

OREGON FREE PRESS.

FOR THE

VOL. I.)

WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1848.

(NO. 32.

"Here shall the Press the people's rights maintain, Unawed by influence, and unbribed by gain."

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

From the message of the President, relative to the ratification of the treaty of peace with Mexico, we make the subjoined extract:

Before the treaty can be fully executed on the part of the United States, legislation will be required. It will be proper to make the necessary appropriations for the payment of the twelve millions of dollars, stipulated by the twelfth article to be paid to Mexico in four equal instalments. Three millions of dollars were appropriated by the act of March 3, 1847, and that sum was paid to the Mexican Government after the exchange of the ratification of the treaty.

The fifth article of the treaty provides, that "in order to designate the boundary line with due precision upon authoritative maps, and to establish upon the ground land marks which shall show the limits of both Republics, as prescribed in the present article, the two Governments shall each appoint a commissioner and a surveyor, who, before the expiration of one year from the date of exchange of ratifications of this treaty, shall meet at the port San Diego, and proceed to run and mark the said boundary in its whole course to the mouth of the Rio Bravo del Norte." It will be necessary that provisions should be made by law for the appointment of a commissioner and surveyor on the part of the United States, to act in conjunction with the commissioner and surveyor appointed by Mexico, in executing the stipulations of this article.

It will be proper also to provide by law for the appointment of a "board of commissioners" to adjudicate and decide upon all claims against the Mexican Government, which by the treaty have been assumed by the United States.

New Mexico and Upper California have been ceded by Mexico to the United States, and now constitute a part of our country.—Embracing nearly ten degrees of latitude, lying adjacent to Oregon Territory, and extending from the Pacific Ocean to the Rio Grande, a mean distance of nearly a thousand miles, it

would be difficult to estimate the value of these possessions to the United States. They constitute of themselves a country large enough for a great empire, and their acquisition is second only in importance to that of Louisiana, in 1803.—Rich in mineral and agricultural resources, with a climate of great salubrity, they embrace the most important ports on the whole Pacific coast of the continent of North America. The possession of the ports of San Diego, Monterey, and the Bay of San Francisco, will enable us to command the already valuable and rapidly increasing commerce of the Pacific. The number of our whale-ships alone, now employed in that sea, exceed seven hundred, requiring more than twenty thousand seamen to navigate them; while the capital invested in this particular branch of commerce is estimated at not less than forty millions of dollars. The excellent harbors of Upper California will, under our flag, afford security and repose to our commercial marine; and American mechanics will soon furnish ready means of ship-building and repair, which are now so much wanted in that distant sea.

The immediate establishment of Territorial Governments, and the extension of our laws over these valuable possessions, are deemed to be not only important, but indispensable to preserve order and the due administration of justice within their limits, to afford protection to the inhabitants, and to facilitate the development of the vast resources and wealth which their acquisition has added to our country.

The war with Mexico having terminated, the power of the Executive to establish or to continue temporary civil governments over these territories, which existed under the laws of nations whilst they were regarded as conquered provinces in our military occupation, has ceased. By their cession to the United States, Mexico has no longer any power over them—and until Congress shall act, the inhabitants will be without any organized government. Should they be left in this condition, confusion and anarchy will be likely to prevail.

With a view to encourage the early settlement of these distant possessions, I recommend that liberal grants of the public lands be secured to all our citizens who have settled, or may in a limited period settle within their limits.

Besides making the necessary legislative provisions for the execution of the treaty, and the establishment of territorial governments in the ceded country, we have, upon the restoration of peace other duties to perform. Among these, I regard none as more important than the adoption of proper measures for the speedy extinguishment of the national debt. It is against sound policy and the genius of our institutions that a public debt should be per-