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BY GEORGE HOWARD,

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VARIETY.

Canada.

The affairs in Canada begin to assume rather a portentous aspect, for the maintenance of friendly relations between the British and American authorities. The Governors of the several States bordering on the Canada line have issued Proclamations enjoining strict neutrality on the inhabitants, and have taken the necessary steps to enforce it. The following documents indicate that the Canadian troubles are not of a trivial nature.

By the President of the United States of America.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, information having been received of a dangerous excitement on the northern frontier of the United States, in consequence of the civil war begun in Canada, and instructions having been given to the United States officers on that frontier, and applications having been made to the Governors of the adjoining States to prevent any unlawful interference on the part of our citizens in the contest unfortunately commenced in the British Provinces; additional information has just been received, that, notwithstanding the proclamation of the Governors of the States of New York and Vermont, exhorting their citizens to refrain from any unlawful acts within the territory of the United States; and, notwithstanding the presence of the civil officers of the United States, who, by my directions, have visited the scenes of commotion with the view of impressing the citizens with a proper sense of their duty, the excitement, instead of being appeased, is every day increasing in degree; that arms and munitions of war, and other supplies, have been procured by the insurgents in the United States—that a military force, consisting, in part at least, of citizens of the United States, had been actually organized, had congregated at Navy Island, and were still in arms under the command of a citizen of the United States, and that they were constantly receiving accessions and aid:

Now, therefore, to the end that the authority of the laws may be maintained, and the faith of treaty observed, I, MARTIN VAN BUREN, do most earnestly exhort all citizens of the United States who have violated their duties, to return peaceably to their respective homes; and I hereby warn them, that any persons who shall compromise the neutrality of this Government by interfering in an unlawful manner with the affairs of the neighboring British Provinces, will render themselves liable to arrest and punishment under the laws of the United States, which will be rigidly enforced; and, also, that they will receive no aid or countenance from their Government into whatever difficulties they may be thrown by the violation of the laws of their country, and of the territory of a neighboring and friendly nation.

Given under my hand at the city of Washington, the fifth day of January, A. D. 1838, and the sixty second of the Independence of the United States.

M. VAN BUREN.

By the President:
JOHN FORSYTH, Secretary of State.

On the 8th inst. the President transmitted to Congress the following

MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the U. S. In the highly excited state of feeling on the Northern Frontier, occasioned by the disturbances in Canada, it was to be apprehended that cause of complaint might arise on the line dividing the United States from her Britannic Majesty's dominions. Every precaution was therefore taken on our part authorized by the existing laws; and as the troops of the provinces were embodied on the Canadian side, it was

hoped that no serious violation of the rights of the United States would be permitted to occur. I regret, however, to inform you that an outrage of a most aggravated character has been committed, accompanied by a hostile though temporary invasion of our territory, producing the strongest feelings of resentment on the part of our citizens in that neighborhood, and on the whole border line; and that the excitement previously existing has been alarmingly increased. To guard against the possible recurrence of any similar act, I have thought it indispensable to call out a portion of the militia to be posted on that frontier. The document herewith presented to Congress show the character of the outrage committed, the measures taken in consequence of its occurrence, and the necessity for resorting to them. It will also be seen that the subject was immediately brought to the notice of the British Minister accredited to this country, and the proper steps taken on our part to obtain the fullest information of all the circumstances leading to and attendant upon the transaction, preparatory to a demand for reparation. I ask such appropriations as the circumstances in which our country is thus unexpectedly placed require.

M. VAN BUREN.

Washington, Jan. 8, 1838.

The Buffalo N. Y. papers of the 6th. inform that Mr. Garrow, the U. S. Marshal, is at Schlosser, to prevent all communication between that point and Navy Island.

Adj. Gen. McDonald has published a general order of Gov. Marcy, approving of the calling out of Gen. Butt's brigade, and declaring that the neutrality of the territory shall be preserved.

In the event of an evasion, the Major General of the 24th division of infantry is ordered to take the command in the field, and promptly to disarm and suppress any armed body, belonging to either of the contending parties, who may be found within the limits of the State.

The most important intelligence, however, is the official account of the destruction of the Caroline by Colonel McNabb, which is as follows:

Copy of a letter from Colonel A. N. McNabb, colonel commanding, to the Hon. Jonas Jones, A. D. C.

HEAD QUARTERS, Chippewa, 30th Dec. 1837. Saturday Morning, 3 o'clock.

Sir:—I have the honor to report for the information of his Excellency the Lieut. Governor, that having received positive information that the Pirates and rebels at Navy Island had purchased a steamboat called the Caroline, to facilitate their intended invasion of this country, and being confirmed in my information yesterday by the boat (which sailed under British colors,) appearing at the Island, I determined upon cutting her out: and having sent Captain Drew of the royal navy, he, in a most gallant manner, with a crew of volunteers, (whose names I shall hereafter mention) performed this dangerous service, which was handsomely effected.

In consequence of the swift current, it was found to be impossible to get the vessel over to this place, and it was therefore necessary to set her on fire. Her colors are in my possession.

I have the honor to be sir,

Your obt. humble servant,

A. N. McNABB, Col. com'g.

P. S. We have two or three wounded, and the pirates about the same number killed.

A. N. McNABB.

It was to be expected that the same individual who had authorized this outrage would attempt to justify it. Leaving this subject to be adjusted by the explanations to be demanded by our government, there is one statement in the letter worthy of notice and of particular enquiry. It would seem the Caroline sailed under British colors—which, if true, gives a somewhat different aspect to the matter. The affidavits of the American Party on board, however, declare the Caroline's flag staff with the American colors upon it, to have been shot on her way down from Buffalo.

Accompanying McNabb's letter are several affidavits relative to events said to have occurred before and after the affair of the Caroline.

The Governor of Michigan has issued his proclamation, cautioning the citizens of that State against violating the neutrality of the United States; from which we infer that there is some foundation for the re-

ports respecting Dr. Duncombe's operations in the neighborhood of Malden.

Canada Frontier.—The thrilling events which have recently transpired in this section of the country, the particulars of which are contained in preceding columns, have justly excited intense interest throughout the Union, and have finally arrested the attention of Congress. The President has sent a Special Message to Congress, asking to be clothed with power sufficient to preserve order and peace on our borders—has issued a Proclamation of neutrality, and ordered Gen. Scott to repair to the Niagara frontier, giving him authority to take all necessary measures to prevent the violation of the rights of the sovereignty of the United States and of Great Britain. Gen. Scott left Washington on Saturday for the North, to take command of the troops that may be called into service. In all the measures pursued by the President, in regard to this difficulty, he has acted with becoming firmness and promptitude, and we are glad of an opportunity to commend his course.

So little interest has been excited by these troubles, until within the last few weeks, that many individuals are wholly in the dark as to their commencement. A short statement will suffice to enlighten them:—

The Government of Lower Canada consists of a Governor, appointed by the Crown, Executive Council, appointed by the Governor, and House of Assembly, chosen by the people. The Executive Council have a negative upon bills passed by the House of Assembly, without their ever coming before the Governor in his official capacity. This Council, it seems, have exercised their vetoing power in such a manner as to give great dissatisfaction to the House of Assembly, and the House, in return, has for several years refused to vote the supplies, and thus cut off the means of supporting the expenses of Government. The Canadians demand from the Queen and Parliament of Great Britain an Elective Council, and complete control, by their own Legislature, over the revenue, and all the lands belonging to the Colony, which demand has not been acceded to. Such are the alleged causes of the existing troubles in both the Canadas, for the form of Government is the same in each—perhaps a secret desire of independence lurks at the bottom of all these—but it appears that a majority of the people are averse to a separation from the Mother Country.

Rel. Reg.

Military force of the United States.—The Regular army of the United States according to an official document annexed to the report of the Secretary of War, consists of 2 major generals, 2 brigadier generals, 1 adjutant general, 2 inspectors general, 1 quarter master general, 4 quarter masters, 1 commissary general of subsistence, 2 commissaries, 1 surgeon general, 15 surgeons, 66 assisting surgeons, 1 paymaster general, 17 paymasters, 1 commissary general of purchases, 2 military store keepers, 15 colonels, 15 lieutenant colonels, 23 majors, 146 captains, 336 lieutenants, 1008 non-commissioned officers, 273 musicians, 108 artificers, &c. 5,902 privates. Total, 7,958.

Washington Monument.—The Board of Managers of the Society for the erection of a monument to Washington, have collected in all their subscriptions, \$30,000, which they have invested in stocks, so that the money does not lie idle. We hope, for the honor of the American Nation, this may be fulfilled.

Destruction of the Mandans and other tribes of Indians by the Small Pox.—The N. Y. Star publishes a letter from Mr. Catlin, the Indian portrait painter, giving an account of the annihilation of the Mandans, who recently numbered about 3000 souls, and the rapid destruction of other tribes by small pox. Mr. Catlin observes: Several letters have just been received from the Upper Missouri, written by gentlemen of unquestionable veracity, (agents of the Am. Fur Company to their principals in this city,) giving a most melancholy account of the ravages of the small pox among several of the Upper Missouri tribes of Indians. By the latest accounts from them, it seems that the disease was raging with the most desolating effects amongst the Assiniboines, the Blackfeet, and other tribes in that vicinity. Several thousands had already been destroyed, and

of the interesting, friendly and gentlemanly Mandans, nothing remains but a few straggling individuals, who must, from necessity, and the custom of the country, merge into the ranks of their surrounding enemies, where they will be used as slaves. So terminates the existence of Indian tribes, who, from want of numbers, become unable to stand against the assaults of their enemies.

You ask me "how this disease was carried among them?" I cannot tell. There is no doubt, however, that its germ was in some way or other communicated from the civilized borders; for, although the small pox has been the greatest destroyer of the Indian race, it is a fact that it never had its origin amongst them. Almost every tribe of Indians that now exist, or ever have existed, east of these poor fellows who are now taking their turn with it, and as far east as the Atlantic coast, have successively suffered under the desolating ravages of this civilized scourge. But a few years since the Pawnees lost one-half of their nation; the Ponchas lost two-thirds; the Omahas and Otoes, Missouries, and Kansas, lost one-half at least of their numbers by it. Only one year and a half ago I was at Prairie du Chien, on the Upper Mississippi, when I witnessed its frightful effects amongst the Winnebagoes and Sioux—every other man amongst them was slain by it; and O-wa-pe-shaw, the greatest man of the Sioux, with half of his band, died under the corners of fences, in little (horrid) groups, to which kindred ties held them in ghastly death, with their bodies swollen and covered with pustules—their eyes blinded—hideously howling their death song in utter despair—affectionately clinging to each others necks with one hand, and grasping bottles and tin pans of whiskey in the other! But, let me stop. The actual ravages of this deadly disease (which, like other causes that have led to the rapid demolition of the numerous tribes of the west, and of which I shall give some more definite accounts ere long) have hereafter been little known to the civilized world, and for the reason solely that these benighted people have had no proper vehicle of knowledge or information that could reach beyond the oral legends of their wigwam fire-sides—they had no newspapers.

Note.—Our readers will recollect the universal tradition among the Indians, spoken of by the Puritans on their first settlement of New England. These white emigrants were told that whole nations had been swept off before this country was visited, and the Puritans deemed it a providential circumstance.

America and Europe.—Professor Stowe, of Cincinnati, sent on a mission by Ohio, to Prussia, to examine the School system of that kingdom, reports to the legislature and Education Convention, now in session at Columbus, that he was treated with the utmost urbanity and kindness, and admitted every where. Professor Julien, of Berlin, lately in America, and to the West, to examine our Penitentiaries, was marked in his civilities. How much ameliorated are our relations with foreign countries to what they were formerly.—This republic, whose existence only was known abroad by our desperate revolutionary struggle, looked upon as a very dubious experiment in political machinery, has carved its way and won its own laurels. In what the answer may be. Certainly in all that relates to the master powers of invention—mechanical ingenuity—daring and successful enterprise in navigation and steam power, that astonish the old world, whom we have left an age behind us. They are limping awkwardly after us, and straining to follow in the wake which our swift career leaves scarcely visible on the unrolled ocean of time. We have no need of entering into controversies on this point. Look at the thousands of miles of rail roads and canals, binding with its iron bands and living arteries the entire Union. Look at the models of our ships—the internal discipline and perfection of our penitentiaries—our inclined planes—mills and machinery of every description. Has the human mind any where wrought such triumphs, achieved such trophies?—N. Y. Star.

Louisville, Cincinnati and Charleston Rail Road.—We are gratified to learn that the City Council has determined to issue stock to the amount of \$10,000, bearing an interest of five per cent. per annum, and redeemable at pleasure, as a loan to the Louisville, Cincinnati and Charleston Rail Road Company, the amount to be repaid the city when called for. The object of thus lending the credit of the city is to enable the Company to complete the purchase of the Charleston and Hamburg Rail Road.

But a comparatively slight increase of subscription is now requisite to secure the Bank Charter, to which Tennessee has just acceded. The amount already subscribed is \$7,500,000, including the State subscription of a million; and but a half million more is necessary to swell the amount to eight millions, the sum required to be subscribed by the first of January 1838, to prevent the forfeiture of the Bank Charter.—Charleston Courier.

Beet Sugar.—The Hartford Times publishes a letter from Somers in Connecticut, accompanying a sample of beet sugar, manufactured from the variety called Amber Beet, in the present winter. The writer, a Mr. Wood, thinks that at the present price of sugar the cultivation of the sugar beet would be preferable—He says—

"An apparatus may be constructed cheap, consisting wholly of ordinary household utensils. The progress of making it, is simple and sure, with a proper understanding of the subject, which may be readily taught to any one, wishing to acquire the knowledge of manufacturing it. One hundred lbs. of beets, give in sugar, six pounds.

The sample sent is said by the Hartford Times, to be not inferior to the production of the cane.

The Baptists are believed to be at present the most numerous Religious denomination in this country. They are estimated at nearly 4½ millions: they have over 7,000 Churches, 4,900 Ministers, and about half a million of Communicants. They are making vigorous efforts to promote education; and they have under their influence 6 or 7 Theological Seminaries, 7 or 8 Colleges, and various other Literary Institutions, and about 30 Periodical institutions.

Reward for Murderers.—Four brothers charged with the murder of an Uncle.—The Louisville Journal of Jan. 4th, has the following revolting narration:

Murder.—Four brothers, Lafayette Jones, Chamberlain Jones, Caesar A. Jones, and Archilles Jones, are charged with the murder of their uncle, Col. Edward Ward, at the residence of A. G. Ward, near Memphis. A reward of \$2,000 is offered for their apprehension, or \$500 for either of them. They left the residence of Mr. Ross, 5 miles above Randolph, Arkansas, on the 25th December.

Internal Improvements and Banking in Florida.—Gen. Gadsden, a distinguished engineer, has, according to the Floridian, at Tallahassee, prepared an elaborate paper on this subject, for the territorial legislature. He establishes the practicability (which, we presume, no one doubts, on a bottom so level as Florida) of a great Rail Road route from East through Middle and West Florida, with diverging branches. He proposes one million of the two additional millions of capital just subscribed to the Union Bank be pledged for the work. The Floridian thinks, however, the citizens require this capital for business, as the one million created on sale of territorial lands was not adequate; in proof of which, there was stock subscribed to six millions. Already there is talk, therefore, of increasing the capital, and merging all other institutions in this as soon as Florida becomes a State.

The first stage coach drawn by four horses, ever established in this country, was in 1772. It ran between Boston and Providence, and took two days to travel from city to city, a distance of 40 miles.

Danger of Unslacked Lime.—It seems as if ingenuity was sometimes put on the rack, to discover some new mode of making way with one's self. A gentleman near Northampton, Mass. put unslacked lime into a barrel and commenced shaking it. In a short time it burst with a powerful explosion, burning his face most shockingly, and also bruised his head badly by contact with the flying staves—caused by the expansive power of the steam generated by the well known strong affinity of unslacked lime for water, in the active combination of which heat is let loose in large quantities, which suddenly expanded into steam the water used. There must of course have been water in the barrel.

A new patent "Bee Palace" has been invented at Columbus, Ohio, which, it is said, will produce five times the quantity of honey of the old fashioned hive.

The awful murder said to have taken place near Quincy, Ohio, turns out a hoax.