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Office, 83 Chartres street.

NEW ORLEANS:
TUESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 3, 1860.

We publish the PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE in full, to the exclusion of much other matter.

## HOW IT WORKS.

We see it stated that in the principal Northern cities there is already great complaint on the part of tradesmen of the falling off in the usual orders from the South. One of the Northern papers distinctly declares that many employers have had to discharge their workmen and suspend business operations. An intelligent New York writer affirms that an interruption in the Southern trade would break out half the stores in Broadway, and that such a result is already apprehended, and is indicated by the fact that the papers of those houses which have heretofore made their profits out of Southern dealers cannot be discounted save at most onerous rates. A pitiful cry comes up from Philadelphia, through the columns of the *Ledger*, that the public mind is very seriously disturbed by our sectional disputes, and that the relations of business have suffered materially.

From these distinct manifestations we are justified in the belief that the North is beginning to feel the effects of Abolition raids upon the South. The period has at length arrived when the people of the slaveholding States, tired of timid expostulation, and scouting at the futility of impotent threats, have resolved to prove to the North that that region is to a considerable extent dependent upon the South, and that if the latter even makes a show of withdrawing from the former a portion of its trade, unhappy embarrassment, distrust, and impaired confidence and credit immediately ensue. We chronicle these facts with heartfelt pleasure—not because we are instigated by any vindictive feeling towards the North, or can take delight in the suffering and sorrow even of the guilty, but because we are profoundly convinced that the only peaceful, constitutional and effective method of bringing the North to reason, and satisfying it of the mischief it inflicts upon itself as well as others by the spirit of lawless aggression towards the South, takes steadfast maintenance of the policy of non-intercourse. This is the sole remedy left short of revolution. That it will prove effectual if perseveringly applied, is almost infallible. Even the exhibition of an exceedingly small dose has produced a perceptible effect. Scarcely have a handful of business firms in the South ceased sending their orders to the North, than the walking rings with the journals of the sufferers. Our remedy has the immense advantage of being perfectly peaceable. Nobody has a right to find fault with Southern merchants for diminishing their supplies of Northern products.

Another powerful recommendation of this grand remedy is that it will act efficiently in all emergencies, without any collisions. When we cease to draw from the North our stock of books, shoes, hats, clothing, implements of husbandry, and known exhibits of the products used in daily life, we shall be compelled to overcome our sectional indolence and apathy, and go to work to build up home manufactories. Hence the troublous time in which we live will be made directly subservient to the aggrandisement, the prosperity, and the strength of the South. In proportion as we cut off our supplies from the North, will Southern enterprise and ingenuity find means of preparing them at home. This alone is needed to break asunder the galling chain of dependence upon a section which, while thriving by slave labor, ingratefully reviles its saviors, its source of wealth. Develop manufacturing industry at home, and we shall have nothing to fear from the North, whether in or out of the Union.

DEATH OF GEN. PICKETT.—Another of the veterans of Chalmette has departed to the spirit land. Yesterday morning Gen. J. B. Pickett died at the ripe age of 76 years. The deceased was one of the most prominent members of our ancient Creole population, and was universally beloved on account of his sensibility, kindness of heart, cordiality and frankness. He was a veteran in the last war with Great Britain, had served during the campaign which terminated in the glorious victory of Chalmette as major of a battalion composed chiefly of the young men of New Orleans and the interior. Gen. Pickett in riper years occupied various honorable stations, such as member of the Legislature, Lieutenant Governor of the State, commander of the Louisiana Legion, &c., and invariably displayed the same pleasing and gentlemanly traits. We suppose he had not an enemy in the world.

The remains of the gallant veteran will be conducted to the grave this afternoon at 4 P.M. from his late residence, No. 93 St. Peter street.

### Arrival of the Shahaus.

St. Louis, January 1.—The Saint Francisville overland mail, with dates from California to the 9th ult., has arrived at Jefferson, the terminus of the California telegraph line.

Business in San Francisco has been unusually dull.

New and valuable silver mines have been discovered in Santa Cruz county.

In the southern part of Oregon Territory several gold mines have been discovered.

The mining operations in British Columbia have been checked for the winter season.

### VESSEL ASHORE AT THE BAR.

SOUTHWEST PASS, January 2.—The ship Sullivans Blanchard, Captain Mack, from Boston, has arrived and is ashore on the bar, bound in.

### SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD

MEMPHIS, January 1.—A dispatch has been received in this city to-day from a large stockholder of the Pacific Railroad, instructing his agent to decline an offer for $200,000 worth of stock at 50.

The feeling of the stockholders in this city is very much in favor of holding on to the road. Nobody has a right to find fault with Southern merchants for diminishing their supplies of Northern products.

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Left preservation is the first instinct of nature, and the first duty of society is to which the record is all the time suspended over the heads of the people, most of us have become unfeeling. But I indulge in no idle, gloomy forebodings. On the contrary, I firmly believe that the events at Harper's Ferry, by causing the people to pause and reflect upon the possible peril to their political institutions, will be the means, under Providence, of allaying the existing excitement, and preventing future outbreaks of a similar character. I believe all possible that the Constitution and the Union shall not be endangered by such counsels, knowing that, should the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, the fragments of fourfold, human power could never reunite the scattered and health fragments.

I cordially congratulate you upon the final settlement by the Supreme Court of the United States of the question of slavery in the Territories, which had so united an aspect strictly for political purposes. The decision has been concluded with China by the respective ministers of the United States, Great Britain, France and Russia. Our treaty, or general treaty, with China, for commerce, and for the protection of our citizens in keeping equally to all States of the Confederacy, and to have it protected there under the Federal Constitution. Congress has no right to legislate for any human power has any authority to annul or impair this vested right. The supreme judicial tribunal of the country, which is a co-ordinate branch of the Government, has unanimously affirmed these principles of constitutional law, as manifestly just in themselves, and in their day assumed a most threatening aspect. Have now nearly gone from the memory of men. They are volcanoes burnt out, and in the bosom of the supreme arbiter of old eruptions gave the peaceful olive, the cheering vine, and the sustaining corn." Such, in my opinion, will prove to be the fate of the present sectional excitement, should those who wisely seek to apply the remedy continue always to confine their efforts within the pale of the Constitution. I also congratulate you on the subject of domestic slavery, like every thing human, will have its day and give place to other and less threatening controversies. Public opinion in this country is all-powerful, and when it reaches a dangerous excess upon any question, the good sense of the people will furnish the corrective and bring it back within safe limits. Still, to hasten the auspicious result, let the present crisis, we ought to remember that every national convulsion must be presented to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any manner affect" the provision in the Constitution authorizing the States the right to demand the importation of African slaves previous to that period.

According to the adverse construction, the clause itself, on which so much care and discussion had been employed by the members of the convention, was an absolute nullity from the beginning, and all that has since been done under it a mere usurpation.

It was well and wise to confer this power on Congress because, had it been left to the States, its efficacy would have been prevented. Its effect would have been equally beneficial to all the slaveholding States, though ever so much against their will. And why? Because African slaves, when once brought within the limits of any one State, in accordance with its laws, cannot practically be exceeded from any other State where slavery exists.

Had they all the States had separately passed laws prohibiting the importation of slaves, these laws would have failed of effect for want of a naval force to capture the slavers and to guard the coasts. Such a force no State can employ in time of peace without the consent of Congress.

These acts of Congress, it is believed, have, with very rare and insignificant exceptions, accomplished their purpose. For a period of more than half a century there has been no powerful accession to the number of our domestic slaves. During this period their advancement in civilization has far surpassed that of any other portion of the African race. The light and the blessings of Christianity have been extended to them, and both their moral and physical condition has been greatly improved.

Reopen the trade and it would be difficult to determine whether the effect would be more deleterious on the interests of the master or on those of the native-born slave. Of the evils to the master, the one most to be dreaded would be the introduction of wild, heathen and semi-barbarian slaves among the sober, orderly and quiet slaves, whose ancestors have been on the soil for several generations. To "might tend to barbarize, demoralize and excite, not the whole, but a portion of our slaves, to produce mischievous consequences.

The effect upon the existing slave would, if possible, be still more deplorable. At present he is treated with kindness and humanity. He is well fed, well-clothed, and not over worked. His condition is incomparably better than that of the coolies which modern nations of high civilization have employed as a substitute for African slaves. Both the philanthropist and the self-interest of the master have combined to produce this humane result. But let this trade be reopened and what will be the effect? It would be a considerable addition, as on a neighboring island—the only spot on earth where the African slave trade is openly tolerated; and this in defiance of solemn treaties with a power which is doubtless able at any moment to enforce their execution.

There the master, intent upon present gain, treats from the slave as much labor as his physical powers are capable of enduring—knowing that, when death comes to his relief, his place can be supplied at a price reduced to the lowest point by the competition of rival African slave traders. Should this ever be the case in our country—which I do not deem possible—the present needful character of the domestic institution, wherein those too old and too young to work are provided for with care and humanity, and those capable of labor are not over taxed, would undergo an unfortunate change. The feeling of reciprocal dependence and attachment which now exists between master and slave would be converted into mutual distrust and hostility.

But we are obliged as a Christian and moral nation to consider what would be the effect upon the African itself if we should reopen the slave trade. This would give the trade an impulse and extension which it has never before had in its palmiest days. The numerous victims required to supply it would convert the whole coast into a perfect pandemonium, for which little exertion would be held justifiable by the civilized world. But, in the mean time, the petty tribes would then be constantly engaged in predatory wars against each other, for the purpose of seizing their neighbors to supply the American market. All hopes of African civilization would thus be ended.

On the other hand, when a market for African slaves shall no longer be furnished in Cuba, and thus all the world be closed against the trade, we may then indulge a reasonable hope for the gradual improvement of Africa. The chief motive of war among the tribes will cease whenever there is no longer any demand for their slaves. The resources of that fertile but miserable country might then be developed by the hand of industry and civilization would soon be made foreign and domestic commerce. In this manner Christianity and civilization may gradually penetrate the existing gloom.

The wisdom of the course pursued by this Government towards China has been vindicated by the event. While we sustained a neutral position in the war waged by Great Britain and France against the Chinese empire, our late minister, in obedience to his instructions, judiciously co-operated with the ministers of the powers in all peaceful measures to secure by treaty the just concessions demanded by the interests of foreign commerce. The result is that satisfactory treaties have been concluded with China by the respective ministers of the United States, Great Britain, France and Russia. Our treaty, or general treaty, for commerce, amity, and commerce, with that empire was concluded at Tientsin on the 18th of June, 1858, and was ratified by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, on the 31st December following.

On the 16th December, 1858, John E. Ward, a distinguished citizen of Georgia, was duly commissioned as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to China. In the United States for the place of his destination on the 5th of February, 1859, bearing with him the ratified copy of the treaty, and arrived at Shanghai on the 28th May. From thence he proceeded to Pekin on the 2nd June, but did not arrive in that city until the 27th July. According to the terms of the treaty the ratifications were to be exchanged on or before the 18th June, 1859. This was rendered impossible by reasons and events beyond his control. Every effort in regard to all such States, because they themselves had removed the continental barrier. Congress accordingly passed an act on the 3rd February, 1803, to prevent the importation of certain persons into certain States, where by the laws thereof their admission is prohibited." In this manner the importation of African slaves into the United States was, to a great extent, prohibited some years in advance of 1808.

As the year 1808 approached, Congress determined not to suffer this trade to exist even for a single day after they had the power to abolish it. On the 2d of March, 1807, they passed an act, to take effect—from and after the 1st day of January, 1808," prohibiting the importation of Africans slaves into the United States. This was followed by subsequent acts of a similar character, to which I need not specially refer. Such were the principles and such the conduct of our ancestors more than fifty years ago in regard to the African slave trade.

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If this were not the case, the framers of the Constitution had expended much labor in vain. Had they imagined that Congress would possess no power to prohibit the trade either before or after 1808, they would not have taken so much care to protect the States against the exercise of this power before that period. May more, they would not have attached such vital importance to this provision as to have excluded from it the possibility of future repeal or amendment, to which other portions of the Constitution were exposed. It would, then have been wholly unnecessary to engraft on the fifth article of the Constitution, prescribing the mode of its own future amendment, the proviso "that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any manner affect" the provision in the Constitution authorizing the States the right to demand the importation of African slaves previous to that period.

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# The New Orleans Bee.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

*Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:*

Our deep and heartfelt gratitude is due to that Almighty Power which has bestowed upon us such varied and numerous blessings throughout the past year. The general health of the country has been excellent; our harvests have been unusually plentiful, and prosperity smiles throughout the land. Indeed, notwithstanding our domestic, we have much reason to believe, from the past events in our history, that we have enjoyed the special protection of Divine Providence ever since our origin as a nation. We have been exposed to many threatening and alarming difficulties in our progress; but on each successive occasion the impending cloud has been dissipated at the moment it appeared ready to burst upon our head, and the danger to our institutions has passed away. May we ever be under the divine guidance and protection!

While it is the duty of the President from time to time to give to Congress information of the state of the Union, I shall not refer in detail to the recent and painfully occurrence at Harper's Ferry. Still, it is proper to observe that these events, however bad and ripe in themselves, derive their chief importance from the apprehensions they excite of the symptoms of an incurable disease in the public mind, which may break out in still more dangerous outrages, and terminate at last in an open war by the North to abolish slavery in the South. While, for myself, I entertain no such apprehension, they ought to afford a solemn warning to all to beware of the approach of danger. Our Union is a state of such inestimable value as to demand our constant and watchful vigil for its preservation. In this view, let us implore my countrymen, North and South, to cultivate the ancient feelings of national friendship and good will towards each other, and strive to allay the demon spirit of sectional hatred and strife now alive in the land. This advice proceeds from the heart of an old public servant, whose service commenced in the first generation among the wise and conservative statesmen of that day, now nearly all passed away, and whose first and dearest earthly wish is to leave his country tranquil, prosperous, united and powerful.

We ought to reflect that in this age, and especially in this country, there is an increasing love and reflex of public opinion. Questions which in their day assumed a most threatening aspect, have now nearly gone from the memory of men. They are volcanoes burnt out, and in the bosom of the supreme arbiter of old eruptions gave the peaceful olive, the cheering vine, and the sustaining corn." Such, in my opinion, will prove to be the fate of the present sectional excitement, should those who wisely seek to apply the remedy continue always to confine their efforts within the pale of the Constitution. I also congratulate you on the subject of domestic slavery, like every thing human, will have its day and give place to other and less threatening controversies. Public opinion in this country is all-powerful, and when it reaches a dangerous excess upon any question, the good sense of the people will furnish the corrective and bring it back within safe limits. Still, to hasten the auspicious result, let the present crisis, we ought to remember that every national convulsion must be presented to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any manner affect" the provision in the Constitution authorizing the States the right to demand the importation of African slaves previous to that period.

According to the adverse construction, the clause itself, on which so much care and discussion had been employed by the members of the convention, was an absolute nullity from the beginning, and all that has since been done under it a mere usurpation.

It was well and wise to confer this power on Congress because, had it been left to the States, its efficacy would have been prevented. Its effect would have been equally beneficial to all the slaveholding States, though ever so much against their will. And why? Because African slaves, when once brought within the limits of any one State, in accordance with its laws, cannot practically be exceeded from any other State where slavery exists.

Had they all the States had separately passed laws prohibiting the importation of slaves, these laws would have failed of effect for want of a naval force to capture the slavers and to guard the coasts. Such a force no State can employ in time of peace without the consent of Congress.

These acts of Congress, it is believed, have, with very rare and insignificant exceptions, accomplished their purpose. For a period of more than half a century there has been no powerful accession to the number of our domestic slaves. During this period their advancement in civilization has far surpassed that of any other portion of the African race. The light and the blessings of Christianity have been extended to them, and both their moral and physical condition has been greatly improved.

Reopen the trade and it would be difficult to determine whether the effect would be more deleterious on the interests of the master or on those of the native-born slave. Of the evils to the master, the one most to be dreaded would be the introduction of wild, heathen and semi-barbarian slaves among the sober, orderly and quiet slaves, whose ancestors have been on the soil for several generations. To might tend to barbarize, demoralize and excite, not the whole, but a portion of our slaves, to produce mischievous consequences.

The effect upon the existing slave would, if possible, be still more deplorable. At present he is treated with kindness and humanity. He is well fed, well-clothed, and not over worked. His condition is incomparably better than that of the coolies which modern nations of high civilization have employed as a substitute for African slaves. Both the philanthropist and the self-interest of the master have combined to produce this humane result. But let this trade be reopened and what will be the effect? It would be a considerable addition, as on a neighboring island—the only spot on earth where the African slave trade is openly tolerated; and this in defiance of solemn treaties with a power which is doubtless able at any moment to enforce their execution.

There the master, intent upon present gain, treats from the slave as much labor as his physical powers are capable of enduring—knowing that, when death comes to his relief, his place can be supplied at a price reduced to the lowest point by the competition of rival African slave traders. Should this ever be the case in our country—which I do not deem possible—the present needful character of the domestic institution, wherein those too old and too young to work are provided for with care and humanity, and those capable of labor are not over taxed, would undergo an unfortunate change. The feeling of reciprocal dependence and attachment which now exists between master and slave would be converted into mutual distrust and hostility.

But we are obliged as a Christian and moral nation to consider what would be the effect upon the African itself if we should reopen the slave trade. This would give the trade an impulse and extension which it has never before had in its palmiest days. The numerous victims required to supply it would convert the whole coast into a perfect pandemonium, for which little exertion would be held justifiable by the civilized world. The petty tribes would then be constantly engaged in predatory wars against each other, for the purpose of seizing their neighbors to supply the American market. All hopes of African civilization would thus be ended.

On the other hand, when a market for African slaves shall no longer be furnished in Cuba, and thus all the world be closed against the trade, we may then indulge a reasonable hope for the gradual improvement of Africa. The chief motive of war among the tribes will cease whenever there is no longer any demand for their slaves. The resources of that fertile but miserable country might then be developed by the hand of industry and civilization would soon be made foreign and domestic commerce. In this manner Christianity and civilization may gradually penetrate the existing gloom.

The wisdom of the course pursued by this Government towards China has been vindicated by the event. While we sustained a neutral position in the war waged by Great Britain and France against the Chinese empire, our late minister, in obedience to his instructions, judiciously co-operated with the ministers of the powers in all peaceful measures to secure by treaty the just concessions demanded by the interests of foreign commerce. The result is that satisfactory treaties have been concluded with China by the respective ministers of the United States, Great Britain, France and Russia. Our treaty, or general treaty, for commerce, amity, and commerce, with that empire was concluded at Tientsin on the 18th of June, 1858, and was ratified by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, on the 31st December following.

On the 16th December, 1858, John E. Ward, a distinguished citizen of Georgia, was duly commissioned as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to China. In the United States for the place of his destination on the 5th of February, 1859, bearing with him the ratified copy of the treaty, and arrived at Shanghai on the 28th May. From thence he proceeded to Pekin on the 2nd June, but did not arrive in that city until the 27th July. According to the terms of the treaty the ratifications were to be exchanged on or before the 18th June, 1859. This was rendered impossible by reasons and events beyond his control. Every effort in regard to all such States, because they themselves had removed the continental barrier. Congress accordingly passed an act on the 3rd February, 1803, to prevent the importation of certain persons into certain States, where by the laws thereof their admission is prohibited." In this manner the importation of African slaves into the United States was, to a great extent, prohibited some years in advance of 1808.

As the year 1808 approached, Congress determined not to suffer this trade to exist even for a single day after they had the power to abolish it. On the 2d of March, 1807, they passed an act, to take effect—from and after the 1st day of January, 1808," prohibiting the importation of Africans slaves into the United States. This was followed by subsequent acts of a similar character, to which I need not specially refer. Such were the principles and such the conduct of our ancestors more than fifty years ago in regard to the African slave trade.

It did not occur to the revered patriots who had been delegates to the convention, and afterwards became members of Congress, that in passing these laws they had violated the constitution which they had framed with as much care and deliberation. They supposed that to prohibit Congress in express terms from exercising a specified power before an appointed day, necessarily involved the right to exercise this power after that day had arrived.

If this were not the case, the framers of the Constitution had expended much labor in vain. Had they imagined that Congress would possess no power to prohibit the trade either before or after 1808, they would not have taken so much care to protect the States against the exercise of this power before that period. May more, they would not have attached such vital importance to this provision as to have excluded from it the possibility of future repeal or amendment, to which other portions of the Constitution were exposed. It would, then have been wholly unnecessary to engraft on the fifth article of the Constitution, prescribing the mode of its own future amendment, the proviso "that no amendment which may be made prior

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TUESDAY NIGHT, January 3, 1860, will be the brilliant season of 1859-60, when the celebrated Spanish representation of Spanish Dances, will be presented by the Spanish Dancers, Mlle. Lola Montez, Mlle. Pepita Delgado, Mlle. Dolores Serrano, Mlle. Rosa Sevilla, Mlle. Pepita Pallero, Mlle. Isabella Sevilla