

wherever necessary, to extend it in some cases, and to chastise aggressions upon it in others. On the Mediterranean station, a collision with the blockading squadrons of *Donna Maria* at Madeira, relative to the admission of our merchantmen, terminated in favor of such admission, it being ascertained that the vessels of other nations entered, and that the blockade was not a full investment of the place. The *Constellation* and the United States have been added to the Mediterranean squadron, and in expectation of the return of the *Brandywine*, *Boston* and *Concord*, the *Delaware* will supply their places.

The punishment of the Malays has quelled their piratical spirit. A detachment from the Brazilian squadron has been added to the Potomac in the Pacific, and they will protect our commerce in India, China, and on the eastern coast of Africa.

The unsettled state of South America, requires an addition to the squadron in that quarter, of the *Peacock*, the *Boxer* and *Enterprise*. Our commerce and fisheries at the Falkland Islands have not been troubled, since the successful interference in January last.

The West India squadron have afforded active and very useful protection. The report justifies the late seizure of the Mexican pirate ship *Montezuma*, which was brought into New Orleans, by the *Grampus*, with \$200,000 in specie on board.— Vessels have been detached from this squadron to the coast of Africa in pursuit of a piratical vessel which robbed the American brig *Mexican*. The *St. Louis* and *Vandalia*, are soon to be substituted on this station for the *Fairfield*, *Vincennes* and *Erie*.

The property on hand at the several yards consisting chiefly of timber, iron, copper and arms, exceeds in value \$5,579,917. The report recommends, for the improvement of the Navy, a continuance of appropriations for the purchase of materials. The Navy Hospital, navy pension, and privateer pension funds are in good condition. New hospitals, and many new buildings in navy yards, and dry docks are in progress. The completion of the latter has been somewhat delayed by the cholera, and severe weather. A civil engineer is recommended for their superintendence.

Estimates for improvements and repairs are smaller this than the previous year. Not a dollar has been lost, by misconduct or misappropriation, in the Navy Department during the past year. Its credit has been uniformly sustained at home and abroad. The report recommends the construction of a few steam batteries, the making more ample provision for educating younger officers, by converting every vessel as large as a sloop into a school as efficient as possible; a strict examination of the fitness of men to perform their duties, and a small reduction in the number of captains and midshipmen, and a small increase in that of master commandant. It states that the habits of our seamen are improving in regard to temperance, and they have generally enjoyed good health, having been little exposed to cholera.

Ibid.

REPORT OF THE P. M. GENERAL.

This report is short and succinct, but shows plainly the ability with which the Department has been conducted. By this report it appears that the Postmaster General has far exceeded any of his predecessors in extending the facilities of the post office. This he has carried to the greatest extent, making at the same time the department support itself. During the year ending July 1st, 1832, the transportation of the mail has been extended \$2,156,329 miles, equal to more than one half the length of all the post roads in 1829. The largest increase ever made in one year was 900,000 miles. There has also been a large increase in the receipts of the department under Mr. Barry, and when the new routes shall be realized, the postage may be greatly reduced, and still the department be made to support itself. Most of the new contracts for carrying the mail have been made at a great saving to the government, especially on the larger routes.

From the National Intelligencer.

TO THE EDITORS.

GENTLEMEN.—Accompanying, I send you an old magazine, in which you will find a letter from Gen. Washington, to the Governor of the state of Rhode Island, in the year 1783, a portion of which is so singularly applicable to the present crisis of public affairs, that I hope you will give it publication at least to the extract marked (p. 84 and 85.) Yours, &c.

[ENCLOSED IN THE ABOVE.] Extract of a circular from Gen. George Washington, commanding the American armies, to the Governors of the several states, dated

HEAD QUARTERS, NEWBURGH,
June 18, 1783.

With this conviction of the importance of the present crisis, silence in me would be a crime: I will therefore speak to your excellency the language of freedom and sincerity, without disguise. I am aware, however, those who differ from me in political sentiments may perhaps remark, I am stepping out of the proper line of my duty; and they may possibly ascribe to arrogance or ostentation, what I know is alone the result of the purest intention; but the rectitude of my own heart, which disdains such unworthy motives; the part I have hitherto acted in life, the determination I have formed of not taking any share

in public business hereafter, the ardent desire I feel and shall continue to manifest, of quietly enjoying in private life, after all the toils of war, the benefits of a wise and liberal government, will, I flatter myself, sooner or later, convince my countrymen, that I could have no sinister views in delivering, with so little reserve, the opinions contained in this address.

There are four things which I humbly conceive are essential to the well-being, I may even venture to say, to the existence of the United States as an Independent Power.

1st. An indissoluble Union of the states under one federal head.

2dly. A sacred regard to public justice, 3dly. The adoption of a proper Peace Establishment, And

4thly. The prevalence of that pacific and friendly disposition among the people of the United States, which will induce them to forget their local prejudices and politics, to make those mutual concessions which are requisite to the general prosperity, and, in some instances, to sacrifice their individual advantages to the interest of the community.

These are the pillars on which the glorious fabric of our independence and national character must be supported. Liberty is the basis—and whoever would dare to sap the fountain, or overturn the structure, under whatever specious pretense he may attempt it, will merit the bitterest execration, and the severest punishment, which can be inflicted by his injured country.

On the three first articles I will make a few observations, leaving the last to the good sense and serious consideration of those immediately concerned.

Under the first head, although it may not be necessary or proper for me to that place to enter into a particular disquisition of the principles of the Union, and to take up the great question which has been frequently agitated, whether it be expedient and requisite for the states to delegate a large proportion of power to congress, or not; yet it will be a part of my duty, and that of every true patriot, to assert, without reserve, and to insist upon the following position: That unless the states will suffer congress to exercise those prerogatives they are undoubtedly invested with by the constitution, every thing must very rapidly tend to anarchy and confusion.—

That it is indispensable to the happiness of the individual states, that there should be lodged, somewhere, a supreme power, to regulate and govern the general concerns of the confederated republic, without which the union cannot be of long duration.

That there must be a faithful and pointed compliance on the part of every state with the late proposals and demands of congress, or the most fatal consequences will ensue. That whatever measures have a tendency to dissolve the Union, or contrive to violate or lessen the sovereign authority, ought to be considered as hostile to the liberty and independence of America, and the authors of them treated accordingly. And lastly, that unless we can be enabled by the concurrence of the states to participate of the fruits of the revolution, and enjoy the essential benefits of civil society, under a form of government so free and uncorrupted, so happily guarded against the danger of oppression, as has been devised and adopted by the articles of confederation, it will be a subject of regret, that so much blood and treasure have been lavished for no purpose, that so many sufferings have been encountered without a compensation, and that so many sacrifices have been made in vain. Many other considerations might here be adduced to prove, that without an entire conformity to the spirit of the union, we cannot exist as an independent power. It will be sufficient for my purpose to mention but one or two, which seem to me of the greatest importance.—

It is only in our united character, as an empire, that our independence is acknowledged, that our power can be regarded, or our credit supported among foreign nations. The treaties of the European powers, with the United States of America, will have no validity on a dissolution of the Union. We shall be left nearly in a state of nature; or we may find by our own unhappy experience, that there is a natural and necessary progression from the extreme of anarchy to the extreme of tyranny; and that arbitrary power is most easily established on the ruins of liberty abused to licentiousness."

THE UNION.

Why should this blessed and glorious Union of ours be destroyed? Why should the immutable symmetry of the beautiful fabric of government which our fathers erected, be marred? Why should the year of 1832 prove recreant to the principles of the patriots of '76? Why should ambition, disappointment or any other unhappy passion be suffered to intrude into our patriotic heart. Let these questions be pondered in sober earnestness and then let it be further inquired if there is any reason now operating which should induce us

“Like the base Judean,
To throw a pearl away richer than all its tribe.”

Not there is not! What are the inconveniences—the hardships of the tariff; if inconveniences and hardships there are, when compared with the honor, the peace, the safety, the union of the states? They dwindle into insignificance; they cease to be regarded, they are lost sight of in higher considerations.

When the future destinies of these Uni-

ted States are contemplated, the patriotic mind is wrapt in ecstasy at the prospect. It sees plenty and prosperity, happiness and liberty, learning and religion, abounding throughout an empire almost boundless in extent. It dwells with delight upon the picture which imagination draws, and fancy colors, with a pencil which experience tells us is dapt in truth. And who would willingly come between us, and such a feature, and say “it shall not be.”

The Father of his country has left us as a warning his exhortation to “frown indignantly upon any attempt to dissolve the bonds which unite us together as one people.” May this sink deep in the heart of every one of us. May it be marked, learned and inwardly digested, everywhere throughout the land. And that other sentiment of Washington’s; may it never be forgotten: “Whatever measures have a tendency to dissolve the Union, or contrive to violate or lessen the sovereign authority, ought to be considered as hostile to the liberty and independence of America.”—*Alex. Gazette.*

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