

come when it will, I stand prepared to make good my ground.

It was formerly urged by the Senator from Kentucky, that this measure would create dissension; but, as it is out of order now, I suppose, to speak of dissension, it is therefore now urged by the Senator that it will cause consolidation. Sir, I feel equal confidence in my ability to meet this question as to meet the other.

But the Senator says the State Legislatures are in session, and wishes to hear further the expression of public sentiment. This is a reason for progressing with the bill. Let us argue here, and let our arguments go to the States, pro and con; we can discuss the subject better than the States, as we are necessarily possessed of full information; and, before we come to a decision, most of the State Legislatures will have adjourned. The political friends of the Senator in the Legislatures would, I doubt not like to be enlightened by his views on the subject. But there are other reasons for proceeding at once. The state of commerce and the business of the country demand an early decision.

But the Senator complains that the order of business has been reversed; that great measures, formerly originated only in the House, are now originated in the Senate. The Senate is a smaller body; and, from the necessity of the case, it has taken the lead. The Senate formerly sat with closed doors, on legislative as well as executive business; and if the Senator's argument is good, they should do so now. But the Senate is more numerous and popular now than it was then. I hope the bill will be taken up, and let the argument proceed, even if we do not come to a decision before we obtain all the information which the Senator desires. We can wait for the decision, and let the arguments go on.

Mr. CLAY said the honorable Senator, with a vast deal of self-complacency, avows his readiness at all times to meet and repel arguments from any quarter on the points to which he has alluded. Sir, it is not my habit to give challenges in advance; but the Senator may rest assured that, with whatever ability he may prove there is no augmentation of Executive patronage by this measure. I think far less ability may prove the contrary, when the question comes up; and that consolidation, also, of the powers of the Government is a necessary consequence of the measure under consideration. I shall not enter into the argument now; if my argument is designed to show the vast importance of this measure, and to invite the Senate to wait the expressions of opinions which we have cause to expect from all quarters of the Union.

But the Senator thinks we ought not to wait, but first argue the subject here, and send our opinions to the jury of the country. But suppose a Senator commits himself for or against the measure, and instructions come directing him to take the opposite course; what is he to do then? Must he take back his argument and eat his words? No, sir; let us inquire, and get our instructions in the good old way, and let us obey them. Let us not commit ourselves one way or the other, till we hear from our constituents.

Mr. C again urged that important measures ought to originate, as formerly, in the other House. He would make no motion to delay this bill, and no objection to Mr. Hubbard's motion. If the friends of this measure, said Mr. C, will not wait for further information, let them come on; we are prepared for them, and ready to meet even their redoubtable champion from South Carolina, and to show that the tendency of this measure is to overturn the liberties of the People, and to give to one man the powers of the Government.

The Senator says it is not now in order to speak of disunion; and he does not see that this measure can lead both to consolidation and disunion. Sir, I said at the last session, and I now repeat, that the want of a uniform currency is unfavorable to union, and its tendency is unfriendly to its existence; and I say, also, that consolidation is a result of this measure; that it is a dangerous and destructive to the Union, because it will appear that it is ruinous to the best interests of the country, and destructive to liberty.

As to the Senator's readiness to repel arguments whenever the question shall arise, I trust I can show to the country, to every unprejudiced man, that the consequences which I have mentioned will ensue from this measure.

Sir, let the motion of the Senator from New Hampshire prevail, if the friends of this measure are not disposed to wait and hear from the high authorities that are now considering it; and let them precipitate themselves down the road to ruin in which they are proceeding, the ruin not only of the Administration, but of the country; we are ready to act for their salvation in the best manner we can.

It will be perceived that, from an unfortunate mistake in arranging the above debate, Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Clay have been speaking to the benches. Of course the whole of the debate should have preceded the adjournment of the Senate. The mistake was not observed, until after the first side was printed off.

Nor Blow.—A correspondent of the Delaware Gazette states that there is a lady residing near Brandywine, who has given birth to five children in less than twelve months.

TWENTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

Saturday, February 3, 1838.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

After disposing of some Executive communications and Senate bills—

Mr. Talliferro now rose, and observing that as it was, he believed, the general wish of the House to get a question on the long discussed subject of the Mississippi election before the House should rise this day, moved to suspend the remaining business of the morning hour, and proceed at once to the special order of the day.

The motion prevailed; the rules were suspended for the purpose, and the House resumed the debate on the MISSISSIPPI CONTESTED ELECTION.

The question being on the amendment moved by Mr. Robertson, of Virginia, to the amendment of Mr. Howard to the resolution of Mr. Bell, viz. proposing to strike out the word "not," so as to declare that Messrs. Prentiss and Word are members of the twenty-fifth Congress.

Mr. Bell, who had the floor from yesterday, rose to address the House, but, in his introductory remarks, objected to the form of Mr. Howard's amendment; (which proposes to declare that Prentiss and Word are not members of the 25th Congress) as affirming a mere truism; for it was undeniable that, at this moment, those gentlemen were not members of the House; the question in debate being whether they should be admitted as such.

Mr. Robertson, admitting the force of this objection, said that it applied equally to Mr. Bell's amendment, striking out the word "not," he intended, therefore, to modify the motion for amendment, so as to declare that Prentiss and Word are "elected" members of the 25th Congress.

Mr. Bell hoped the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. Howard] would so modify his proposition as to present some issue on which the House could be fairly divided, and which would settle something.

Mr. B. then went at large into the general argument, and especially in reply to Mr. Legare, in the course of which several explanations were from time to time made by Mr. Legare.

Mr. Rhett next obtained the floor, and, after repelling the idea that the South Carolina delegation had been influenced in this matter by party considerations, or the personal influence of any one of its members, proceeded to the argument, insisting that the decision of Congress in favor of Gholson and Claiborne, being a judicial decision, had all the force of the Constitution, and rendered the November election null, even though every man, woman, and child in Mississippi had concurred in it.

After some explanations between Mr. Howard and Mr. Bell—

Mr. Pope obtained the floor, but yielded it for a moment to

Mr. Cushing (who has sufficiently recovered to resume his seat in the House.) Mr. C. reminded the House of his protest at the commencement of the called session against the loose practice in forming the roll of members without the exhibition of their credentials; to which he (as Mr. Rhett had done) traced all the difficulty of the present case.

Mr. Pope then resumed the floor, and went at large into an extensive argument, in which he took up the case on legal grounds and their grounds of the Constitution, and precedents. He spoke with much earnestness till five o'clock. Explanations passed between him and Mr. McKay, of N. C., about the election laws of North Carolina.

Mr. Martin obtained the floor, and intimating his wish to address the House, moved an adjournment.

On this question the yeas and nays were demanded, and being taken, resulted as follows: Yeas 108, nays 90. So the House adjourned without taking any question.

IN SENATE.

Monday, February 5.

The Vice President presented from the Treasury Department a list of all imported articles on which duties have been paid, with the amount of duties on each; and of all articles imported free of duty for the year 1837, in pursuance of a Senate resolution of the 19th ult.

Also, a statement of the contracts of the Department for 1837. Severally laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. McKean presented resolutions passed by the Legislature of Pennsylvania, requesting their Senators and Representatives in Congress to vote for and use their best exertions to obtain the passage of a law of the United States authorizing the construction of a McAdams road from the national road, at some suitable point west of the western base of the Laurel Hill, by way of the United States Arsenal, near Pittsburg, and the State Arsenal, at Meadesville, to the harbor of Erie, and appropriating a sufficient sum of money out of the Treasury of the United States for its immediate commencement and speedy completion. Referred to the Committee on Roads and Canals.

Mr. McKean presented the memorial of J. G. Palmer, and others, and the memorial of Justice Lewis and others, of Wyalusing in Pennsylvania,

praying Congress promptly to reject all propositions for the annexation of Texas to the Union, come from whatever source they may. Laid on the table.

Mr. Tallmadge also presented two remonstrances against the admission of Texas. Laid on the table.

Mr. Morris presented various memorials against slavery, and the slave trade. Motion to receive laid on the table.

The following petitions, &c. were presented and referred:

By Mr. Buchanan: Eight memorials from a great number of the citizens of Pittsburg, stating that under the act of the last session by which Congress authorized the selection of six sites for hospitals on the Western waters, the board appointed to select them, after having come up the Ohio as far as Steubenville, had there turned off, and had made no examination of Pittsburg. They stated that in this they had been unjustly treated, and Mr. B. said that, in his opinion, there was no place on the Western waters where a hospital might be so well and advantageously located as at Pittsburg, excepting only New Orleans. He trusted that Congress would not establish these hospitals till the claims of Pittsburg should be taken into view.

By Mr. Walker: To authorize the State of Mississippi to invest the two per cent. fund of that State.

Cession of the Public Lands.

By Mr. Calhoun: A bill to cede the public lands within the limits of the new States on certain conditions therein mentioned. Read twice, and referred to the Committee on the Public Lands.

Mr. Linn gave notice that he should on Wednesday, ask leave to introduce a bill to authorize the occupation of the Columbia or Oregon river.

The resolution offered by Mr. Williams, calling on the President for copies of the late correspondence in relation to the northeastern boundary, was taken up and agreed to.

Mr. Preston offered a resolution, authorizing the Committee on the Library to cause the Madisonian papers to be printed and published. Lies over one day.

Mr. Bayard offered a resolution instituting an inquiry in committee as to placing the officers of the staff of the revolutionary army on the same footing with the officers of the line in relation to grants of land. Lies over one day.

Sub-Treasury Bill.

On motion of Mr. Wright, the Senate took up the bill imposing additional duties as depositaries on certain public officers, creating receivers general of the public money, &c., and for other purposes.

Mr. Rives rose and addressed the Senate at large in opposition to the plan proposed by the bill, and in support of the substitute which he had submitted. After he had spoken about two hours and a half, he yielded the floor for a motion for adjournment. And the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MISSISSIPPI CONTESTED ELECTION.

Mr. Martin, of Alabama, having the floor, gave way to

Mr. Glascock, who asked leave of the house to have read, at the Clerk's table, a communication from Mr. Claiborne, one of the sitting members, who is confined to his lodgings by illness. Leave being granted, the paper was read. It accompanied, and recommended to the consideration of the house, the resolutions of a meeting held in Mississippi by "the Democratic members of the Legislature" of that State, expressing their belief in the validity of the election of Messrs. Claiborne and Gholson, as members of the 25th Congress.

Mr. S. Williams asked from what paper the Clerk had been reading?

The Clerk responded, "The Globe."

Mr. Williams asked for the reading of the editorial remarks accompanying the article which had been read; and this request was refused by the following vote—Yeas 84, nays 90.

Mr. Glascock said that the manuscript copy of the proceedings of the meeting alluded to was in the house, and could be read, if desired.

Mr. McKay suggested a modification of his amendment to Mr. Howard, which the latter accepted, and modified his amendment so as to read as follows:

Resolved, That Sergeant S. Prentiss and Thomas J. Word are not entitled to seats in this house as members of the 25th Congress.

Mr. Martin, of Alabama, then resumed the floor, and spoke some time in favor of the amendment as modified. After he had finished,

Mr. Bell rose to make an explanation with regard to some remarks of his own, alleged by Mr. Rhett, of South Carolina, to have been used by himself, upon a former day, in relation to the influence of Mr. Legare upon his colleagues. He considered this to have been a misapprehension, as he could not remember any remarks which he had made that were liable to such an interpretation.

Mr. Campbell, of South Carolina, said he should adhere to his former course, and would vote for the amendment.

Mr. Parker, of New York, also sustained the amendment.

Mr. Underwood moved a call of the house, and demanded the yeas and nays on this motion, which were ordered; and the call was ordered by the following vote: Yeas 196, nays 5.

The House being called, Messrs.

Duncan, Hamer, Kilgore, and Webster, of Ohio, Mr. Smith, of Maine, Mr. Snyder and Mr. May, of Illinois, Mr. Murray, of Kentucky, Mr. Ripley, of Louisiana, and Mr. Towns, of Geo., were found to be absent. Messrs. Hamer, Kilgore, Murray, Ripley, Snyder, and Towns, were, on motion, excused; and soon after, Messrs. Smith, May, Duncan, and Webster, came in.

Mr. Clowney, of South Carolina, took the floor, and

Mr. Wise asked him to yield it, to enable Mr. Prentiss to address the house, in consequence of the communication made to that body by Mr. Claiborne this morning. [Cries of no! no! followed this request.]

Mr. Clowney, of South Carolina, said that he must reluctantly refuse this request, as he did not know when he should obtain the same opportunity again. He then addressed the House at length in explanation of the vote he should give in favor of the claimants.

Mr. Robertson withdrew his amendment (to strike out "not" from the amendment of Mr. Howard.)

Mr. Adams asked to have read, at the Clerk's table, the 15th section of the Declaration of Rights of the People of Mississippi; which was ordered. It is in the following words:

"Sec. 15. That no power of suspending laws shall be exercised except by the Legislature, or its authority."

[Mr. Maury, of Tennessee, (from a bed of illness) came in at this stage of the proceeding.]

The question was then taken on Mr. Howard's amendment, and decided as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Anderson, Andrews, Atherton, Beatty, Beirne, Bicknell, Birdsell, Bouldin, Brothead, Bronson, Bruyn, Bynum, Cambreleng, John Campbell, Timothy J. Carter, Casey, Chaney, Chapman, Ciley, Clark, Cleveland, Coles, Connor, Craig, Cray, Cushman, Daves, DeGraff, Dromgoole, Duncan, Edwards, Farrington, Fairfield, Isaac Fletcher, Foster, Fry, Gallup, J. Garland, Glascock, Grantland, Grant, Gray, Haley, Hammond, Harrison, Hawkins, Haynes, Holey, Holt, Howard, Hubley, Wm. H. Hunter, Ingham, Thomas B. Jackson, J. Jackson, Joseph Johnson, Nathaniel Jones, J. W. Jones, Kemble, Klingensmith, Legare, Leadbetter, Logan, Loomis, James M. Mason, Martin, McKay, Robert McClellan, Abraham McClellan, McClure, McKim, Miller, Montgomery, Moore, Morgan, S. W. Morris, Muhlenberg, Murray, Noble, Owens, Palmer, Parker, Parmenter, Paynter, Pennysbacher, Petrick, Phelps, Plumer, Potter, Prat, Prentiss, Reily, Rhett, Richardson, Rives, Sheffer, Shepler, Smith, Spencer, Stuart, Taylor, Thomas, Titus, Toucey, Turner, Yail, Vanderveer, Wagner, Webster, Weeks, Albert S. White, F. T. Whitteley, Jared W. Williams, Worthington, Boon, Yell—117.

NAYS—Messrs. Adams, Alexander, H. Allen, W. Allen, Ayer, Bell, Bidler, Bond, Borden, Briggs, Buchanan, Wm. B. Calhoun, John Calhoun, Wm. B. Campbell, Wm. B. Carter, Chambers, Chesnut, Childs, Clowney, Coffin, Corwin, Cranston, Crockett, Curtis, Cushing, Darlington, Dawson, Daves, Deberry, Denis, Dunn, Elmore, Emswiler, Evans, Fanning, Fitcher, Fillmore, Garland, Goode, J. Graham, William Graham, Graves, Greenell, Griffin, Hall, Halsted, Harin, Harper, Hastings, Hawes, Henry, Herrod, Hoffman, Hopkins, R. M. T. Hunter, Jenifer, Henry Johnson, Wm. C. Johnson, Lawler, Lewis, Lincoln, Lyon, Malloy, Marvin, Samson, Mason, Maury, May, Maxwell, McKean, Menefee, Mercer, Milligan, Mitchell, Mathias, Morris, Catevay, Morris Taylor, Noyes, Ogle, Patterson, Patton, Pearce, Peck, Phillips, Pickens, Pope, Ports, Raden, Randolph, Reed, Rencher, Ridgway, Robertson, Rumsey, Russell, Swayer, Sergeant, A. H. Shepperd, C. Shepperd, Shields, Sibley, Slade, Southgate, Stanly, Stone, Stratton, Talliferro, Thompson, Tillinghast, Toland, Underwood, White, Elisha Whitteley, L. Williams, Sherrod, Williams, J. L. Williams, Christopher H. Williams, Wise, York—117.

The Chair voted in the affirmative.

So Mr. Bell's motion was amended, as moved by Mr. Howard, so as to read, "That Sergeant S. Prentiss and Thomas J. Word are not entitled to seats in this House as members of the 25th Congress."

The question then recurring on agreeing to the resolution thus amended.

After some conversation between Messrs. Wise and Boon, Mr. Prentiss addressed the House, in conclusion upon the subject of the resolution, as amended.

Mr. Underwood called for the yeas and nays, and asked for a division of the question upon the resolution as amended; both of which were ordered.

The question was then taken on the first branch of the resolution, (rescinding the resolution of the last session,) and decided by yeas and nays, as follows: Yeas 121, nays 115.

The question was then taken on the second branch of the resolution (declaring that Messrs. Prentiss and Word are not elected to the 25th Congress,) and was decided by yeas and nays as follows, (Mr. Snyder, of Illinois, having come in from a sick bed):—Yeas 118, nays 116.

So the House decided that Messrs. Prentiss and Word are not duly elected members of this Congress.

The question on the resolution, to communicate the fact to the Governor of Mississippi was then agreed to; Ayes 118, nays 116.

Mr. Rhett asked leave to offer a resolution, providing the payment of the usual per diem to Messrs. Prentiss and Word, from the day they presented their claims to a seat. Objected to.

On motion of Mr. Brownson, the House adjourned.

IN SENATE.

Tuesday, Feb. 6.

Mr. Grundy rose, and addressed the Chair as follows:

Mr. President: I have received, and now present to the Senate, the preamble and resolutions of the General Assembly of Tennessee; by one of which resolutions their Senators are instructed, and their Representatives re-

quested to vote against any law of general finance, such as is recommended by the President of the United States in his Message of September last. I understand the bill now before the Senate on this subject, and under discussion, to be such as is embraced by this resolution; and believing in the right of instruction by the Legislature, I feel no difficulty in declaring that I shall comply with these instructions in good faith and verity, voting against the bill; and as it respects questions which may arise in the course of its progress, I shall, without advising with or consulting any body, give such votes as, in my judgment, ought to be given by a fair and honorable opponent of this measure; and I design promptly to communicate to the Legislature of Tennessee the course of conduct which I adopt on this subject.

Mr. G. concluded by moving that this document be laid on the table; and printed; and it was so ordered.

The Vice President presented from the War Department abstracts of the general returns of the militia of the United States for 1837, their arms, equipments, &c. Referred, and ordered to be printed:

The report of the Commissioner on Indian Affairs, in reference to the Indian boundary referred to by the act authorizing the People of Missouri to form a State Government. Laid on the table.

Mr. Buchanan presented four memorials, and Mr. McKean several others of the same character as that presented yesterday by Mr. B. relating to the claims of Pittsburg to one of the six hospitals to be established on the Western waters. Referred.

By Mr. King, from the Legislature of Alabama asking the passage of a general pre-emption law; of a law graduating the price of the public lands; of a law authorizing the relinquishment of 16th sections for schools; and the entry of better lands; and of a law ceding the refuse lands found unproductive, to the several States where they lie. Ordered to be printed.

Commonwealth Bank of Boston.

Mr. Webster moved that the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, in answer to the resolution of the Senate calling for information respecting the amount of the public moneys in the Commonwealth Bank at Boston be referred to the Committee on Finance.

The report was, for the present, laid on the table to make way for

The Sub-Treasury Bill.

The Senate resumed the consideration of this bill, and

Mr. Rives resumed the floor and addressed the Senate about two hours in conclusion of the argument which he commenced yesterday, in opposition to the bill and in support of the plan comprised in his substitute. After he concluded,

Mr. Hubbard intimated an intention to give his views on the subject next. He now, however, merely offered an amendment; and after some incidental remarks by Mr. Clay, of Kentucky,

The Senate went into Executive business, and soon after adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of War, in obedience to the requirements of the act of March 2 1803, transmitting abstracts of the general returns of the militia of the United States, and of their arms, accoutrements, and ammunition for the year 1837.

Committee on Public Lands.

Mr. Boon reported the Senate bill No. 2 to grant pre-emption rights to settlers on the public lands with amendments.

Committee on Territories.

Mr. Bronson reported a bill to divide the Territory of Wisconsin, and to establish the territorial government of Iowa.

From Select Committee.

Mr. Duncan reported a bill to purchase the right to use the apparatus invented and patented by Boyd Reilly for applying gas or vapor to the human body, in the naval and military service, in the hospitals, and in the penitentiaries of the United States.

THE MISSISSIPPI ELECTION.

The rules being suspended for the purpose.

Mr. Rhett, moved the following resolution: Resolved, That the Clerk of this House pay to Messrs. Prentiss and Word the same compensation per diem and mileage that is allowed to members of Congress computing the per diem from the day of presenting their claims to seats in this House.

After a debate of considerable length, the resolution was agreed to yeas 836, nays 41.

Northeastern Boundary.—Greeley's Case.

The orders of the day being announced, Mr. Evans said, there was an Executive communication on the table, relative to the Northeastern boundary, and the arrest and imprisonment of a citizen of Maine, by the British authorities, which had been postponed some days ago, and had not yet been acted upon. He would not, at so late an hour of the day, ask for its consideration, but gave notice that to-morrow, at 1 o'clock, when it would be in order, and would have precedence in the orders of the day, he should move for its consideration.

Encroachments on the Western Territory of the United States.

Mr. Cushing moved to take up and refer an Executive message, on the table of the House, giving information concerning the extreme Western terri-

tory of the United States. Mr. C. said, that Great Britain was, at the present moment, pursuing, or at least permitting, a series of gross encroachments on that part of the territory of the United States; encroachments flagrant, palpable, monstrous; which it was time the whole nation should understand.

The message was accordingly taken up, and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Cambreleng, the House went into Committee of the Whole, (Mr. Howard in the chair,) and took up the bill for the payment of the pensioners of the United States, and the bill for the civil and diplomatic expenses for the year 1838.

The House on motion of Mr. Bell, adjourned.

IN SENATE.

Wednesday, February 7.

Mr. Grundy, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill to abolish the United States Circuit Court at Huntsville, Mississippi, and for other purposes. Read twice, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

On motion of Mr. Norvell, a call was ordered on the Secretary of the Treasury for statements as to the amount of revenue lost to the Government in consequence of the non-payment of duty bonds on imported articles, in 1837-'8, with the names of the delinquents.

On motion of Mr. Sevier, a call was ordered on the Secretary of War, and inquires in relation to a certain report on the boundary line, &c. of Arkansas.

Oregon Territory.

Mr. Linn, of Missouri, on leave, introduced a bill authorizing the occupation of the Columbia or Oregon river, (establishing a Territory north of latitude 42 degrees, and west of the Rocky Mountains, to be called the Oregon Territory; authorizing the establishment of a fort on that river, and the occupation of the country by the military force of the United States; establishing a port of entry, and requiring that the country should be held subject to the revenue laws of the United States; with an appropriation of \$50,000.)

The bill having been read twice, Mr. Linn moved to refer it to the Committee on Military Affairs. He expressed his regret that some other Senator had not moved in this matter; he had failed in his endeavors to that effect, and had in consequence presented the subject himself as one of great importance. There was reason to apprehend that if this Territory should be neglected, in the course of five years it would pass from our possession.

Mr. Clay, of Kentucky, said he thought the Senator and the committee would do well to make inquiries to the stipulations of the present treaty with Great Britain, and whether we could occupy this country now without giving cause of offence. The country had been taken possession of by Great Britain, in contravention of the treaty of Ghent. There was a clause in that treaty, or rather sword, which was intended to cover this identical case, connected with the Oregon, and which covered no other case. It was founded on these circumstances: A settlement had been made on the Oregon by Mr. Astor, and the establishment was called Astoria. During the war it was taken possession of by a British armed vessel. In the stipulation or the mutual surrender by the two countries of places taken during the war, Mr. C. had introduced the word "possession" as descriptive of the hold which we had on the Oregon country prior to the war. Mr. C. hoped the treaty would be examined before any decisive step should be taken on this subject.

Mr. Linn said he was aware of that provision, and it was his intention that the inquiry should be made. He designed to get all the information he could on the subject, and lay it before the committee or the Senate, that the Senate might make such modifications of the bill as they might think proper. He wished the bill to be made as perfect as it could be.

Mr. Lyon remarked that he knew of one of his constituents being desirous of going west of the Rocky Mountains for the purpose of settling and carrying on a farm.

Mr. Buchanan said he was very glad that his friend from Missouri had moved in this business; and he had done himself injustice when he said it might have been moved more appropriately by another person. The time had come when we ought to assert our right to the Oregon country, or abandon it forever. We know by information received from an agent of the Government, that the Hudson Bay Company were establishing forts in that quarter, cutting down the timber and conveying it to market, and acquiring the allegiance of the Indian tribes; and while they had been doing this, we had patiently looked on during a long period of years. The right ought to be now asserted; but it should be done in a prudent and deliberate manner. We were obliged by the treaty to give a years notice. The time had arrived to settle this question, and there were too many such questions unsettled by the British Government already. While we should be careful to violate no treaty stipulations, we ought promptly to assert our right to this country.