

Office of the BALDWIN STAR,
Wednesday Evening, Dec. 9, 1829.
President's Message.—We are again called
upon to express our obligations to our distinguished
mail contractors, Messrs. Saltmarsh, Tompkins
and Avery, in whose great exertions we are
indebted for being enabled this early to lay
President Jackson's first Message to Congress
before your readers. The express left Washington
yesterday about 12 o'clock, and arrived here to-day
at 10 o'clock past 12 o'clock M. traveling
a distance of 251 miles in the short space
of 24 h. 33 m.—a despatch almost unprecedented
in this country.

From the United States Telegraph—Extra, Dec-
ember 8, 1829.

This day, at 12 o'clock, the President of the
United States communicated to both Houses of
Congress the following

MESSAGE.

It affords me pleasure to tender my
friendly greetings to you on the occasion
of your assembling at the Seat of
Government, to enter upon the impor-
tant duties to which you have been called
by the voice of our countrymen.—
The task devolves on me, under a pro-
vision of the Constitution, to present to
you, as the Federal Legislature of
twenty four sovereign States, and
twelve millions of happy people, a view
of our affairs; and to propose such
measures as, in the discharge of my
official functions, have suggested them-
selves as necessary to promote the ob-
jects of our Union.

In communicating with you for the
first time, it is, to me, a source of un-
feigned satisfaction, calling for mutual
rejoicing and devout thanks to a be-
nign Providence, that we are at peace
with all mankind, and that our country
exhibits the most cheering evidence of
general welfare and progressive im-
provement. Turning our eyes to other
nations, our great desire is to see our
brethren of the human race secured in
the blessings enjoyed by ourselves, and
advancing in knowledge, in freedom
and in social happiness.

Our foreign relations, although in
their general character pacific and
friendly, present subjects of difference
between us and other Powers, of deep
interest, as well to the country at large
as to many of our citizens. To effect
an adjustment of these shaft continue
to be the object of my earnest endeav-
ours; and notwithstanding the difficul-
ties of the task, I do not allow myself
to apprehend unfavorable results.—
Blessed as our country is with every
thing which constitutes national
strength, she is fully adequate to the
maintenance of all her interests. In
discharging the responsible trust confi-
ded to the Executive in this respect, it
is my settled purpose to ask nothing
that is not clearly right, and to submit
to nothing that is wrong; and I flatter
myself, that, supported by the other
branches of the Government, and by
the intelligence and patriotism of the
People, we shall be able, under the
protection of Providence, to cause all
our just rights to be respected.

Of the unsettled matters between
the United States and other Powers,
the most prominent are those which
have, for years, been the subject of
negotiation with England, France, and
Spain. The late periods at which our
Ministers to those Governments left
the United States, render it impossible,
at this early day, to inform you of
what has been done on the subjects
with which they have been respectively
charged. Relying upon the justice of
our views in relation to the points com-
mitted to negotiation, and the reciproc-
al good feeling which characterizes
our intercourse with those nations, we
have the best reason to hope for a satis-
factory adjustment of existing differ-
ences.

With Great Britain, alike distin-
guished in peace and war, we may look
forward to years of peaceful, honorable,
and elevated competition. Every-
thing in the condition and history of
the two nations, is calculated to inspire
sentiments of mutual respect, and to
carry conviction to the minds of both
that it is their policy to preserve the
most cordial relations. Such are my
own views, and it is not to be doubted
that such are also the prevailing senti-
ments of our constituents. Although
neither time nor opportunity has been
afforded for a full development of the
policy which the present cabinet of
Great Britain designs to pursue to-
wards this country, I indulge the hope
that it will be of a just and pacific
character, and if this anticipation be
realized, we may look with confidence
to a speedy and acceptable adjustment
of our affairs.

Under the Convention for regulating
the reference to arbitration of the dis-
puted points of boundary under the
fifth article of the treaty of Ghent, the
proceedings have hitherto been conduct-
ed in that spirit of candour and lib-
erality which ought ever to character-
ize the acts of sovereign States, seeking
to adjust, by the most unexceptionable
means, important and delicate subjects
of contention. The first statements of
the parties have been exchanged, and
the final replication, on our part, is in
a course of preparation. This sub-
ject has received the attention dem-
anded by its great and peculiar im-
portance to a patriotic member of this
Confederacy. The exposition of our
rights, already made, is such, as, from

the high reputation of the commission-
ers by whom it has been prepared, we
had a right to expect. Our interests at
the court of the Sovereign who has
excused his friendly disposition, by as-
suming the delicate task of arbitration,
have been committed to a citizen of
the State of Maine, whose character,
talents, and intimate acquaintance
with the subject, eminently qualify
him for so responsible a trust. With
full confidence in the justice of our
cause, and in the probity, intelligence,
and uncompromising independence of
the illustrious arbitrator, we can have
nothing to apprehend from the result.

From France, our ancient ally, we
have a right to expect that justice
which becomes the Sovereign of a
powerful, intelligent, and magnanimous
people. The beneficial effects produc-
ed by the commercial convention of
1822, limited as are its provisions, are
too obvious not to make a salutary im-
pression upon the minds of those who
are charged with the administration of
her Government. Should this result
induce a disposition to embrace, to
their full extent, the wholesome prin-
ciples which constitute our commercial
policy, our Minister to that Court will
be found instructed to cherish such a
disposition, and to aid in conducting it
to useful practical conclusions. The
claims of our citizens for depredations
upon their property, long since commit-
ted under the authority, and in many
instances, by the express direction of
the then existing Government of
France, remain unsatisfied; and must,
therefore, continue to furnish a subject
of unpleasant discussion, and possible
collision, between the two Govern-
ments. I cherish, however, a lively
hope, founded as well on the validity
of those claims, and the established
policy of all enlightened Governments,
as on the known integrity of the French
monarch, that the injurious delays of
the past, will find redress in the equity
of the future. Our Minister has been
instructed to press these demands on
the French Government, with all the
earnestness which is called for by their
importance and irrefutable justice, and
in a spirit that will evince the respect
which is due to the feelings of those
from whom the satisfaction is required.

Our Minister recently appointed to
Spain has been authorized to assist in
removing evils alike injurious to both
countries, either by including a Com-
mercial Convention upon liberal and re-
ciprocated terms, or by urging the accept-
ance, in their full extent, of the mutu-
ally beneficial provisions of our naviga-
tion Acts. He has also been instructed
to make a further appeal to the justice
of Spain, in behalf of our citizens, for
indemnity for spoliation upon our com-
merce, committed under her authority
—an appeal which the pacific and lib-
eral course observed on our part, and a
due confidence in the honor of that
Government, authorize us to expect will
not be made in vain.

With other European Powers, our in-
tercourse is on the most friendly footing.
In Russia, placed by her territorial lim-
its, extensive population, and great
power, high in the rank of nations, the
United States have always found a
steadfast friend. Although her recent in-
vasion of Turkey awakened a lively sym-
pathy for those who were exposed to the
desolations of war, we cannot but an-
ticipate that the result will prove favor-
able to the cause of civilization, and to
the progress of human happiness. The
treaty of peace between these Powers
having been ratified, we cannot be in-
sensible to the great benefit to be de-
rived to the commerce of the United
States, from unobscuring the navigation
of the Black Sea—a free passage into
which is secured to all merchant vessels
bound to ports of Russia under a flag
at peace with the Porte. This advantage,
enjoyed upon conditions, by most of the
Powers of Europe, has hitherto been
withheld from us. During the past sum-
mer, an antecedent, but unsuccessful at-
tempt to obtain it, was renewed, under
circumstances which promised the most
favorable results. Although these re-
sults have fortunately been thus in part
attained, further facilities to the enjoy-
ment of this new field for the enterprise
of our citizens are, in my opinion, suffi-
ciently desirable to ensure to them our
most zealous attention.

Our trade with Austria, although of
secondary importance, has been gradu-
ally increasing, and is now so extended,
as to deserve the fostering care of the
Government. A negotiation, com-
menced and nearly completed with that
Power, by the late Administration, has
been consummated by a treaty of amity,
navigation, and commerce, which will
be laid before the Senate.

During the recess of Congress, our
diplomatic relations with Portugal have
been resumed. The peculiar state of
things in that country caused a suspen-
sion of the recognition of the Represen-
tative who presented himself, until an
opportunity was had to obtain from our
other organ there, information regard-
ing the actual, and as far as practica-
ble, prospective condition of the author-
ity by which the representative in ques-
tion was appointed. This information
being received, the application of the
established rule of our Government, in
like cases, was no longer withheld.

Considerable advances have been
made during the present year, in the
adjustment of claims of our citizens up-

on Denmark for spoliation; but all that
we have a right to demand from that
Government, in their behalf, has not
yet been conceded. From the liberal
feeling, however, upon which the sub-
ject has, with the approbation of the
claimants, been placed by the Govern-
ment, together with the uniformly just
and friendly disposition which has been
evinced by his Danish Majesty, there is
a reasonable ground to hope that this
single subject of difference will speedily
be removed.

Our relations with the Barbary Pow-
ers continue, as they have long been, of
the most favorable character. The
policy of keeping an adequate force in the
Mediterranean, as security for the con-
tinuance of this tranquillity, will be per-
severed in, as well as a similar one for
the protection of our commerce and
fisheries in the Pacific.

The Southern Republics, of our own
hemisphere, have not yet realized all the
advantages for which they have been so
long struggling. We trust, however,
that the day is not distant, when the res-
toration of peace and internal quiet,
under permanent systems of govern-
ment, securing the liberty, and promot-
ing the happiness of the citizens, will
crown, with complete success, their long
and arduous efforts in the cause of self-
government, and enable us to salute
them as friendly rivals in all that is truly
great and glorious.

The recent invasion of Mexico, and the effect
thereby produced upon her domestic policy,
must have a controlling influence upon the
great question of South American emancipation.
We have seen the felt spirit of civil dissension
re-
buked, and, perhaps, for ever stifled in that
Republic, by the love of independence. If it
be true, as appearances strongly indicate, that
the spirit of independence is the master spirit, and
if a corresponding sentiment prevails in the
other States, this devotion to liberty cannot be with-
out a proper effect upon the councils of the
mother country. The adoption, by Spain, of a
pacific policy towards her former Colonies—an
event consoling to humanity, and a blessing to the
world, in which she herself cannot fail largely
to participate—may be most reasonably expected.

The claims of our citizens upon the South
American Governments, generally, are in a train
of settlement; while the principal part of those
upon Brazil have been adjusted, and a Decree in
Council, ordering bonds to be issued by the
Minister of the Treasury for their amount, has
received the sanction of his Imperial Majesty.
This event, together with the exchange of the rat-
ifications of the Treaty negotiated and concluded
in 1828, happily terminates all serious causes
of difference with that Power.

Measures have been taken to place
our commercial relations with Peru
upon a better footing than that upon
which they have hitherto rested; and if
met by a proper disposition on the part
of that Government, important benefits
may be secured to both countries.

Deeply interested as we are in the
prosperity of our sister republics, and
more particularly in that of our immedi-
ate neighbor, it would be most gratifying
to me, were I permitted to say that the
treatment which we have received at
her hands has been as universally friend-
ly as the early and constant solicitude
manifested by the United States for
her success, gave us a right to expect.
But it becomes my duty to inform you
that prejudices, long indulged by a por-
tion of the inhabitants of Mexico
against the Envoy Extraordinary and
Minister Plenipotentiary of the United
States, have had an unfortunate influ-
ence upon the affairs of the two coun-
tries, and have diminished that useful-
ness to his own which was justly to be
expected from his talents and zeal.
To this cause, in a great degree, is to
be imputed the failure of several mea-
sures equally interesting to both parties;
but particularly that of the Mexican
Government to ratify a Treaty negoti-
ated and concluded in its own capital
and under its own eye. Under these
circumstances, it appeared expedient
to give to Mr. Poinsett the option either
to return or not, as, in his judgment,
the interest of his country might re-
quire, and instructions to that end
were prepared; but, before they could
be despatched, a communication was
received from the Government of Mex-
ico, through its Charge d'Affaires here,
requesting the recall of our Minister.
This was promptly complied with; and
a Representative of a rank correspond-
ing with that of the Mexican diplo-
matic Agent near this Government was
appointed. Our conduct towards that
Republic has been uniformly of the
most friendly character; and having
thus removed the only alleged obstacle
to harmonious intercourse, I cannot
but hope that an advantageous change
will occur in our affairs.

In justice to Mr Poinsett, it is
proper to say, that my immediate com-
pliance with the application for his recall,
and the appointment of a successor,
are not to be ascribed to any evidence
that the imputation of an improper in-
terference by him in the local politics
of Mexico, was well founded; nor to
a want of confidence in his talents or
integrity; and to add, that the truth
of that charge has never been affirm-
ed by the Federal Government of
Mexico, in its communications with
this.

I consider it one of the most urgent
of my duties to bring to your attention
the propriety of attending that part
of our Constitution which relates to the
election of President and Vice Presi-
dent. Our system of government was,
by its framers, deemed an experiment;
and they, therefore, consistently pro-
vided a mode of remedying its defects.
To the People belongs the right of
electing their Chief Magistrate; it was
never designed that their choice should,

in any case, be defeated, either by the
intervention of electoral colleges, or
by the agency confined, under certain
contingencies, to the House of Represen-
tatives. Experience proves, that,
in proportion as agents to execute the
will of the People are multiplied, there
is danger of their wishes being frus-
trated. Some may be selfish; all are
liable to err. So far, therefore, as the
People can, with convenience, speak,
it is safer for them to express their own
will.

The number of aspirants to the Pre-
sidency, and the diversity of the inter-
ests which may influence their claims,
leave little reason to expect a choice
in the first instance; and, in that event,
the election must devolve on the House
of Representatives, where, it is obvious,
the will of the People may not be al-
ways ascertained, or, if ascertained,
may not be regarded. From the mode
of voting by States, the choice is to be
made by twenty-four votes; and it may
often occur, that one of these may be
controlled by an individual Represen-
tative. Honors and offices are at the
disposal of the successful candidate.
Repeated ballottings may make it appar-
ent that a single individual holds the
cast in his hand. May he not be
tempted to name his reward? But even
without corruption—supposing the
probity of the Representative to be
proved against the powerful motives by
which he may be assailed—the will of the
People is still constantly liable to be
misrepresented. One may err from
ignorance of the wishes of his constitu-
ents; another, from a conviction that
it is his duty to be governed by his own
judgment of the fitness of the candi-
dates; finally, although all were inflex-
ibly honest—all accurately informed of
the wishes of their constituents—yet,
under the present mode of election, a
minority may often elect the President;
and when this happens, it may reason-
ably be expected that efforts will be
made on the part of the majority, to
rectify this injurious operation of their
institutions. But although no evil of
this character should result from such
a perversion of the first principle of
our system—that the majority is to
govern—it must be very certain that
a President, elected by a minority, can
not enjoy the confidence necessary to
the successful discharge of his duties.

In this, as in all other matters of
public concern, policy requires that as
few impediments as possible should ex-
ist to the free operation of the public
will. Let us, then, endeavor so to
mend our system that the office of Chief
Magistrate may not be conferred upon
any citizen but in pursuance of a fair
expression of the will of the majority.
I would therefore recommend such
an amendment of the Constitution as
may remove all intermediate agency in
the election of President and Vice Presi-
dent. The mode may be so regulated
as to preserve to each State its present
relative weight in the election; and a
failure in the first attempt may be
provided for, by confining the second to
a choice between the two highest candi-
dates. In connexion with such an
amendment, it would seem advisable to
limit the service of the Chief Magis-
trate to a single term, of either four or
six years. If, however, it should not
be adopted, it is worthy of considera-
tion whether a provision disqualifying
for office the Representatives in Con-
gress on whom such an election may
have devolved, would not be proper.

While members of Congress can be
constitutionally appointed to offices of
trust and profit, it will be the practice,
even under the most conscientious ad-
herence to duty, to select them for such
stations as they are believed to be bet-
ter qualified to fill than other citizens;
but the purity of our Government would
doubtless be promoted by their exclu-
sion from all appointments in the gift
of the President in whose election they
may have been officially concerned.
The nature of the judicial office, and
the necessity of securing in the Cabinet
and in diplomatic stations of the high-
est rank, the best talents and political
experience, should, perhaps, except
these from the exclusion.

There are perhaps few men who can,
for any great length of time, enjoy
office and power, without being more
or less under the influence of feelings un-
favorable to a faithful discharge of their
public duties. Their integrity may be
proof against improper considerations
immediately addressed to themselves,
but they are apt to acquire a habit of
looking with indifference upon the pub-
lic interests, and of tolerating conduct
from which an unpractised man would
sevolt. Office is considered as a spe-
cies of property; and Government, rather
as a means of promoting individual
interests, than as an instrument created
solely for the service of the People.
Corruption in some, and, in others, a
perversion of correct feelings and prin-
ciples, divert Government from its le-
gitimate ends, and make it an engine
for the support of the few at the ex-
pense of the many. The duties of all
public officers are, or, at least, admit
of being made, so plain and simple, that
men of intelligence may readily qualify
themselves for their performance; and
I cannot but believe that more is lost
by the long continuance of men in office
than is generally to be gained by their
experience. I submit, therefore, to
your consideration, whether the effi-

ciency of the Government would not
be promoted, and official industry and
integrity better secured, by a general
extension of the law which limits ap-
pointments to four years.

In a country where offices are cre-
ated solely for the benefit of the People,
no one man has any more intrinsic right
to official station than another. Offi-
ces were not established to give support
to particular men at the public ex-
pense. No individual wrong is there-
fore done by removal, since neither ap-
pointment to, nor continuance in office,
is matter of right. The incumbent be-
came an officer with a view to public
benefit; and when these require his
removal, they are not to be sacrificed
to private interests. It is the Peo-
ple, and they alone, who have a right
to complain, when a bad officer is sub-
stituted for a good one. He who is
removed has the same means of ob-
taining a living that are enjoyed by
the millions who never held office.
The proposed limitation would destroy
the idea of property now so generally
connected with official station; and al-
though individual distress may be some-
times produced, it would, by promoting
that rotation which constitutes a lead-
ing principle in the republican creed,
give healthful action to the system.

No very considerable change has oc-
curred during the recess of Congress,
in the condition of either our Agricul-
ture, Commerce, or Manufactures.—
The operation of the Tariff has not
proved so injurious to the two former,
nor as beneficial to the latter, as was
anticipated. Importations of foreign
goods have not been sensibly diminish-
ed; while domestic competition, under
an illusive excitement, has increased
the production much beyond the de-
mand for home consumption. The
consequences have been low prices,
temporary embarrassment, and partial
loss. That such of our manufacturing
establishments as are based upon capi-
tal, and are prudently managed, will
survive the shock, and be ultimately
profitable, there is no good reason to
doubt.

To regulate its conduct, so as to promote
equally the prosperity of these three cardinal
interests is one of the most difficult tasks of
Government; and it may be regretted that the
complicated restrictions which now embarrass the
intercourse of nations, could not by common
consent be abolished, and commerce allowed to
flow in those channels to which individual enter-
prise—always its surest guide—might direct it.
But we must ever expect selfish legislation in
other nations, and are therefore compelled to
adapt our own to their regulations, in the man-
ner best calculated to avoid serious injury, and
to harmonize the conflicting interests of our ag-
riculture, our commerce, and our manufactures.
Under these impressions, I invite your attention
to the existing Tariff, believing that some of its
provisions require modification.

The general rule to be applied in grad-
uating the duties upon articles of
foreign growth or manufacture, is that
which will place our own in fair
competition with those of other countries;
and the inducements to advance even
a step beyond this point are controlling
in regard to those articles which are of
primary necessity in time of war. When
we reflect upon the difficulty and deli-
cacy of this operation, it is important
that it should never be attempted but
with the utmost caution. Frequent leg-
islation in regard to any branch of in-
dustry, affecting its value, and by
which its capital may be transferred to
new channels, must always be produc-
tive of hazardous speculation and loss.

In deliberating, therefore, on these
interesting subjects, local feelings and
prejudices should be merged in the patri-
otic determination to promote the
great interests of the whole. All at-
tempts to connect them with the party
conflicts of the day, are necessarily in-
jurious, and should be discountenanced.
Our action upon them should be under
the control of higher and purer motives.
Legislation, subjected to such influen-
ces, can never be just, and will not
long retain the sanction of a People,
whose active patriotism is not bounded
by sectional limits nor insensible to
that spirit of concession and forbear-
ance, which gave life to our political
compact, and still sustains it. Discard-
ing all calculations of political ascen-
dancy, the North, the South, the East,
and the West, should unite in diminish-
ing any burthen, of which either may
justly complain.

The agricultural interest of our country is
so essentially connected with every other,
and so superior in importance to them all,
that it is scarcely necessary to invite to it
your particular attention. It is principally as
manufactures and commerce tend to increase
the value of agricultural productions, and to
extend their application to the wants and
comforts of society, that they deserve the fos-
tering care of Government.

Looking forward to the period, not far
distant, when a sinking fund will no longer
be required, the duties on these articles of
importation which cannot come in competi-
tion with our own productions, are the first
that should engage the attention of Congress
in the modification of the tariff. Of these,
tea and coffee are the most prominent; they
enter largely into the consumption of the
country, and have become articles of neces-
sity to all classes. A reduction, therefore,
of the existing duties, will be felt as a common
benefit; but, like all other legislation con-
nected with commerce, to be efficacious, and
not injurious, it should be gradual and certain.

The public prosperity is evinced in the
increased revenue arising from the sales of
the public lands, and in the steady main-
tenance of that produced by imports and ton-
nage, notwithstanding the additional duties
imposed by the act of 19th May, 1828, and
the unusual importations in the early part of
that year.

The balance in the Treasury on the 1st of
January, 1829, was five millions nine hun-