

Dedicated to Politics, News, Agriculture, Internal Improvements, Commerce, the Arts and Sciences, Morality, and the Family Circle.

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BLANKS.
The following Court and miscellaneous BLANKS are kept on hand for sale at the lowest price. Can be sent by mail to any part of the country, at small expense.

THE RIGHT SPIRIT.
The following able and patriotic letter was addressed to the Whig Convention held in Richmond, Virginia, on the 10th inst. It breathes the right spirit, and every Whig and American in the country should drink deep of the noble feelings visible in every line, and not give rest to his efforts until the disorganizers and sectional agitators are driven from the high places which they now so unworthily hold.

GENERAL GREENE.
We observe that a proposition has been made to Congress by George Washington Greene, the son of Gen. Nathaniel Greene, to purchase the papers of his father, connected with the war of the Revolution in the South. They are very treasured, embracing among other documents of great interest, not less than two thousand original letters of the General himself.

THE NEXT PRESIDENCY.
The names of several Southern Opposition gentlemen have been frequently mentioned of late, in connection with the nomination for the next Presidency.

A MIRACLE!
The French Presse tells the story of a new miracle in the Hautes Pyrennees, a department already rendered illustrious by the miracle of Lourdes.

SECOND-HAND SWEARING.
A correspondent of the Nashville Advertiser writes thus:— "It is very common among a large number of professors of religion, in telling anecdotes, to use the oath that a profane swearer employs to decorate the same oaths that they used."

THE NAVY.
Mr. Mallory, from the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs, to which the subject was referred, has submitted a report in relation to the present condition of the Navy.

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The Cobler's Temptation.
Jacob Gropp sat in his little shop upon a low bench, and he pegged and tapped away merrily upon his well-worn knees. He was a jolly fellow, this Jacob. Poor 'tis true, but just poor enough to keep free of care. He owned the ruffled boot in which he worked, and as he owned the little thimble that he used in it, he was not to be trifled with.

COURAGE.
Take life like a man. Take it just as though it was—as it is—an earnest, vital, essential affair. Take it just as though you personally were born to the task of performing a part in it; as though the world had waited for your coming. Take it as though it was a grand opportunity to do and to achieve; to carry forward great and good schemes; to help and cheer a suffering, weary, it may be heart-broken brother.

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Special Message of the President.
WASHINGTON, February 18.
SENATE.—After the discussion of a few private pension bills, an important message was received from the President, as follows:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:
The brief period which remains of your present session, and the great urgency and importance of legislative action, before its termination, for the protection of American citizens and their property whilic in transit across the Isthmus of Panama and Pacific possessions, render it my duty again to recall this subject to your notice.

I have heretofore presented in my annual messages, both of December, 1857, and December, 1858, to which I beg leave to refer.

In the latter I state that the Executive Government of this country is limited to the employment of diplomacy alone—Where this fails it can proceed no further. It cannot legitimately resort to force without the direct authority of Congress, except in resisting and repelling hostile attacks.

It would have no authority to enter the territories of Nicaragua, even to prevent the destruction of the Transit, and protect the lives and property of our own citizens on their passage. It is true, that on a sudden emergency of this character, the President would direct any armed force in the vicinity to march to their relief, but, in doing this, he would act upon his own responsibility.

Under these circumstances, I earnestly recommend to Congress the passage of an act authorizing the President, under such restrictions as they may deem proper, to employ the land and naval forces of the United States in preventing the Transit from being obstructed or closed by lawless violence, and in protecting the lives and property of American citizens travelling thereupon, requiring at the same time that these forces shall be withdrawn the moment the danger shall have passed away.

Another subject equally important commanded the attention of the Senate at the last session of Congress. The Republics South of the United States on this Continent, have unfortunately been in a state of revolution and civil war ever since they achieved their independence. As one or the other party has prevailed, and obtained possession of their ports open to foreign commerce, they have seized and confiscated American vessels and their cargoes in an arbitrary and lawless manner, and exacted money from American citizens by forced loans and other violent proceedings, to enable them to carry on hostilities. The Executive Governments of Great Britain, France and other countries possessing the war-making power can promptly employ the necessary means to enforce immediate redress for similar outrages upon their subjects. Not so the Executive Government of the United States. If the President orders a vessel-of-war to any of these ports to demand prompt redress for outrages committed, the offending parties are well aware that, in case of refusal, the commander could do no more than remonstrate. He can resort to no hostile act. The question must then be referred to diplomacy, and in many cases adequate redress can never be obtained—thus American citizens are deprived of the same protection under the flag of their country which the subjects of other nations enjoy.

The remedy for this state of things can only be supplied by Congress, since the Constitution has confided to that body alone the power to make war. Without the authority of Congress the President cannot lawfully direct any force, however near it may be the scene of difficulty, to enter the territory of Mexico, Nicaragua or New Grenada for the purpose of defending the persons and property of American citizens, even though they may be violently assailed while passing in peaceful transit over the Tehuantepec, Nicaragua or Panama routes. He cannot, without transcending his constitutional power, direct a gun to be fired into a port, or land a seaman or marine to protect the lives of our countrymen on shore, or to obtain redress for a recent outrage on their property. The banditti which infest our neighboring republic of Mexico, always claiming to belong to one or other of the hostile parties, might make a sudden descent on Vera Cruz or the Tehuantepec route, and he would have no power to employ the force on ship-board in the vicinity for their relief, either to prevent the plunder of our merchants or the destruction of the transit. In reference to countries where the local authorities are strong enough to enforce the laws, the difficulties here indicated can seldom happen, but where this is not the case, and the local authorities do not possess the physical power, even if they possess the will, to protect our citizens within their limits, recent experience has shown that the American Executive should itself be authorized to render this protection. Such a grant of authority

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