HENRY [illegible]

MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 21, 1840

The extreme length of the Pa[illegible] to its whole importance [illegible] gill be [illegible] proposed loan by New York [illegible] Two thirds of it was taken [illegible] the whole will be, and indeed [illegible] the negotiation has been conclu[illegible] agreed to furnish the [illegible] proposition, it is stated, having [illegible] mutually advantageous and beneficial [illegible] Philadelphia [illegible] probably resulting [illegible] the [illegible] return to specie payments by these institutions, will be quickly followed by most of the [illegible] banks in the country.

The clerk of the steamer Neptune has politely furnished us with Galveston papers to the 18th inst. We cannot find any thing of interest to transfer to our columns with the exception of a few particulars of the loss of the Texian steamship [illegible] National line [illegible] Mr. Hollman, the locofoco congress man from the Norfolk district, Virginia, and resigned his seat in congress—his district having given a whig majority at the presidential election.

The population of the state of New-York, according to the recent census, is 2,329,476. In 1830, it was 1,918,608—increase 510,868.

Drummond's rope walk in Norfolk was destroyed by fire a few days ago. Loss about $10,000. It was the work of an incendiary.

Levi Woodbury has been elected United States senator from New Hampshire upon the first ballot.

[FROM OUR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT.]

Washington, December 10, 1840.

We have the president's message last. Yesterday there was a quorum of senators present, and that body was organized by the president pro tem., who took the chair. After the interchange of the usual messages between the two houses, a joint committee was appointed to wait on the president, and inform him that a quorum of each house had been formed, and that they were ready to receive any communication he might have to make. The committee having discharged their duty, the private secretary of the president soon afterwards appeared at the bar, and delivered the last annual message of Martin Van Buren. It excited no comments, and I send it to you also without any for the present. Twenty thousand copies of it were ordered to be printed by the house; and seven thousand five hundred by the senate. The house referred it to the committee of the whole on the state of the Union. Resolutions were then adopted directing the proper officers to furnish the senators and representatives with the usual number of newspapers. A resolution also passed for the appointment of two chaplains to interchange between the two houses during the session.

Mr. Merrick announced the death of his colleague Mr. Spence late senator from Maryland, who died during the recess. After paying a merited and feeling tribute to his purity of life and conduct, and his public services, he offered the customary resolutions for going into mourning were agreed to: and then as an additional mark of respect to the memory of the deceased the senate adjourned.

I regret to be compelled to notice the course which the ex-president Adams has thought fit to pursue at the very opening of the session. He offered a resolution for rescinding the following standing rule of the house which you will remember was adopted at the last session. On motion of Mr. Wm. Cost Johnson.

"No petition, memorial, resolution or other paper, praying the abolition of slavery in the district of Columbia or any other state or territory or the slave trade between the states or territories of the United States in which it now exists, shall be received by this house or entertained in any way whatever."

Mr. Adams denounced this rule as indirect violation of the constitution of the United States.

Mr. Williams of N. C. suggested that the gentleman who introduced the rule, was not in his seat—Mr. Adams said he would be glad to hear the gentleman who had the honor of being the author of it: provided the house would also let him speak. Mr. Banks of Va. moved to lay the resolution for rescinding on the table.

Mr. Adams said he hoped the house would decide the question at once; and not lay it on the table, as in that case it could be called up at any time. He did not wish to discuss it. All he wanted was the sense of the house. The question was put on Mr. Bank's motion, and carried in the affirmative, ayes—82; nays—58. So the motion to rescind the rule above mentioned was laid on the table.

The house then adjourned.

Mr. Secretary Woodbury has provided for himself another berth after the 4th of March next. He will go straight up from the treasury to the senate chamber. He has been elected to succeed for six years from the 4th of March next, from the State of New Hampshire. Mr. Hubbard the present senator tried hard to obtain a re-election. But the secretary beat him by four votes in the locofoco caucus which nominated the candidate of "the party".

Through the politeness of the clerk of the steamer Carolina, we have been furnished with the following copy of the President's Message, in advance of the mail.

MESSAGE

From the President of the United States, to the two Houses of Congress, at the commencement of the Second Session of the Twenty-Sixth Congress:

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate
and House of Representatives:

Our devout gratitude is due to the Supreme Being for having graciously continued to our beloved country, through the vicissitudes of another year, the invaluable blessings of health, plenty, and peace. Seldom has this favored land been so generally exempted from the ravages of disease, or the labor of the husbandman more amply rewarded; and never before have expectations with other countries been placed on a more favorable basis than that which they so happily occupy: at this critical conjuncture in the affairs of the world. A right and persevering abstinence from all interference with the domestic and political relations of other states, alike due to the genius and distinctive character of our government and to the principles by which it is directed, a faithful observance in the management of our foreign relations, of the practice of speaking plainly, dealing justly, and requiring truth and justice in return, as the best conservatives of the peace of nations; a strict impartiality in our manifestations of friendship, in the commercial privileges we concede, and those we require from others; these, accompanied by a disposition, as prompt as unfailing, in every emergency, to assert our own rights, as we are from principle averse to the invasion of those of others, have given to our country and government a standing in the great family of nations, of which we have just cause to be proud, and the advantages of which are experienced, by our citizens throughout every portion of the earth, to which their enterprising and adventurous spirit may carry them. Peace, if they remain insensible to the voice of our friendship, or ignorant of the worth of which it can be exchanged, and by which it can alone be preserved.

A series of questions of a grave character, difficult in their adjustment, and long pending, have given to the executive much anxiety, during the period which has elapsed since the commencement of your last session. Some of them are still unadjusted, but in a state which [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the power of the Federal Government, and of excluding from its expenditures those improvident and unauthorized grants of public money for works of internal improvement which were so wisely arrested by the constitutional interpretation of my predecessor, and which, if they had not been checked, would long before this time have involved the finances of the General Government in embarrassments far greater than those which are now experienced by any of the States, of limiting all our expenditures to that simple, unostentatious, and economical administration of public affairs, which is alone consistent with the character of our institutions, of collecting annually from the customs, and the sales of public lands, a revenue fully adequate to defray all the expenses thus incurred, but, under no pretence whatsoever, to impose taxes upon the people in a greater amount than was actually necessary to the public weal, conducted upon the principles I have stated.

Instead of a national bank, or a dependence upon banks of any description, for the management of our fiscal affairs, I recommended the establishment of one which is now in successful operation. That system, all-sufficiency required by facility for the transaction of the pecuniary concerns of the government, will, it is confidently anticipated, produce in other respects many of the benefits which have been from time to time expected from the creation of a national bank, but which have never been realized; avoid the manifold evils inseparable from such an institution; diminish, to a greater extent than could be accomplished by any other measure of reform, the patronage of the Federal Government; and give public officers, and public creditors, a safer, and more equitable security for the payment of their demands, than they have ever enjoyed from its expulsion [illegible] to regulate [illegible] the labor, and property of [illegible] extended country, had been so fully formed efficiently, and with praiseworthy harmonious [illegible] of the army, which it was notorious that [illegible] great community had, by means of [illegible] of this measure, been perfected [illegible] that secure in the support of [illegible] of confidence by which it was surrounded [illegible] its charter, and set the law's [illegible] company have and when, too, it had been [illegible] that to believe that such an accumulation of power as granted without the [illegible] being abused, was to indulge in a fatal [illegible]

[illegible] the necessity of a permanent debt, and its [illegible] consequences, I have advocated, and endeavored to carry into effect, the policy of confining the appropriations for the public service to such objects as are clearly within the constitutional authority of the Federal Government; of excluding from its expenditures those improvident and unauthorized grants of public money for works of internal improvement which were so wisely arrested by the constitutional interpretation of my predecessor, and which, if they had not been checked, would long before this time have involved the finances of the General Government in embarrassments far greater than those which are now experienced by any of the States; of limiting all our expenditures to that simple, unostentatious, and economical administration of public affairs, which is alone consistent with the character of our institutions; of collecting annually from the customs, and the sales of public lands, a revenue fully adequate to defray all the expenses thus incurred, but, under no pretence whatsoever, to impose taxes upon the people in a greater amount than was actually necessary to the public weal, conducted upon the principles I have stated.

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Governor Call was subsequently appointed to conduct a summer campaign, and, at the close of it, was replaced by General Jesup. These events and changes took place under the administration of my predecessor. Notwithstanding the exertions of the experienced officers who had commanded there for eighteen months, on entering upon the administration of the Government I found the Territory of Florida a prey to Indian atrocities. A strenuous effort was immediately made to bring these hostilities to a close; and the army, under General Jesup, was reinforced with abundant supplies of every description. In the campaign a great number of the enemy were captured and destroyed; but the character of the contest was only changed. The Indians, having been defeated, in every engagement, dispersed in small bands throughout the country, and became an enterprising, formidable, and merciless banditti. General Taylor, who succeeded General Jesup, used his best exertions to subdue them, and was seconded in his efforts by the officers under his command; but he, too, failed to protect the Territory from their depredations. By an act of signal and cruel treachery, they broke the truce made with their chiefs by General Macomb, who was sent from Washington for the purpose of carrying into effect the expressed wishes of Congress, and have continued their devastations ever since. General Armistead, who was in Florida when General Taylor left the army, by permission, assumed the command, and, after several months, was met by propositions for peace; and, from the fortunate coincidence of the arrival in Florida, at the same period, of a delegation from the Seminoles who are happily settled west of the Mississippi, and are now anxious to persuade their countrymen to join them there, hopes were for some months entertained that the Indians might be induced to leave the Territory without further difficulty. These hopes have proved fallacious, and hostilities have been renewed throughout the whole of the Territory. That this contest has endured so long, is to be attributed to causes beyond the control of the Government. Experienced Generals have had the command of the troops; officers and soldiers have alike distinguished themselves for their activity, patience, and enduring courage; the army has been constantly furnished with supplies of every description; and we must look for the causes which have so long prostrated the issue of the contest, in the fact that the Indians might be induced, to leave the Territory without further difficulty. These hopes have proved fallacious, and hostilities have been renewed throughout the whole of the Territory. That this contest has endured so long, is to be attributed to causes beyond the control of the Government. Experienced Generals have had the command of the troops; officers and soldiers have alike distinguished themselves for their activity, patience, and enduring courage; the army has been constantly furnished with supplies of every description; and we must look for the causes which have so long prostrated the issue of the contest, in the fact that the Indians might be induced, to leave the Territory without further difficulties