

PERFECT COPY

We like the spirit of independence which has characterized the opening proceedings of this memorable Twenty-ninth Congress. The debate of Wednesday following as it did, upon the Message of Tuesday, and so early, unlike the brilliant and varied discussions ever heard in the House of Representatives. We are encouraged by it to hope that no Executive will hereafter attempt to dictate to Congress the latitude of debate consistent with his notions of propriety, or if the rebuke was meant for the People and the Press, we think that the Representatives of the People, to whom this speech from the throne was addressed, have timely and fittingly spoken in their behalf. Mr. Polk will find his attempts to frighten Congress or the Press into silence, as abortive as other attempts he has made to win success for his party and his measures, by circulating declarations of his own ability and other people's weakness. A man, proving himself so good a patriot, and so wise a man, as Mr. Polk pretends to be, will ever, like Mr. Polk, be found either leading his opponents or praising himself. The justice of his measures will vindicate the purity of his motives. It is certain that Mr. Polk's own friends in Congress have not, at the present season, shown any remarkable attachment to his person or his inalterable policies.

...the pay and the... receive eight dollars for every twenty miles of travel, ought to be willing to allow something more than fifty cents for the same distance. The monthly pay is also less than it should be, and the clothing and subsistence provided in a manner, not at an expense which makes the Volunteer service more onerous than the service in the regular army.

...Washington, Dec. 26. It has been determined by the administration to propose to Congress to raise ten thousand troops to be enlisted for the whole term of the war with Mexico—all the officers to be appointed by the Executive, and the troops to be subject to the orders of war. There are to be three additional Brigadier Generals, and also a Major General.

...There is now no doubt that there will be a proposition to create the office of Lieutenant General of the army, and that Mr. Bowen will be nominated for the office. It is supposed that the bill, though resisted, will pass, and there is no doubt that Mr. Bowen's nomination will be confirmed.

...The next day, Monday, Mr. Barrow, of the Senate, called up Mr. Bailey with a peremptory demand that Mr. Bailey should meet him in Baltimore the next day. Mr. Bailey assented, and Mr. Seldon, of Virginia, was his second.

...WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. Mr. Davis and Mr. Barrow had not returned to the city this morning, but I presume they will return to-night, for Mr. Seldon, as the friend of Mr. Bailey, had sent a message to Mr. Barrow to inform him that Mr. Bailey had been put under bonds to keep the peace for twelve months.

...The impression that the Mexican Congress will not be disposed to accept any proposition of peace, and if Atamora should be elected President, as is now thought possible, our government is making the most active preparations for the prosecution of the war, and it is well ascertained that a very large majority of our Houses of Congress are in favor of giving the Executive the most ample means for carrying on the war to a speedy conclusion.

...The question of the admission of slavery into any territory to be permanently acquired by the United States, is not, as it is passed in such a way, as to embarrass any of the measures for carrying on the war, such as the land bill and the bill for increasing the army. It may and probably will be passed when the bill appropriating millions for contingent expenses comes up. One of the leaders of the democratic anti-slavery war men made an estimate of the probable vote of the House on this question, and the result, as he threw much doubt upon the issue of Wilmore's amendment. At the late session, after that amendment had been adopted by the House, it was thought that, if the Senate rejected the bill, the House would re-adopt it.

...WASHINGTON, Dec. 25. The friends of Senator Barrow, of Louisiana, were shocked to hear that he is seriously ill in Baltimore. He went up to Baltimore on Thursday night, to meet Mr. Gerrit Davis, and prepare, as his friend, for the hostile meeting arranged between Mr. Davis and Mr. Bailey, of Virginia. On Saturday, it appears, Mr. Barrow was taken ill with bilious colic. He has been hourly becoming worse. At 11 o'clock, this morning, the case was apparently desperate. It is much hoped by all that the case will be less serious than has been supposed.

...Col. Baker, of Illinois, is the lion of the city. He is followed by curious crowds of friends, who want to know what he thinks of the war and its prospects. He has got over his wounded leg that he received in the row among the volunteers—what is to be done next, &c. Col. Baker came here from the seat of war on a military mission, not for political purposes. He has been laboring to obtain some assistance for the volunteers, who, as he represents, are suffering from many privations. They are in want of clothing, and they were much embarrassed by being obliged to pay very high prices for every thing they bought on the Rio Grande. There are large stores of clothing in the possession of the government, but the volunteers have no way to obtain any. They have slept and fought in the same clothes ever since they entered the service. They want encouragement. They want reinforcements. They are paying for discipline, and ready to shed their blood like water to conquer an honorable peace.

...Mr. Baker resumed his seat in the House this morning, but previously tendered his resignation to take effect on the 15th of January. It was generally understood that the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole would give him the floor to-day. A crowd was accordingly collected in the galleries. Col. Baker's speech contained the "intention of the House." He did not fail to impart much of his own enthusiasm to the whole House.

...WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. Mr. Davis and Mr. Barrow had not returned to the city this morning, but I presume they will return to-night, for Mr. Seldon, as the friend of Mr. Bailey, had sent a message to Mr. Barrow to inform him that Mr. Bailey had been put under bonds to keep the peace for twelve months.

...The Press, and the Postmaster General. The Postmaster-General, in his Annual Report just submitted to Congress, records the fact that postage on newspapers has increased this matter in a liberal and enlightened spirit. He has increased the postage on newspapers from one cent per week to two cents per week. There are some who complain that the circulation of newspapers is thereby diminished, and that the circulation of the press is thereby diminished. It is, however, a fact that the circulation of newspapers has increased since the increase of postage. The Post-Office Department should be made available to the wants, the interests, and the intelligence of the people. We are among those who believe it to be quite as important a feature in our national affairs, in many respects, as the Army or Navy Department.

...WASHINGTON, Dec. 25. The friends of Senator Barrow, of Louisiana, were shocked to hear that he is seriously ill in Baltimore. He went up to Baltimore on Thursday night, to meet Mr. Gerrit Davis, and prepare, as his friend, for the hostile meeting arranged between Mr. Davis and Mr. Bailey, of Virginia. On Saturday, it appears, Mr. Barrow was taken ill with bilious colic. He has been hourly becoming worse. At 11 o'clock, this morning, the case was apparently desperate. It is much hoped by all that the case will be less serious than has been supposed.

...Col. Baker, of Illinois, is the lion of the city. He is followed by curious crowds of friends, who want to know what he thinks of the war and its prospects. He has got over his wounded leg that he received in the row among the volunteers—what is to be done next, &c. Col. Baker came here from the seat of war on a military mission, not for political purposes. He has been laboring to obtain some assistance for the volunteers, who, as he represents, are suffering from many privations. They are in want of clothing, and they were much embarrassed by being obliged to pay very high prices for every thing they bought on the Rio Grande. There are large stores of clothing in the possession of the government, but the volunteers have no way to obtain any. They have slept and fought in the same clothes ever since they entered the service. They want encouragement. They want reinforcements. They are paying for discipline, and ready to shed their blood like water to conquer an honorable peace.

...Mr. Baker resumed his seat in the House this morning, but previously tendered his resignation to take effect on the 15th of January. It was generally understood that the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole would give him the floor to-day. A crowd was accordingly collected in the galleries. Col. Baker's speech contained the "intention of the House." He did not fail to impart much of his own enthusiasm to the whole House.

...WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. Mr. Davis and Mr. Barrow had not returned to the city this morning, but I presume they will return to-night, for Mr. Seldon, as the friend of Mr. Bailey, had sent a message to Mr. Barrow to inform him that Mr. Bailey had been put under bonds to keep the peace for twelve months.

...WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. Mr. Davis and Mr. Barrow had not returned to the city this morning, but I presume they will return to-night, for Mr. Seldon, as the friend of Mr. Bailey, had sent a message to Mr. Barrow to inform him that Mr. Bailey had been put under bonds to keep the peace for twelve months.

...The Press, and the Postmaster General. The Postmaster-General, in his Annual Report just submitted to Congress, records the fact that postage on newspapers has increased this matter in a liberal and enlightened spirit. He has increased the postage on newspapers from one cent per week to two cents per week. There are some who complain that the circulation of newspapers is thereby diminished, and that the circulation of the press is thereby diminished. It is, however, a fact that the circulation of newspapers has increased since the increase of postage. The Post-Office Department should be made available to the wants, the interests, and the intelligence of the people. We are among those who believe it to be quite as important a feature in our national affairs, in many respects, as the Army or Navy Department.

...WASHINGTON, Dec. 25. The friends of Senator Barrow, of Louisiana, were shocked to hear that he is seriously ill in Baltimore. He went up to Baltimore on Thursday night, to meet Mr. Gerrit Davis, and prepare, as his friend, for the hostile meeting arranged between Mr. Davis and Mr. Bailey, of Virginia. On Saturday, it appears, Mr. Barrow was taken ill with bilious colic. He has been hourly becoming worse. At 11 o'clock, this morning, the case was apparently desperate. It is much hoped by all that the case will be less serious than has been supposed.

...Col. Baker, of Illinois, is the lion of the city. He is followed by curious crowds of friends, who want to know what he thinks of the war and its prospects. He has got over his wounded leg that he received in the row among the volunteers—what is to be done next, &c. Col. Baker came here from the seat of war on a military mission, not for political purposes. He has been laboring to obtain some assistance for the volunteers, who, as he represents, are suffering from many privations. They are in want of clothing, and they were much embarrassed by being obliged to pay very high prices for every thing they bought on the Rio Grande. There are large stores of clothing in the possession of the government, but the volunteers have no way to obtain any. They have slept and fought in the same clothes ever since they entered the service. They want encouragement. They want reinforcements. They are paying for discipline, and ready to shed their blood like water to conquer an honorable peace.

...Mr. Baker resumed his seat in the House this morning, but previously tendered his resignation to take effect on the 15th of January. It was generally understood that the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole would give him the floor to-day. A crowd was accordingly collected in the galleries. Col. Baker's speech contained the "intention of the House." He did not fail to impart much of his own enthusiasm to the whole House.

...WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. Mr. Davis and Mr. Barrow had not returned to the city this morning, but I presume they will return to-night, for Mr. Seldon, as the friend of Mr. Bailey, had sent a message to Mr. Barrow to inform him that Mr. Bailey had been put under bonds to keep the peace for twelve months.

...WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. Mr. Davis and Mr. Barrow had not returned to the city this morning, but I presume they will return to-night, for Mr. Seldon, as the friend of Mr. Bailey, had sent a message to Mr. Barrow to inform him that Mr. Bailey had been put under bonds to keep the peace for twelve months.

...The bill introduced into Congress in relation to the Army, provides that the increased pay of two dollars a month shall be in place from the month of May last—so that all persons volunteering for the month and no shall have seen three months of service in the field, shall receive the extra pay of two dollars. Those rendering the same service and term of service are also allowed 16 acres of land belonging to the United States which shall have been subject to entry for two years or more previous to the date of their warrant. The warrant is granted to all who render the service. The widow or if no widow, wife or children of those killed in battle or dying in the service, are also entitled to the land. The land warrants are to be located within two years from their date in order to be valid.

...ILLINOIS. The Legislature of this State met on the 7th ult., and received on the next day the last message of Gov. Ford. On the 9th Governor French was duly installed into office, and delivered his inaugural address. He favors voluntary banking as a measure. It was generally supposed that some measures would be taken to expedite the winding up of the State Bank.

...A COACH UNDER SAIL. The New Orleans Bulletin gives the following description of a novel mode of use on Galveston beach, and in Texas, namely, a coach propelled by wind. The vehicle is constructed with four wheels, the front ones being much wider apart than those behind, and on them rests a body like that of an omnibus. In front is a mast on which the main sail is placed, and where the tongue of an ordinary carriage is, is a bowsprit for a job. It is steered by an apparatus which directs the hind wheel. The coach on Galveston Island is as low as a floor, and built almost as stone, so when there is a fair wind the carriage runs at rail road speed.

...BELL OF THE "ATLANTIC." It is a singular and affecting circumstance, confirmed by the latest visit to the shore of Fisher's Island, (the scene of the late disastrous wreck of the steam Atlantic,) that the Bell of the steam still tolls over the scene of desolation. That part of the wreck to which it is attached, happened to lodge in such a position that the Bell was supported out of water, and at the motion of every strike twice; and so night and day on its doleful notes.

...A very fatal disease, more like cholera than any thing else, is in Pendleton and adjoining counties in Georgia. It attacks children mostly. A number have died.

...A Mexican Priest has been seized and imprisoned by Gen. Taylor, for encouraging our troops to desert. He was sent on an escort to Matamoros, but escaped his escort. It is said he was a robber from Texas, where he was a robber and murderer.

HIGHLAND MESSENGER. SHERBOURNE, N. C. Thursday, January 7, 1847.

...ANOTHER FAILURE. At a Regimental muster held on Saturday last, a few miles from this place, an effort was made to form a volunteer company. But like the previous efforts, it ended in failure—only fifteen being found to go under the new arrangement. We regret exceedingly that our county failed to furnish a company, after having reported several under the first call. We are as yet, so far as we are informed, but two companies organized—Rowan company and one from Edgecombe.

...We have them care and honor. In the poorest of our citizens may take a newspaper of some kind. Not to subscribe to one, argues ignorance, meanness and poverty, of a truly frightful character. The genius of our Institutions requires that knowledge should be cheap, and that it should be available in every available form. Even our children are taught to pore over the news of the day, to read important public documents, to become acquainted with the progress of events, and thus fitted as they grow up, to vote understandingly, and to take part in public affairs. Hence our Government should take the lead in affording every possible facility to aid in the circulation of the press. They should extend rather than clip the wings of popular knowledge. The Post-Office Department should be made available to the wants, the interests, and the intelligence of the people. We are among those who believe it to be quite as important a feature in our national affairs, in many respects, as the Army or Navy Department.

...A GALLANT ACT. A Mexican Brig burnt under the Guns of San Juan de Ulloa. Extract of a letter dated "OUR TAMPECO, Nov. 30, 1846." "I record with pleasure a feat of no little daring. Lieut. James L. Parker and Passed Midshipmen Hynson and Rogers, attached to the brig "Somers," recently conceived the idea of entering the harbor of Vera Cruz, and directly under the guns of the famous castle of San Juan de Ulloa, burning a vessel which lay at anchor, or was moored to massive rings in the walls of the above fortress. Having made due preparation, they proceeded at night to carry their plan out, and actually got on board, took the crew of the vessel, some seven or eight in number, as prisoners, set her on fire in different places, and then returned to the Somers in safety. This was certainly a daring and gallant feat, and reflects the highest credit upon the chivalrous officers and men concerned in it!

...THE BURNING OF THE CREOLE. A correspondent of the N. O. Picayune, giving an account of the burning of the Mexican schooner "Creole" immediately under the walls of the Castle, says that on hearing the schooner, "our boat from the Somers was discovered by the Mexican crew, and the alarm was given by halting the castle. The bells of the castle were rung and the lights of the town displayed. This did not, however, deter our brave fellows from boarding the schooner and setting her on fire. Seven Mexicans were found on board, and forced into our boat as prisoners, and landed at Sacrificos. In setting fire to the schooner, the first attempt failed—the light was then accidentally extinguished—every thing looked ominous of failure. The use of fire arms would have provoked the fire of the castle. One of the Mexicans was forced to find fire, with a pistol at his head. It was a single coil, and it was on the point of going out. To save the last chance, Mr. Hynson then poured powder from his hand upon the coal, and succeeded. He was, however, considerably burned. After going into the boat, in order to make sure, the officers returned to make a second fire in the hold, and having no other means of carrying the fire they tore up their shirt tails, which burned remarkably well."

...COLUMBIA, DEC. 30. Accident on the Rail Road.—We learn that a fireman named Ausley met with an accident on Sunday last which has deprived him of a leg. He was on the engine, and in looking back to see whether the train was all following in his train, and the cars passed over one of his legs, shattering it dreadfully.

...New Jersey is likely to be called upon for a regiment of volunteers.