

The North Carolinian.



"CHARACTER IS AS IMPORTANT TO STATES AS IT IS TO INDIVIDUALS; AND THE GLORY OF THE STATE IS THE COMMON PROPERTY OF ITS CITIZENS."

H. L. HOLMES, Editor and Proprietor.

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Government, of which it is one, of the boundaries, takes its place in the Union as a State; and I rely upon the cordial co-operation of the British Government to affect that object.

There is every reason to believe that disturbances like those which lately agitated the neighboring British Provinces will not again prove the sources of border contentions, or interpose obstacles to the continuance of that good understanding which it is the mutual interest of Great Britain and the United States to preserve and maintain.

Within the Provinces themselves tranquility is restored, and on our frontier that misguided sympathy in favor of what was presumed to be a general effort in behalf of popular rights, and which in some instances misled a few of our more inexperienced citizens, has subsided into a rational conviction strongly opposed to all intermeddling with the internal affairs of our neighbors.

Recent information also leads me to hope that the emigrants from her Majesty's Provinces, who have sought refuge within our boundaries, are disposed to become peaceable residents, and to abstain from all attempts to endanger the peace of that country which has afforded them an asylum.

I regret to state the appearance of a different spirit among her Majesty's subjects in the Canadas. The sentiments of hostility to our people and institutions, which have been so frequently expressed there, and the disregard of our rights which have been manifested on some occasions, have, I am sorry to say, been applauded and encouraged by the people, and even by some of the subordinate local authorities of the Provinces.

Nothing has occurred to disturb the harmony of our intercourse with Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Naples, Portugal, Prussia, Russia, or Sweden. The internal state of Spain has sensibly improved, and a grounded hope exists that the return of peace will restore to the people of that country their former prosperity, and enable the Government to fulfill all its obligations at home and abroad.

I lay before you treaties of commerce negotiated with the Kings of Sardinia and of the Netherlands, the ratifications of which have been exchanged since the adjournment of Congress. The liberal principles of these treaties will recommend them to your approbation. That with Sardinia is the first treaty of commerce formed by that kingdom, and it will, I trust, answer the expectations of the present sovereign, by aiding the development of the resources of his country, and stimulating the enterprise of his people.

The death of the late Sultan has produced no alteration in our relations with Turkey. Our newly appointed Minister Resident has reached Constantinople, and I have received assurances from the present Ruler that the obligations of our treaty, and those of friendship, will be fulfilled by himself in the same spirit that actuated his illustrious father.

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The new Government of Texas has shown its desire to cultivate friendly relations with us, by a prompt reparation for injuries complained of in the cases of two vessels of the United States.

With Central America a convention has been concluded for the renewal of its former treaty with the United States. This was not ratified before the departure of our late Charge d'Affaires from that country, and the copy of it brought by him was not received before the adjournment of the Senate at the last session.

The commission created by the States which formerly composed the Republic of Colombia, for adjusting the claims against that Government, has, by a very unexpected construction of the treaty under which it acts, decided that no provision was made for those claims of citizens of the United States which arose from captures by Colombian privateers, and were adjudged against the claimants in the judicial tribunals.

With the great American Empire of Brazil our relations continue unchanged, as does our friendly intercourse with the other Governments of South America—the Argentine Republics of Uruguay, Chili, Peru and Bolivia. The dissolution of the Peru-Bolivia Confederation may occasion some temporary inconvenience to our citizens in that quarter, but the obligations of the new Governments which have arisen out of that Confederation to observe its treaty stipulations, will no doubt be soon understood, and it is presumed that no indisposition will exist to fulfil those which it contracted with the United States.

The financial operations of the Government during the present year have, I am happy to say, been very successful. The difficulties under which the Treasury Department has labored from known defects in the existing laws relative to the safe keeping of the public moneys, aggravated by the suspension of specie payments by several of the banks holding public deposits, or indebted to public officers for notes received in payment of public dues, have been surmounted to a very gratifying extent.

The nineteenth millions of Treasury notes authorized by the act of Congress of 1837, and the modifications thereof, with a view to the indulgence of merchants on their duty bonds, and of the deposit banks in the payment of public moneys held by them, have been so punctually redeemed as to leave less than the original ten millions outstanding at any one time, and the whole amount undecayed now falls short of three millions.

Instructions have been given to the Commissioner of the United States under our Convention with Texas, for the demarcation of the line which separates us from that Republic. The commissioners of both Governments met in New Orleans in August last.

shall keep the appropriations within the estimates, there is every reason to believe that all the outstanding Treasury notes can be redeemed, and the ordinary expenses defrayed, without imposing on the people any additional burden, either of loans or increased taxes.

To avoid this, and to keep the expenditures within reasonable bounds, is a duty, second only in importance to the preservation of our national character, and the protection of our citizens in their civil and political rights.

These considerations cannot be lost upon a people who have never been inattentive to the effect of their policy upon the institutions they have created for themselves; but at the present moment their force is augmented by the necessity which a decreasing revenue must impose.

These are circumstances that impose the necessity of rigid economy, and require its prompt and constant exercise. With the Legislature rest the power and duty of so adjusting the public expenditure as to promote this end.

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guards before recommended, would also, I am persuaded, add considerably to the revenue for several years, and prove in other respects just and beneficial.

Your early consideration of the subject is, therefore, once more earnestly requested.

In conformity with the expressed wishes of Congress, an attempt was made in the spring to terminate the Florida war by negotiation. It is to be regretted that these humane intentions should have been frustrated, and that the effort to bring these unhappy difficulties to a satisfactory conclusion should have failed.

Having had an opportunity of personally inspecting a portion of the troops during the last summer, it gives me pleasure to bear testimony to the success of the effort to improve their discipline, by keeping them together in as large bodies as the nature of our service will permit.

Recent experience has shown that the provisions in our existing laws which relate to the sale and transfer of American vessels while abroad, are extremely defective.

The latest accounts from the Exploring Expedition represent it as proceeding successfully in its objects, and promising results no less useful to trade and navigation than to science.

The Revenue of the Post Office Department for the year ending with the 30th of June last, was four million four hundred and seventy-six thousand six hundred and thirty-eight dollars—exhibiting an increase over the preceding year, of two hundred and forty-one thousand five hundred and sixty dollars.

The excess of liabilities over the revenue for the last two years has been met out of the surplus which had previously accumulated.

The passage of a graduation law, with the

restored, and most of the new routes established by the act of 7th July, 1838, have been set in operation at an annual cost of \$136,963.

Some difficulties have arisen in relation to contracts for the transportation of the mails by rail road and steamboat companies.

In relation to steamboat lines, the most efficient remedy is obvious, and has been suggested by the Postmaster General.

The suggestions of the Postmaster General relative to the inadequacy of the legal allowance to witnesses in cases of prosecutions for mail depredations, merit your serious consideration.

For various details in respect to the matters in charge of these departments, I would refer you to those important documents, satisfied that you will find in them many valuable suggestions, which will be found well deserving the attention of the Legislature.

From a report made in December of last year by the Secretary of State, to the Senate, showing the trial docket of each of the Circuit Courts, and the number of miles each judge has to travel in the performance of his duties, a great inequality appears in the amount of labor assigned to each judge.

I think it proper to call your attention to the power assumed by Territorial Legislatures to authorize the issue of bonds by corporate companies on the guarantee of the Territory.

The continued agitation of the question relative to the best mode of keeping and disbursing the public money, still injuriously affects the business of the country.

The interests involved are of great importance, and the subject deserves your early and careful attention.