

Mr. BAKER'S lecture before the Salisbury Institute, heretofore announced for the 10th instant, is necessarily postponed to Friday, the 17th instant. It will be delivered in the Court House, to commence at half past six o'clock.

The President's Message.—We commence, in this paper, the publication of the President's Message. Its great length precludes the possibility of giving it entire in one paper. The remainder shall appear in our next.

Mr. Polk, in this annual state paper to the numerous calls of the country, has come out explicitly enough as to the aims and ends of the war. Its aim he says is New Mexico and both the Californias, with the Rio del Norte for a boundary up to the Southern extremity of New Mexico. This was by no means the object in view at the beginning, but as Mexico began the war by spilling American blood upon our own soil, (aye! stick to that Master Brook.) it now becomes an incident to hold this territory by conquest as a compensation, and lest we shall have taken a little too much to meet the exact outlay, (reckoned in blood and treasure we suppose) why, he suggests the three millions already appropriated, as the equivalent for any such excess. What a very fair man!

He proposes that the war shall be prosecuted vigorously, and for that purpose, that Congress shall vote more men and more money. How many men will be wanted he does not exactly say, but as to money, he says, the revenue from all sources, will be, on the 30th of June next, FORTY-TWO MILLIONS EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS for the year ending then. In addition to this snug little pile of money he calls on Congress for EIGHTEEN MILLIONS FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS to meet the expenses of this year ending on that day, (30th June, 1848.) SIXTY-FIVE MILLIONS for one year!! But this is not all, Congress authorized a loan of TWENTY-THREE MILLIONS on the 28th of January last—how much of that sum has been used by this administration does not appear from this document, but we suppose not a very small fraction of it. It is most clear from what we can gather from this message, that the nation is in for a pretty expensive job in this Mexican war. But no man need flatter himself that this is a full showing of all we shall have expended at the end of this fiscal year. The thousand unfooted accounts that will hereafter come in—the pensions—the arrears—to officers and men—the compensations in land, and the innumerable other contingencies, will be something no doubt even should the war be then concluded. But should that not be the case, and his Excellency does not seem to hold out any such hope, the canker will still eat deeper into our finances. By way of relief, the President recommends a TAX ON COFFEE AND TEA, and he says that this will reduce the calculation by one million. This is a happy way of illustrating the idea of making people "sup sorrow." He proposes further, to relieve us from a part of these burdens by levying contributions of the enemy.—He says he gave such orders to our commanding Generals in Mexico, but they found it would not do, and so he bid them wait till they got into a more plentiful region. Where that region is to be found in Mexico, we think is among the doubtful things of this life. The tariff authorized for Mexico, is another of the wise experiments by which our purses are to be relieved: but thus far it is admitted that not much has been realized from this source. Upon the whole, if this war continues, we see no alternative but LOANS and TAXES.—Taxes—direct and indirect. If money was all we should lose by this war, it would not matter so much, but the human beings that are to be butchered on both sides—the human beings that have been slain. It makes humanity shudder to think of it. But have we not gained glory—have we not shown to the world that we have lots of military heroes? It is true, we have shown that the Mexicans are no match for our troops in the field. And who ever doubted that even before this war began.

As to military heroes, we are not sure that in civil life, they are the greatest blessings that could happen for us. Already both parties are running their heroes for office—they are not willing to wait and see whether they get home alive before they are clapping them into Congress and other high offices. When the survivors all get back, a mere man of peace and intellectual qualification, with nothing but moral and religious virtues will have to stand aside for the heroes.—To have killed a Mexican will be a sure passport to the General Assembly: to have commanded a company at Chapultepec or Buena Vista, will be good for a seat in Congress, but what will be done with the Brigadiers and Major Generals we don't know. We cannot deify them as was done for the Cæsars—we cannot canonize

them as was done for the Cæsars—we cannot canonize them to make but one or two of them. So unless we take all of them out amongst them, we are not sure that we can continue a very expensive war. The war has ceased. We have not yet discussed the subjects of the war as we would, but we will do it next week.

The Salsbury Watchman, says that Henry Clay would be President. If this be true, Henry Clay will be a great blessing to our country. How are we to account for this? The grapes are sour. We are told in the papers, that the grapes are pronounced the grapes to be sour, when they are green. Doubtless it is so. Prejudice them, as it is called, suit the grapes. That Mr. CLAY is an enemy. A suspicious mind is a great evil. A suspicious mind is a great evil. A suspicious mind is a great evil. A suspicious mind is a great evil.

PORK HOGS.—One sold here last week, and sold for cents neat. But it was a supply one-half the demand, do well, therefore, to call, have no doubt one or two would find a very ready sale, and a half per hundred, for new sausage. There are country who will have a circumstance rather than many here is greater, perhaps for many years previous.

CALIFORNIA.—The Washington correspondent refers to the value of the cost of its acquisition, and of interest in connection with it.

WASHINGTON.—The subject of our affairs is much discussed. I do not find that among others now on the scene who are intimately acquainted with California, any difference in regard to the expediency of retaining possession, and establishing a connection between it and the waters into the Gulf to the Mississippi river. The difference of opinion as to the soil of the country, and agricultural employment.

tain an honorable peace, and thereby secure ample indemnity for the expenses of the war, as well as to our much injured citizens, who hold large pecuniary demands against Mexico. Such, in my judgment, continues to be our true policy—indeed, the only policy which will probably secure a permanent peace.

It has never been contemplated by me as an object of the war, to make a permanent conquest of the Republic of Mexico, or to annihilate her separate existence as an independent nation. On the contrary, it has ever been my desire that she should maintain her nationality, and under a good Government adapted to her condition, be a free, independent, and prosperous Republic. The United States were the first among the nations to recognise her independence, and have always desired to be on terms of amity and good neighborhood with her. This she would not suffer. By her own conduct we have been compelled to engage in the present war. In its prosecution we seek not her overthrow as a nation; but, in vindication of our national honor, we seek to obtain redress for the wrongs she has done us, and indemnity for our just demands against her.—We demand an honorable peace; and that peace must bring with it indemnity for the past and security for the future. Hitherto Mexico has refused all accommodation by which such a peace could be obtained.

While our armies have advanced from victory to victory, from the commencement of the war, it has always been in the olive-branch in their hands: and it has been in the power of Mexico, at every step, to arrest hostilities by accepting it.

One great obstacle to the attainment of peace has undoubtedly arisen from another, and so has been so long held, a sense of insecurity in fact, or military Governments have been such has been this very cause, a rival placed, they feel it from power. Such was the king, President Herrera's Administration in Mexico, for being disposed even to listen to the overtures of the United States to prevent the war, as is fully confirmed by an official correspondence which took place in the month of August last, between him and his Government, a copy of which is herewith communicated.—"For this cause alone the revolution which displaced him from power was set on foot" by General Paredes. Such may be the condition of insecurity of the present Government.

There can be no doubt that the peaceable and well-disposed inhabitants of Mexico are convinced that it is the true interest of their country to conclude an honorable peace with the United States; but the apprehension of becoming the victims of some military faction or usurper may have prevented them from manifesting their feelings by any public act. The removal of any such apprehension would probably cause them to speak their sentiments freely, and to adopt the measures necessary for the restoration of peace. With a people distracted and divided by contending factions, and a Government subject to constant changes, by successive revolutions, the continued successes of our arms may fail to secure a satisfactory peace. In such event, it may become proper for our commanding generals in the field to give encouragement and assurances of protection to the friends of peace in Mexico in the establishment and maintenance of a free republican government of their own choice, able and willing to conclude a peace which would be just to them and secure to us the indemnity we demand. This may become the only mode of obtaining such a peace. Should such be the result, the war which Mexico has forced upon us would thus be converted into an enduring blessing to herself. After finding her torn and distracted by factions, and ruled by military usurpers, we should then leave her with a republican government, in the enjoyment of real independence, and domestic peace and prosperity, performing all her relative duties in the great family of nations, and promoting her own happiness by wise laws and their faithful execution.

If, after affording this encouragement and protection, and after all the persevering and sincere efforts we have made, from the moment Mexico commenced the war, and prior to that time, to adjust our differences with her, we shall ultimately fail, then we shall have exhausted all honorable means in pursuit of peace, and must continue to occupy her country with our troops, taking the full measure of indemnity into our own hands, and must enforce the terms which our honor demands.

To act otherwise, in the existing state of things in Mexico, and to withdraw our army without a peace, would not only leave all the wrongs of which we complain unredressed, but would be the signal for new and fierce civil dissensions and new revolutions—all alike hostile to peaceful relations with the United States. Besides, there is danger, if our troops were withdrawn before a peace was concluded, that the Mexican people, wearied with successive revolutions, and deprived of protection for their persons and property, might at length be inclined to yield to foreign influences, and to cast themselves into the arms of some European monarch for protection from the anarchy and suffering which would ensue. This, for our own safety, and in pursuance of our established policy, we should be compelled to resist.—We could never consent that Mexico should be thus converted into a monarchy governed by a foreign prince.

Mexico is our near neighbor, and her boundaries are coterminous with our own through the whole extent across the North American continent, from ocean to ocean. Both politically and commercially we have the deepest interest in her regeneration and prosperity. Indeed, it is impossible that, with any just regard to our own safety, we can ever become indifferent to her fate.

It may be that the Mexican Government and people have misconstrued or misunderstood our forbearance and our objects in desiring to conclude an amicable adjustment of the existing differences between the two countries. They may have supposed that we would submit to terms degrading to the nation; or they may have drawn false inferences from the supposed division of opinion in the United States on the subject of the war, and may have calculated to gain much by protracting it; and, indeed, that we might ultimately abandon it altogether, without insisting on any indemnity, territorial or otherwise. Whatever may be the false impressions under which they have acted, the adoption and prosecution of the energetic policy proposed must soon undeceive them.

In the future prosecution of the war, the enemy must be made to feel its pressure more than they have heretofore done. At its commencement, it was deemed proper to conduct it in a spirit of forbearance and liberality. With this end in view, early measures were adopted to conciliate, as far as a state of war would per-

mit, the mass of the Mexican population; to convince them that the war was waged not against the peaceful inhabitants of Mexico, but against their faithless Government, which had commenced hostilities; to remove from their minds the false impressions which their designing and interested rulers had artfully attempted to make, that the war on our part was one of conquest; that it was a war against their religion and their churches, which were to be desecrated and overthrown; and that their rights of person and private property would be violated. To remove these false impressions, our commanders in the field were directed scrupulously to respect their religion, their church property, which were in no manner to be violated; they were directed also to respect the rights of persons and property of all who should not take up arms against us.

Assurances to this effect were given to the Mexican people by Maj. Gen. Taylor, in a proclamation issued in pursuance of instructions from the Secretary of War, in the month of July, 1846, and again by Major General Scott of acted upon his convictions of the propriety of issuing it in a proclamation of the 22d of May, 1847.

In this spirit of liberality and conciliation, and with a view to pressing up arms against us, and a population free on our part. Provisions for the war were furnished to our army by and other means were paid for at fair and liberal prices agreed upon by the parties. After a lapse of a few months, it became apparent that these assurances, and this mild treatment had failed to produce the desired effect upon the Mexican population. While the war had been conducted on our part according to the most humane and liberal principles observed by civilized nations, it was waged in a far different spirit on the part of Mexico. Not appreciating our forbearance, the Mexican people generally became hostile to the United States, and availed themselves of every opportunity to commit the most savage excesses upon our troops. Large numbers of the population took up arms, and, engaging in guerrilla warfare, robbed and murdered in the most cruel manner individual soldiers, or small parties, whom accident or other causes had separated from the main body of our army; bands of guerrilleros and robbers infested the roads, harassed our trains, and, whenever it was in their power, cut off our supplies.

The Mexicans having thus shown themselves to be wholly incapable of appreciating our forbearance and liberality, it was deemed proper to change the manner of conducting the war, by making them feel its pressure according to the usages observed under similar circumstances by all other civilized nations.

Accordingly, as early as the twenty-second of September, 1846, instructions were given by the Secretary of War to Maj. Gen. Taylor to "draw supplies" for our army "from the enemy, without paying for them, and to require contributions for its support," if in that way he was satisfied he could "get abundant supplies for his forces." In directing the execution of these instructions, much was necessarily left to the discretion of the commanding officer, who was best acquainted with the circumstances by which he was surrounded, and the wants of the army, and the practicability of enforcing the measure.

Gen. Taylor on the twenty-sixth of October, 1846, replied from Monterey, that "it would have been impossible hitherto, and is so now, to sustain the army to any extent by forced contributions of money or supplies." "For the reasons assigned by him, he did not adopt the policy of his instructions, but declared his readiness to do so, should the army in its future operations, reach a portion of the country which may be made to supply the troops with advantage." He continued to pay for the articles of supply which were drawn from the enemy's country.

Similar instructions were issued to Major General Scott on the third of April, 1847, who replied from Jalapa, on the twentieth of May, 1847, that if it be expected that "the army is to support itself by forced contributions levied upon the country, we may ruin and exasperate the inhabitants, and starve ourselves." The same discretion was given to him that had been given to Gen. Taylor in this respect. Gen. Scott, for the reasons assigned by him, also continued to pay for the articles of supply for the army which were drawn from the enemy.

After the army had reached the heart of the most wealthy portion of Mexico, it was supposed that the obstacles which had before that time prevented it would not be much as to render impracticable the levy of forced contributions for its support; and on the first of September, and again on the sixth of October, 1847, the order was repeated in despatches addressed by the Secretary of War to General Scott, and his attention was again called to the importance of making the enemy bear the burdens of the war by requiring them to furnish the means of supporting our army; and was directed to adopt this policy, unless, by doing so, there was danger of depriving the army of the necessary supplies. Copies of these despatches were forwarded to General Taylor for his government.

On the thirty-first of March last, I caused an order to be issued to our military and naval commanders to levy and collect a military contribution upon all vessels and merchandises which might enter any of the ports of Mexico in our military occupation, and to apply such contributions towards defraying the expenses of the war. By virtue of the right of conquest and the laws of war, the conqueror, consulting his own safety or convenience, may either exclude foreign commerce altogether from all such ports, or permit it upon such terms and conditions as he may prescribe. Before the principal ports of Mexico were blockaded by our navy, the revenue derived from impost duties, under laws of Mexico, was paid into the Mexican treasury. After these ports had fallen into our military possession, the blockade was raised, and commerce with them permitted upon prescribed terms and conditions. They were opened to the trade of all nations upon the payment of duties more moderate in their amount than those which had been previously levied by Mexico; and the revenue, which was formerly paid into Mexican treasury, was directed to be collected by our military and naval officers, and applied to the use of our army and navy. Care was taken that the officers, soldiers, and sailors of our army and navy should be exempted from the operations of the order; and as the merchandise imported upon which the order must be consumed by Mexican citizens, the contributions exacted were, in effect, the seizure of the public revenues of Mexico, and the application of them to our own use. In directing this measure, the object was to compel the enemy to contribute, as far as practicable, towards the expenses of the war.

For the amount of contributions which have been levied in this form, I refer you to the accompanying reports of the Secretary of War and of the Secretary of the Navy, by which it

appears that a sum exceeding half a million of dollars has been collected.

This amount would undoubtedly have been much larger, but for the difficulty of keeping open communications between the coast and the interior, so as to enable the owners of the merchandise imported, to transport and vend it to the inhabitants of the country. It is confidently expected that this difficulty will, to a great extent, be soon removed by our increased forces which have been sent to the field.

Measures have recently been adopted by which the internal as well as external revenues of Mexico, in all places in our military occupation, will be seized and appropriated to the use of our army and navy.

The policy of levying contributions upon the tributes in the country, which it may be practicable for our commanders to adopt, should, for our government, be rigidly enforced, and orders in its effect have accordingly been given. By such a policy, at the same time that our own treasury will be relieved from a heavy drain, the Mexican people will be made to feel the burdens of the war, and, consulting their own interests, may be induced the more readily to require their rulers to accede to a just peace.

After the adjournment of the last session of Congress, events transpired in the prosecution of the war which, in my judgment, required a greater number of troops in the field than had been anticipated. The strength of the army was accordingly increased by "accepting" the services of all the volunteer forces authorized by the act of the thirteenth of May, 1846, without putting a construction on that act, the correctness of which was seriously questioned. The volunteer forces now in the field, with those which had been "accepted," to "serve for twelve months," and were discharged at the end of their term of service, exhaust the fifty thousand men authorized by that act. Had it been clear, that a proper construction of the act warranted it, the services of an additional number would have been called for and accepted; but doubts existing upon this point, the power was not exercised.

It is deemed important that Congress should, at an early period of their session, confer the authority to raise an additional regular force to serve during the war with Mexico, and to be discharged upon the conclusion and ratification of a treaty of peace. I invite the attention of Congress to the views presented by the Secretary of War in his report upon this subject.

I recommend, also, that authority be given by law to call for and accept the services of an additional number of volunteers, to be exercised at such time and to such extent as the emergencies of the service may require.

In prosecuting the war with Mexico, whilst the utmost care has been taken to avoid every cause of complaint on the part of the neutral nations, and none has been given, liberal privileges have been granted to their commerce in the ports of the enemy in our military occupation.

The difficulty with the Brazilian government which at one time threatened to interrupt the friendly relations between the two countries, will, I trust, be speedily adjusted. I have received information that an envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the United States will shortly be appointed by his imperial Majesty; and it is hoped that he will come instructed and prepared to adjust all remaining differences between the two governments in a manner acceptable and honorable to both. In the meantime, I have every reason to believe that nothing will occur to interrupt our amicable relations with Brazil.

It has been my constant effort to maintain and cultivate the most intimate relations of friendship with all the independent Powers of South America; and this policy has been attended with the happiest results. It is true, that the settlement and payment of many just claims of American citizens against these nations have been long delayed. The peculiar position in which they have been placed, and the desire on the part of my predecessors, as well as myself, to grant them the utmost indulgence, have hitherto prevented these claims from being urged in a manner demanded by strict justice. The time has arrived when they ought to be finally adjusted and liquidated, and efforts are now making for that purpose.

It is proper to inform you that the government of Peru has in good faith paid the first two instalments of the indemnity of thirty thousand dollars each and the greater portion of the interest due thereon, in execution of the convention between that government and the United States, the ratifications of which were exchanged at Lima on the thirty-first of October, 1846. The Attorney General of the United States, early in August last, completed the adjudication of the claims under this convention and made his report thereon, in pursuance of the act of the eighth of August, 1846.—The sums to which the claimants are respectively entitled will be paid on demand at the treasury.

(To be concluded next week.)

THE MARKETS.

Table with market prices for various goods in Salisbury, Fayetteville, and Cheraw, including items like Apples, Brandy, Butter, and Flour.

NEGROES TO HIRE!

WILL hire out on the 1st day of January, 1848, at the Court House, in Salisbury, (for one year) about thirty Negroes, belonging to the heirs of George McCannaghey and Littleton Brown.

by the United States, the national honor, no less than the public interests, requires that the war should be prosecuted with increased energy and power until a just and satisfactory peace can be obtained. In the mean time, as Mexico refuses all indemnity, we should adopt measures to indemnify ourselves, by appropriating a portion of her territory. Early after the commencement of the war, New Mexico and the Californias were taken possession of by our forces. Our military and naval commanders were ordered to conquer and hold them, subject to be disposed of by a treaty of peace. These provinces are now in our undisputed occupation, and have been so for months; all resistance on the part of Mexico having ceased within their limits. I am satisfied that they should never be surrendered to Mexico. Should Congress concur with me in this opinion, and that they should be retained by the United States as indemnity, I can perceive no good reason why the civil jurisdiction and laws of the United States should not at once be extended over them. To wait for a treaty of peace, such as we are willing to make, by which our relations towards them would not be changed, cannot be good policy; whilst our own interest, and that of the people inhabiting them, require that a stable, responsible, and free government under our authority should, as soon as possible, be established over them. Should Congress, therefore, determine to hold these provinces permanently, and that they shall hereafter be considered as constituent parts of our country, the early establishment of territorial governments over them will be important for the more perfect protection of persons and property; and I recommend that such territorial governments be established. It will promote peace and tranquility among the inhabitants, by allaying all apprehension that they may still entertain of being again subjected to the jurisdiction of Mexico. I invite the early and favorable consideration of Congress to this important subject.