the London Times of the 4th, that her Majesty's Government have resolved upon a repeal of the Corn Laws—"that by the end of January next, at the latest, the produce of all countries will enter the British markets on an absolute equality with our own."—"The decision of the Cabinet," says the Times, "is no longer a secret. Parliament, it is confidently reported, is to be summoned for the first week in January; and the Royal Speech will, it is added, recommend an immediate consideration of the corn laws, preparatory to their total repeal. Sir Robert Peel in one house, and the Duke of Wellington in the other, will, we are told, be prepared to give immediate effect to the recommendation thus conveyed." There is a drawback, however, to this intelligence. The *Standard* more the organ of the Government than the *Times*, questions its authenticity, and attributes the Times statement to a guess—founded upon the loosest helps to conjecture. The Standard says "We do not dispute that the Times has many such helps; its influence over inferior clerks and door porters in the public offices is, we are aware, very considerable; nay, we have a notion that it possesses the ear of *one* private Secretary though we believe *but one*. In this way the Times may worm out probabilities. For example a clerk reports at Printing house square (of course for a consideration) that certain papers not usually required until February are ordered to be ready in January. The inference is reasonably enough drawn that Parliament is to meet in January, and then it is added that these papers concern, *inter alia*, the corn returns." We incline to believe that the Times statement, however obtained is not made without good foundation. But the next arrival will probably determine.—*Halifax Times.*

UNITED STATES ARMY.—Major General Scott commanding the United States Army, in his Report to Congress, recommends the augmentation of the Army, by additions to those corps of Artillery, Infantry, Dragoons, and Rifle regiments already formed, to the extent of 7883 additional men. He also recommends the instruction of 100 enlisted men in the art of sapping and mining, for the purpose of attack and defence of fortified places.

Oysters from the Gulf of St. Lawrence for Western New York and the Western States.—Oysters from the Gulf of St. Lawrence have appeared in this market for years, in the fall. But they have always been offered in so salt a state that the consumer would imagine in eating them, that he was only taking a part of Lot's wife, a portion of the pillar of salt.—Hence, New York, Prince's Bay and Christain River oysters, together with the Delaware, have had a preference in this market.—The case is different this season. The oysters here are equal to those from the United States. I'll give you the reasons.

A company has been formed in New Haven, Ct., with a capital of $40,000 for the oyster business on the St. Lawrence. An agent appeared here early in the season, and has been busily engaged with five vessels for transplanting oysters from Gaspee, 700 miles here, to a spot near Quebec.

At Quebec the tide rises and falls 19 feet, enough to give the shell fish a native taste of salt. They have now transplanted, as I am informed, 200,000 bushels. Next season, up to fall, they calculate on 1,000,000 bushels. The natural growth, they say, will be equal to the original deposit each year.—Next fall they will begin to open and despatch them