

THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

BRUNER & JAMES,
Editors & Proprietors.

"KEEP A CHECK UPON ALL YOUR
IS SAFE."



ROLETS. DO THIS, AND LIBERTY
Gen'l. Harrison.

NEW SERIES,
NUMBER 47, OF VOLUME III.

SALISBURY, N. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 1847.

Terms.—Two Dollars per annum in advance.
Advertisements inserted at \$1 per square for the first
month, 25 cents for each subsequent insertion. Court Or-
ders charged 25 per cent higher.

LIST OF ACTS

Which have passed at the Session of Con-
gress that has just closed.

Bills which originated in the Senate.

An act to establish a land office in the
northern part of Michigan, and to provide
for the sale of mineral lands in the State
of Michigan.
An act granting a pension to Joseph
Morrison.
An act declaring the assent of Congress
to certain States to impose a tax upon all
lands hereafter sold by the United States
therein from and after the day of such
sales.
An act for the relief Thomas Boronell.
An act for the relief of John Stockton,
late a lieutenant in the army of the United
States.
An act for the relief of Wm. B. Keene.
An act to extend the time for selling
the lands granted to the Kentucky Asylum
for teaching the deaf and dumb.
An act for the relief of George Gordon.
An act for the relief of Peter Prost.
An act for the relief of Elijah White
and others.
An act to encourage enlistments in the
regular army.
An act for the relief of Thomas Blanch-
ard.
An act for the relief of Hobson Johns.
An act for the relief of George Roush.
An act giving the assent of Congress to
an act of the General Assembly of Vir-
ginia, authorizing the levy of tolls on the
James River.
An act to authorize the issuing of a
new register for the American barque
"Rosa," of Philadelphia, by the name of
the "Cordelia."
An act to regulate the exercise of the
appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme
Court of the United States in certain cases,
and for other purposes.
An act for the relief of Andrew Moore.
An act for relief of the heirs of Louis
de la Houssaye, deceased.
An act to authorize to the brigantine
"Ocean Queen."
An act confirming the claim of the heirs
and legal representatives of Pierre Dufres-
ne, to a tract of land.
An act to establish a court at Key West,
in the State of Florida, and for other pur-
poses.
An act for the relief of James S. Con-
way.
An act to change the time of holding
one of the terms of the Circuit Court of
the United States for the district of North
Carolina.
An act to grant a right of pre-emption
to Philip F. Dering and Robert H. Cham-
berlain to a tract of mineral land.
An act in addition to an act to establish
a Court at Key West in the State of Flor-
ida.
An act to amend an act entitled "An
act to regulate the carriage of passengers
on merchant vessels," and to determine the
time when said act shall take effect.
An act to provide for the punishment of
prisoners in certain cases.
An act for the relief of Francis Som-
mer.
An act making further appropriation to
bring the existing war with Mexico to a
speedy and honorable conclusion.
An act relinquishing to the city of Mad-
ison, in the State of Indiana all the right
and title of the United States to a certain
piece of unsurveyed land lying within the
limits of said city, and bordering on the
Ohio River.
An act providing for the building and
equipment of four naval steamships.
An act making provision for an addi-
tional number of general officers, and for
other purposes.
An act to amend an act entitled "an
act to raise for a limited time an addi-
tional military force, and for other purposes."
An act for the relief of Susan Brum.
An act for the relief of Elizabeth Adams.
An act for the relief of Thomas N.
Newell.
An act for the relief of Henry La Rein-
tree.
An act for the relief of James H. Conley.
An act for the relief of William N. Walt-
hall.
An act for the relief of the widow and
heirs of John B. Chaudonia.
An act for the relief of Jacob L. Vance.
An act for the relief of Josiah Haskell.
do do benefit of James Williams.
do granting a pension to Silas Chat-
field.
do for the relief of the assignees of
the late Bank of Alexandria.
An act for the relief of Harvey Reynolds.
do do do Catharine Stevenson.
do do do Ann Clayton.
do do do Elizabeth Fitch.
do do do Thankful Reynolds.
do do do Elizabeth Calkins, the
widow of Silas Winans.
do for the relief of Johnathan Hoyt.
do to increase the pension of Ros-
well Hale.
An act for the relief of Edith Ramsey.
An act to provide for the final settle-
ment of the accounts of John Spencer, late
receiver of public moneys at Fort Wayne,
Indiana.
An act for the relief of—
John C. Stewart and others.
The estates of Benj. Metoyer and
Francis Gaiennie, deceased.
Isaac Guess.
The heirs of Hincynth Lasselle.
James Green, of the county of
Fauquier, State of Virginia.
Wilfred Knott.
Bernard O'Neill.
John Pickett and others.
Harrison Whitson.
Job Hawkins.
John Speakman.
The legal representatives of John

act to provide for the payment of horses or
other property lost and destroyed in the
military service of the United States," ap-
proved the 18th day of January, 1837.
An act to provide for the payment of
any interest falling due on the public debt.
An act for the relief of the Bank of the
Metropolis.
An act making appropriations for the
support of the army and of volunteers for
the year ending 30th June, 1848, and for
other purposes.
An act making appropriations for the
support of the Military Academy for the
year ending on the 30th June, 1848.
An act for the increase of the marine
corps of the United States.
An act making appropriations for the
service of the Post Office Department for
the year ending on the 30th June, 1848.
An act making appropriations for the
payment of Revolutionary and other pen-
sions of the United States for the year
ending the 30th June, 1848.
An act authorizing the erection of cer-
tain light-houses, and for other purposes.
An act for the admission of the State of
Iowa into the Union.
An act to raise for a limited time an
additional military force, and for other pur-
poses.
An act to provide for the establishment
of additional post routes in the State of
Texas.
An act to regulate the carriage of pas-
sengers in merchant vessels.
An act making appropriations for the
current and contingent expenses of the
Indian Department, and for fulfilling treaty
stipulations with the various Indian tribes
for the year ending June 30, 1848.
An act making appropriations for the
naval service for the year ending the 30th
June, 1848.
An act to authorize the constituted au-
thorities of the city of Du Buque, in the
State of Iowa, to enter certain islands be-
tween the landings of said city and the
main channel of the Mississippi river.
An act to create an additional land dis-
trict in the Territory of Wisconsin, and for
other purposes.
An act creating a collection district in
Maine, and constituting Bangor, in said
district, a port of entry and delivery.
An act making appropriations for the
payment of navy pensions for the year
ending 30th June, 1848.
An act for the relief of Ray Tompkins
and others, the children and heirs at law
of the late Daniel D. Tompkins.
An act granting a pension to Patrick
Kelly.
An act for the relief of Joshua Shaw.
An act for the relief of Julius Eldred,
Elisha Eldred, and Francis E. Eldred, for
expenses and services in removing the
copper rock from Lake Superior.
An act for the relief of Joseph Warren
Newcomb.
An act for the relief of the citizens of
Beetown, in the Territory of Wisconsin.
An act for the relief of W. P. S. Sanger
and George de la Roche.
An act for the relief of Dr. Clarke Lilly-
bridge.
An act for the relief of Frederick Hop-
kins, of the county of Chenango, in the
State of New York.
An act for the relief of the heirs of Ser-
geant Major John Champe.
An act for the relief of James Jones, of
the city of Brooklyn.
An act for the relief of the legal repre-
sentatives of Thomas Shields, deceased.
An act for the relief of Susan Brum.
An act for the relief of Elizabeth Adams.
An act for the relief of Thomas N.
Newell.
An act for the relief of Henry La Rein-
tree.
An act for the relief of James H. Conley.
An act for the relief of William N. Walt-
hall.
An act for the relief of the widow and
heirs of John B. Chaudonia.
An act for the relief of Jacob L. Vance.
An act for the relief of Josiah Haskell.
do do benefit of James Williams.
do granting a pension to Silas Chat-
field.
do for the relief of the assignees of
the late Bank of Alexandria.
An act for the relief of Harvey Reynolds.
do do do Catharine Stevenson.
do do do Ann Clayton.
do do do Elizabeth Fitch.
do do do Thankful Reynolds.
do do do Elizabeth Calkins, the
widow of Silas Winans.
do for the relief of Johnathan Hoyt.
do to increase the pension of Ros-
well Hale.
An act for the relief of Edith Ramsey.
An act to provide for the final settle-
ment of the accounts of John Spencer, late
receiver of public moneys at Fort Wayne,
Indiana.
An act for the relief of—
John C. Stewart and others.
The estates of Benj. Metoyer and
Francis Gaiennie, deceased.
Isaac Guess.
The heirs of Hincynth Lasselle.
James Green, of the county of
Fauquier, State of Virginia.
Wilfred Knott.
Bernard O'Neill.
John Pickett and others.
Harrison Whitson.
Job Hawkins.
John Speakman.
The legal representatives of John

Lanson, deceased.
An act to grant a pre-emption right to
the heirs and legal representatives of John
Smith T.
An act for the relief of—
James Penoyer.
The legal representatives of Wil-
liam Bruce.
Wm. Causey.
John Van Slyck.
The administrators of Joseph Ed-
son, dec'd., late marshal of the
district of Vermont.
Joseph Gideon.
Lewis C. Sartori.
The legal representatives of Joseph
E. Primeau and Thos. J. Chapman
George B. Russel and others.
The legal representatives of Simon
Spalding deceased.
The legal rep's. of James H. Clark.
An act to amend an act entitled "An
act to provide for the better organization
of the Department of Indian Affairs, and
an act entitled "An act to regulate trade
and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and
to preserve peace on the frontiers, ap-
proved June 30, 1834," and for other purposes.
An act for the relief of Mary Segar, and
for the relief of Elisha Dennison, admin-
istrator of Phenix Carpenter Ellis.
An act for the reduction of the oost and
expenses of proceedings in admiralty a-
gainst ships and vessels.
An act for the relief of Zachariah Sim-
mons, of the State of Tennessee.
An act for the relief of the heirs of John
Paul Jones.
An act to give the consent of Congress
to the sale of certain salt spring lands
heretofore granted to the States of Michi-
gan, Illinois and Arkansas.
An act to establish a port of entry at
Saluria, in the State of Texas.
Joint resolution to prohibit the sale at
private entry of certain lands in Cincin-
nati, Ohio.
Joint Resolution for the relief of Wm.
B. Stokes, surviving partner of John N. C.
Stockton & Co.
Joint resolution for the relief of the chil-
dren of Stephen Johnson, deceased.
Joint resolution relative to the prepara-
tion and presentation of medals to certain
French, British and Spanish officers.
Joint resolution for the relief of M. A.
Price and E. A. White.
Joint resolution authorizing and direct-
ing the examination and settlement of the
claims of Alexander M. Cumming.
Joint resolution for the settlement of the
accounts of Purser G. R. Barry.
Joint resolution for the relief of John
and Charles Bruce.
Joint resolution of thanks to Maj. Gen.
Zachary Taylor, the officers and soldiers
under his command, for their conduct in
storming the city of Monterey.

THE RESUMPTION BY MARYLAND
The vote in the Senate of Maryland on
the bill which had already passed the
House of Delegates for the resumption of
payment of interest on her State debt was,
by a slip of the pen, erroneously stated in
our last at 14 to 16, instead of fourteen
yeas to six nays, which was the real vote.
But for the accidental absence of one of
the friends of the bill, the yeas would have
been fifteen, being a vote of five-sevenths
of the Senate in favor of it; a vote which
ought, for the honor of the State of Mary-
land, to be truly recorded. The *Balti-
more American* of yesterday morning thus
announces the vote:—[Nat. Int.]
"MARYLAND AGAIN ERECT!
"Resumption Bill finally Passed!—Resto-
ration of the State's Credit!—Last
night's mail brought the very gratifying
intelligence of the passage yesterday, by
the Senate, of the important bill providing
for the resumption of the payment of in-
terest on the State debt, and for funding
the arrears of interest. The vote in the
Senate was 14 yeas to 6 nays. This most
desirable and excellent measure, having
previously passed the House, is now the
law of the State, and under its provisions
Maryland again resumes her proper posi-
tion among her sisters of the National
Confederacy."

THE SUBTREASURY SCHEME.
The Union charges the defeat of what
it calls "some very desirable amendments"
to the sub-treasury law to the "ill-judged
and frivolous interference of Mr. Senator
Badger." The country will thank Mr.
Badger for his interference. The amend-
ments proposed were only designed to re-
lieve the Administration from the embar-
rassments it meets with in the operation
of one of its most "ill-judged" measures,
while the people, who are made to suffer
some under that measure, were to be
screwed down a little tighter. The prac-
tice of forcing such measures through at
the eleventh hour, without giving a mo-
ment for examination or consideration,
has been too common under the present
dynasty, and we rejoice that Mr. Badger
has availed himself of his right as a Sen-
ator to stop it.—*Alex. Gazette.*

The United States steamer *Hunter* left
New Orleans again on the 1st instant for
the Gulf of Mexico. The accident which
caused her return to port was not so se-
rious as was at first supposed.

EXTRACTS
From the Speech of Mr. STEWART, of Penn-
sylvania, on the Three Million Bill, delivered
in the House of Representatives:
But the President insists, that Mexico struck
first. Is this true? If so, that is enough; why
assign twenty other insufficient reasons for this
war! The course of the President puts me in
mind of a case of outrageous assault and bat-
tery tried in the west. The defendant's coun-
sel admitted the charge, but undertook to jus-
tify. He came into court with his plea, some-
thing like the message in length, containing
twenty-four distinct grounds of defence. To
the terror of the court he opened his volume,
and commenced reading: "If the court please,
our first ground of defence is, that the prosecu-
tor struck first." "Stop," said the court, "stop
—that's enough—prove that, and we want no
more." "Aye, but," said the lawyer, "un-
fortunately for my client, that's just what we
can't prove!" "Then, why did you put it in?"
"To save appearances, if your honors please."
"Just so in this case—"To save appearances,"
the President says, Mexico struck first;" but,
not being able to prove it, he goes back twenty-
odd years to give, what he calls, "a history
of the causes that led to the war," instead of
giving the true causes in a word, by saying,
"first, the annexation of Texas; second, the
acquisition of California."
But gentlemen dwell much upon the "glory,"
of this war. Glory! is there any glory to be
got by the conquest of these miserable dem-
agogue, down-trodden, and distracted Mexicans?
Is it glory for an elephant to kill an ant, or
a lion to murder a mouse? Glory? No, sir;
that would do. There would be more true glory
in exercising generosity, magnanimity, and
supercarriage towards poor Mexico, than in kill-
ing her people, and robbing her of her territory.
A war with Mexico can be glorious in no event,
it may be disgraceful; victory over such an en-
emy is not glorious, while defeat would be the
deepest disgrace. Individuals have acquired
and may acquire glory by brilliant achieve-
ments and deeds of noble daring, but national
glory is out of the question.
Now, sir; though I disapprove of this war, in
its origin and in its objects; though I condemn
both the manner of its commencement and the
manner of its prosecution, yet I have voted both
men and money asked for by the President to
bring it to a speedy and honorable termination.
And why? Because we had no escape. The
President had plunged us into the war without
our consent. Our brave little army was cut off
from its supplies, and in danger of utter destruc-
tion. We were obliged to rescue them by
sending speedy succor. But I never voted to
prosecute this war for the purpose of acquir-
ing additional territory by conquest. No, sir,
never. If we shall succeed in getting this ter-
ritory, what shall we do with it? Shall we hold
it by military occupation? By sending an ar-
my there, and keeping it there forever, with all
its appendages and oppressive burdens of taxa-
tion, crushing the people of this country to the
earth? Or shall we incorporate it into the Union?
And, if we do, are those semi-barbarian,
half-blood, negro, and mulatto Mexicans fit for
freedom? Are they capable of being free?—
Can you force them to be free? No, sir; you
know you cannot. But, even if you could, have
you any right to force freedom upon these un-
willing men? Are we to go and bring them in
by force—drag these resisting people into our
Union by the hair of their head? But, even
if willing to come, what preparation have they?
Are they qualified to exercise the rights of A-
merican citizens? But, more than that, they
are in a state of the highest exasperation against
us. Sir, I would as soon bring a den of exas-
perated rattlesnakes into the midst of my fam-
ily, as attempt to force these treacherous and
miserable Mexicans into political union with
ourselves—unwilling and exasperated as they
are. The result would be discord, strife, civil
war, and, ultimately, and perhaps at no distant
day, the dissolution of this now happy and glo-
rious Union. I cannot sanction this appropria-
tion for another reason. To do so would be to
sanction the doctrine so boldly and unblush-
ingly avowed here by the gentleman from Indiana,
over the way, (Mr. Wick,) who says, that we
are here simply to ask the Executive what he
wants; and that, if we are not willing to grant
it, we ought to go home, and let the people send
here those who are. That is the rule he pre-
scribes for himself and all good democrats.—
Yes, that is the doctrine openly preached on this
floor—the floor of an American Congress—by
the gentleman from Indiana, who assumes to be
"Sir Oracle"—the official whipper in of the
Democratic party—the grand sheriff and head
constable, set up and authorized to bring the
Democracy to order. And has it come to this?
Is this your modern progressive democracy,
that the President must have not only whatever
he wants, but in the form he wants it? The
purse and the sword he already has, and this
bill adds the treaty-making power. A more
despiciously slavish creed never was taught un-
der the dagger and the cord in the most grind-
ing despotisms that ever has outraged the rights
of man. What does it make of the representa-
tives of a free people? The poorest, meanest,
most sycophantic, subservient, and crawling
slaves that ever licked the foot of arbitrary pow-

er. We must give the President all he asks!
Indeed! what business, then, have we here?
Why not go home, and save expense? One
man is all we want. And yet that is modern
Democracy, promulgated by a self-styled polit-
ical philosopher, who prides himself greatly on
his wisdom, but more on his transcendental de-
mocracy. This is not democracy; it is the re-
verse of the old and true democracy to which I
belonged, and still belong; it is the concentra-
tion of all power in the President; the one-man
power; monarchy in fact, and, if not checked
and rebuked by the people, will soon be mon-
archy in form as well as in fact. But, sir, the
day is now dawning in the East. The clouds
and darkness that overshadow us are fast dis-
appearing. The decree has gone forth. The
time is at hand when the people will redeem
themselves from the doings and the doctrines of
this destructive Democracy.
Sir, I here venture to say, that if James K.
Polk, when he came into power, had set himself
down, in Cabinet council, to devise a system of
measures to destroy, first, his country, and next,
his party, he could not have contrived a system
better calculated to achieve the object than the
one he has adopted and carried out.
As to its effects upon the party, look at the
scenes of this morning—look at the scenes that
daily surround us—the divisions, dissensions,
quarrels, and fights, that are daily occurring on
this floor, between the belligerent divisions and
regiments of the "harmonious Democracy." Ask
the Democrats from Pennsylvania, New
York, and Ohio, what turned them out last fall,
and they will tell you, and tell you truly, "it
was Polk and his policy" that done it. As to
its effects upon the country, look at its condition
when he came into power, and look at it now.
Who could have believed that such a change
could have been effected in so short a time?—
Then the country was in the enjoyment of peace
and prosperity; already both are destroyed.—
Then the national industry was protected and
prosperous, and the revenue abundant under the
tariff of '42; now our national industry and our
revenue have been both put down together by
the infamous British tariff of '46. True, sir,
Providence has, to some extent, counteracted the
destructive effects of the Polk policy, by visiting
Europe with a famine, the failure of the potato
crop in Ireland, and of the wheat crop through-
out Europe, while we have been blessed with
an unusual, a superabundant crop, to supply this
deficiency. This has greatly increased our im-
ports, and sustained, to some extent, the reve-
nue; but this will be temporary.

From the National Intelligencer
THE NEW MAJOR-GENERALS SHIPS.
Our readers and the public are already
informed that Mr. Benton declines the ap-
pointment of Major General. The whole
project and proceeding of the Administra-
tion on the subject with which this declin-
ing of a Major General's commission by the
Senator from Missouri is connected,
strike us as strongly illustrating the shifting
policy, infirmity of purpose, or else
the want of any regular plan (with which
the Administration is conducting the most
important affairs. No President was ever
half so full of projects, and no President
has seen such a cold reception given to
them, in succession, by his own friends
in Congress.
Two months ago we were to have a
Lieutenant General, taken from civil life,
placed at the head of the army in Mexico,
with a diplomatic commission in the pocket
of his regimental small-clothes, to fight
or treat, as he should think best; and, lest
neither fighting nor treating for peace in
the common way should promise success,
three millions of dollars were to be placed
at his disposal, that he might try what vir-
tue there was in coin. Mr. Benton, it was
understood, was to fill these high offices
and to undertake these most responsible
duties. He has been a soldier, now long a
Senator, and his standing with the Presi-
dent's party undoubtedly pointed him out
as the man, if there was to be any man,
who should go to the seat of war, super-
sede General Scott and General Taylor,
and appear in Mexico as Mr. Polk's alter
Ego, not only as commander-in-chief of
the army and navy, but also as the source
and fountain of the treaty-making power.
In short, so far as the Mexican war was
concerned, the country was to be deprived
of the eminent talents and great experi-
ence of the President altogether; his func-
tions, in this respect, were all to cease,
and beyond the Nueces or the Rio Grande,
his image and superscription were about
to be seen, clearly stamped and brilliantly
shining, in the person of the distinguished
Senator from Missouri. Alas! the great
as well as the little, of this world are doom-
ed to disappointment.
"The best laid schemes of mice and
men, gang aft agley."
Congress had the hardness of heart to
refuse to create such an office as that of
Lieutenant General. Here was a balk.
But the policy and tactics, the strategy
upon which the Administration so much
values itself, are to shift and turn, to carry
on a small higgling play, even with
great subjects. Against the express sense
of Congress, in regard to this project of
creating a Roman Consul and sending
him to the armies, the President should
have proceeded no further. He had made
the proposition; it had been decisively re-

jected; and, in all dignity, we will not
in all propriety, the thing should have
stopped. But so it did not stop. An-
other shift was resorted to. A private
was stuck on to one of the bills, in the
moments of the session, declaring that
from officers of the same general rank—
that is, among the Major Generals—the
President might "designate" one to have
chief command; in other words, might
place a junior officer over the heads of his
seniors.
How could Congress be expected to
sanction such an authority as this? It had
refused to create the office of Lieutenant
General, to be filled by the nomination of
the President and the confirmation of the
Senate, in the common way. How pre-
posterous, then, to suppose that it would
trust the President himself, and by his own
authority, to create the office of Lieuten-
ant General, in effect, breaking down at
the same time, every just idea of military
rank and subordination? This scheme
failed, of course, as its predecessor had
done. Nevertheless, there is yet not an
end.
Just before the close of the session, Mr.
Benton was nominated and appointed a
Major General, simply a Major General.
To what end was this done? We had
already four Major Generals. Mr. Ben-
ton would be the fifth. Was it expected
that he would go to the wars, for the sake
of promotion, and in the hope of rising in
his profession till he should get to the head
of the army? Was the Senate to hear his
voice no more? Was he to put on regim-
entals that he might learn the art of
war and receive instructions, not only from
Gen. Scott and Gen. Taylor, but also from
officers more recently appointed, Gen. Pat-
terson and Gen. Butler? Certainly not.
The old idea of a Lieutenant General must
have been at the bottom of this nomination
and appointment of Mr. Benton as Major
General. Somehow, it was expected he
might be placed at the head, and have
the chief direction of things, both military
and civil, on the part of the United States
in Mexico.
It has been suggested that by the ar-
ticles of war the President may place a ju-
nior General at the head of the army, giv-
ing his superiors an election to serve un-
der him or retire. If this is practicable
and were to be done, Generals Scott and
Taylor would of course withdraw, as might
also the two other Major Generals.—That
Mr. Benton looked in some way to be at
the head of the army is undoubted; but
whatever was intended, or hoped, or pro-
jected, by making Mr. Benton simply a
Major General, it is all blown into this
air by the honorable Senator's conclusion
not to take the commission.
We know nothing of his reasons; and
it does not become us to conjecture them.
We doubt not he has acted on good
grounds.
Did he find that, under such a com-
mission, he could not exercise the functions
which he was desirous of discharging?
Or did he find that, after all, his powers
were to be so limited, his discretion so
trammelled, that he could not hope either
to do good or gain renown.
How, failing to obtain authority to put
Mr. Benton at the head of the army regu-
larly, by creating for him the office of
Lieutenant General, the President could
hope to avail himself of his services in
any useful manner, by making him Major
General number five, we know not. There
is a depth of policy in this which we do
not fathom.

IMPORTANT CORRESPONDENCE.
The following important correspondence
between Mr. Senator Benton and the Presi-
dent of the United States having become
public in the course of yesterday, we are
enabled to present it to our readers:—
National Int. of Friday.

LETTER FROM MR. BENTON TO
THE PRESIDENT.
WASHINGTON, March 6, 1847.
SIR: Without waiting for the formal-
ity of being presented with the commis-
sion of Major General in the army of the
United States, I think it right to inform you
at once that my acceptance or refusal of
that high appointment will depend entirely
upon public and national considerations,
of which you, yourself, will be the judge.
Personally I can have no wish for this of-
fice; but if you believe that I can be of
service to the country, I am willing to
forego all private considerations—separate
myself from my family, under painful
circumstances; resign my place in the
Senate, which is so dear to me—and pre-
ceed immediately to the theatre of war.
My only stipulation would be for the pow-
ers which I deem necessary to success,
and these would be both military and di-
plomatic—the command of the army and
authority to sign preliminaries of peace,
based upon terms previously approved by
you.
I beg you to believe, sir, that nothing
selfish or personal dictates this proposed
stipulation. There is no such thing as it.
It proceeds from a thorough conviction
that, with a subordinate command, I could
do no good in the army; on the contrary,
that my presence there would be impos-
sible and mischievous; for I am known; from
my public speeches, to disapprove the
plans, both of the late and of the present
commander—the defensive policy of the
one, and the San Juan de Uluva attack of
the other; and this being known, my
presence would operate as an applied
sure on the two generals, and might make
me, in spite of myself, the nucleus of dis-
content and insubordination. The com-
mand of the army, therefore, is the only
military position which I could hold in it.
Authority to conclude a peace, or at least
to sign the preliminaries of peace, I deem
highly essential to success, as it would
enable the commander-in-chief to take