

"I HAVE BEEN TRUE TO THEE."

I have been true to thee! There's not a hope That stirs my soul, nor dreamings of the past; No place beneath the bright ethereal cope, But I have found thee—as the tempest casts Its shadow on my soul, before the blast Had overtaken me, I thought of thee, And still think of thee, as I saw thee last, When fond hope whispered to my heart that we Should cross together life's tempestuous sea.

I have been true to thee! though brightest forms Of human beauty spring up in my way, Yet still the flame lit on thine altar warms And purifies my heart. Onward I stray, And see the lover's altar-piece decay— Unto some other idol turns his eyes, Forgetting that which o'er him held such sway; And I look upward to the far-off skies, While thou wait'st for me when Venus doth rise.

I have been true to thee! In summer eves, Alone, I sit beneath the clustering vine, And listen to the whisperings of the leaves; I watch the stars whose angel faces shine, And think the softest ones resemble thine! Shall I not love thee when I reach the place Where we shall make our home? Is there no sign? Is there not left with each some well known grace, By which love in each other we may trace?

Yes! I should love and know thy gentle voice, If I should pass thy lovely image blind; No tones but thine could make my heart rejoice; None else its deepest cords could ever find! Oh! tell me not that we shall not still find Our ardent love to increase; 'twere to make The parent of our ev'ry good unkind! Oh! this thought would from our very soul take Long cherish'd hopes—the links of our love break!

EXTRACT FROM THE SPEECH

Of Mr. BOWLIN, of Missouri, on the occupation of Oregon, delivered in the U. S. house of representatives, January 29, 1845.

Having said thus much of title, let us see if the charge, so frequently reiterated during this debate, that this bill is a violation of our treaty stipulations, is well founded in fact. The bill simply provides for establishing a cordon of military posts—five in number—along the route, to give security to the emigrants of Oregon; and one at the mouth of the Columbia, to protect their rights from invasion by sea. It also organises a territorial government, to give our citizens the protection of our own laws and institutions upon our own soil; and guaranties the protection of the settler in his title to his land as soon as the matter of territorial right is settled, and the Indian title extinguished.

Now, sir, the treaty stipulates that the harbors, and bays, and creeks, and the navigation of all the rivers, are to be kept free and open to the vessels, citizens and subjects of the two powers, without prejudice to the claims of either party. What is there in this bill that controverts that treaty? There is no proposition in it to close any avenues of travel guarantied by it. Then, I ask, gentlemen, in what is the treaty infringed? Is it the organization of government for the protection of our citizens? Sir, if we have at any time been silly enough to establish a compact that deprives us of the power of protecting our own citizens upon our own soil, then it should be infringed, cost what it may. But this is not the fact; there is nothing in it to militate against the exercise of this authority. There is nothing in the bill to counteract the treaty or affect it,* unless England wishes so to regard it, and force a quarrel; in which event, I say let it come. Besides, sir, we are only proposing to do for our own citizens what she has long since done for hers—give them the protection of law. The treaty was originally made in 1818; and in 1821 she passed a law in Parliament extending the jurisdiction of Canada over this country, and providing for the organization of a quasi civil government within its borders for the protection of her citizens; and are we to be estopped from doing the same thing through a craven fear of her petulance or her power? In every essential material, she has, without title, without right of soil, done every thing proposed in this bill; and yet we hesitate upon some imaginary fear of the infraction of treaties. If the passage of this bill be a violation of the treaty, she violated it nearly a quarter of a century ago. And it is time to ascertain whether we are to be restrained by her from giving laws to our own people within our own sovereign jurisdiction. Sir, the passage of this bill is not an infraction of the treaty; and if England, in her grasping spirit for dominion, sees proper so to regard it, let her do it, and do it, too, at her own peril. She

* Since delivering this speech, an amendment has been added to the bill directing notice to be given of the termination of the treaty; which of course annuls it by the legitimate means provided in the treaty itself.

will not find in the American citizen the down trodden serfs of Hindostan, who bow in submission to the dismemberment of their country; but a band of freemen, who will save it or perish with it.

But sir, we are frequently told that Oregon is a most uninviting spot, a mountainous, arid and barren soil, and not worthy of a contest. I might meet this objection by saying that it was our own, and national honor demanded of us to preserve it from aggression. If it would be valuable to England, it would be too valuable to us to submit to its dismemberment from the republic. There are other causes to render a country valuable, than the mere fertility of soil. Position to command—to control the destinies of commerce, give value in the eye of nations. What gives value to the barren rock of Gibraltar? what gives value to the sterile island of Malta? what gives value to that isolated island in mid ocean, St. Helena? Their military positions, commanding the commerce of the Mediterranean and the south Atlantic. So with Oregon. It is destined to be the key to the commerce of the northwestern ocean and the Indies, and that gives value to the position.

But Oregon is neither the paradise the partiality of its friends would paint it, nor the barren, rocky, and sterile region that its foes would represent it. It is, if there be truth in the tales of its explorers, very like our own Atlantic slope on this side of the continent, only that nature there has worked upon a more magnificent scale, giving larger streams, bolder and higher mountains, and more extensive valleys. It is the land of hill and dale; of snow-capped mountains and wide-spread fertile valleys, interspersed with lakes and streams as pure as the fountains of eternal ice from which they spring. It is the land where winter reigns eternal amidst the heights, but of a mild and balmy temperature below; where gentle winds, catching freshness from the snow girt mountains, impart health and vigor in their sweep along the vales. It is the land where nature has stamped her impress in the most gigantic form. Her mountains are bold, rugged, and towering in solitary grandeur amidst the clouds. Her rivers are upon a scale the most magnificent; the Columbia alone spreading her tributaries over a vast territory of country, embracing in their extent over 11 degrees of latitude and 5 degrees of longitude. Her valleys are large, beautiful, and fertile—the Willamette alone is as extensive in its area as England, with her eighteen millions of population, and almost as rich as the delta of Egypt. It is the land of extremes, combining all that is beautiful with all that is wild and romantic in nature; where, wandering amidst the flowers of summer, you may gaze upon the desolate regions and rugged forms of never ending winter; the land whose mountain fastnesses, like the Swiss Alps, gives a perpetual guaranty of security to her people. In a word, it is the land of rich valleys, barren wilds, mountain wastes, noble streams, and perpetual fortresses of protection. This is Oregon; such as she is, she is ours, not to be yielded up to bold pretensions unsupported by title.

In a commercial point of view, Oregon is of incalculable importance to this country, destined, from her position, to work revolutions in trade, which now only enter into the day dreams of the enthusiast. The discovery of the power of steam has lent a new impetus to national and individual enterprise; and we may fondly anticipate that the day is not far distant, when the long circuitous route to the Indies will give place to a more direct one through Oregon. The rich commerce of the Indies, whose trade made Tyre, "Queen of cities," and reared Palmyra in the desert, is destined in the progress of events to rear a mightier emporium of commerce in Oregon, than Tyre or Palmyra in the palmy days of their greatness. That rich trade, in the progress of events, will find its way through the gorges of the Rocky mountains into the rich valley of the Mississippi, to be exchanged for its surplus productions; scattering wealth, glory, and prosperity in its march. When that day comes, Oregon is the great center of trade, and must control the destinies of the commerce of the northwestern ocean, and of India and America. That if it is to control our commerce, let it control it in our own hands. Let it be subject to the enterprise of our own people, and not of a foreign power,

whose interest it would be to cripple, not advance our prosperity.

Besides, sir, our own security demands of us prompt and immediate action in occupying this country. If we would not place a foreign foe in impenetrable fortresses in our rear—to guide, direct, and animate the intermediate savages along the line of our frontier, to harass and murder our people, we must act, and act at once. England is not idle in fortifying her possessions in Oregon; and if we are wise, we will not suffer ourselves to be amused with protocols, until she is prepared to make every pass in the Rocky mountains a new Thermopylae, and set us at defiance. It is more than idle to wait for negotiations. The people will not consent to surrender any portion of that territory which is their own, and which is so essential to their further prosperity and security. If we could, with craven spirits, perpetrate the deed, they would never ratify it—no never—whilst they felt they had a country at stake, and an arm to strike in her behalf.

The people have long regarded Oregon as ours, and have looked forward with bright anticipations to the day when the hardy pioneers of the West, the advance guard in the spread of civilization, should make the stars and stripes float to the breeze on the shores of the Pacific. And they will not tamely yield to the sacrifice of any portion of it to a foreign power. They will do much to secure the peace, harmony, and the good will of other nations; but they will not even purchase these blessings at the slightest sacrifice of national honor, or of the soil consecrated to liberty. On this question, as on many others, the popular feeling has outstripped the tardy councils of the nation, and has settled into a determination, which is irrevocably fixed, that Oregon must be occupied—not to the disgrace, but to the honor and glory of the republic. They will not submit to have a hostile foe planted upon our rear, and the commerce of the Indies intercepted from the valley of the Mississippi, by the interference of foreign powers upon our own soil. Delay but enhances the difficulties that gentlemen seem anxious to avoid; submission to the one wrong but arouses the cupidity of the aggressor to perpetrate others; until forbearance ceases to be a virtue, and we are compelled to act at last, and regain, with blood and treasure, what might have been saved by manly firmness. We have determined the question of right, and why hesitate to vindicate it? If we have bestowed upon England courtesies, which she pleads into concessions, the sooner they are withdrawn, the better for the peace and happiness of both countries. The people are looking with absorbing interest to the present action of this House upon the question of occupation. They expect prompt and efficient action at our hands, in favor of the rights of our own country. Let us not disappoint their hopes. Let us perform our duty in rescuing from dismemberment that beautiful portion of the republic. Let us, by this act, demonstrate to the world that we are resolved to preserve its soil from the desecration of a foreign flag, and our own honor untarnished by a tame submission to wrong. Let us at once, by the passage of this bill, lay the crude foundation of a republic in Oregon, which, it requires not the spirit of prophecy to foretell, will one day give laws to the commerce of the northern Pacific, and rival the proudest States of ancient or modern times. This is what legal right, national honor, and the voice of the people alike demand, and in the sacred names of justice and patriotism will maintain, or, if such be their destiny, perish in the attempt.

GREAT SWIMMING.—We have heard of great walking and running, but never heard of a swimming feat equal to the following: Off the Sandwich Islands a man named Dresser jumped over board from the "London Packet," having taken from the captain's boat his life-preserver. On Saturday morning he could just discern the loom of the mountains of Oahu. After swimming all day, at the firing of the 9 o'clock gun he was abreast of the two men of war, in the outer harbor—after getting upon the reef he tried to walk, but the surf and waves dashed him along, and at the time of being picked up was nearly insensible—having been in the water thirty or more hours! He reports that he left the London Packet on account of ill usage, and that the crew were disorderly.—Polynesian.

From the N. Y. Sun, January 31, 1846.

Appearance of things in Texas.

We may compare Texas to a very young beginner in life, struggling on with limited means and credit, and suddenly brought in as a partner in a great firm transacting a heavy business and with immense resources. Every thing lightens up with him. He abandons the shop for the warehouse, the coaster for the packet. Texas is indeed a wonderful country; strangers are taking it by storm, and the early settlers are making fortunes in selling their grants. From Bastrop to Austin there are farms on each side of the road, and every prairie has two or three farms on it. The city of Austin, which a few years ago was nearly desolate and forsaken, now teems with a busy multitude, and officers, soldiers, rangers, Indians, frontier men and strangers, are continually arriving and departing. The departments of the government are all organized, and the land office is thronged with the crowd. The inhabitants of Austin never felt the confidence and security which they do at present. New year's day was celebrated as a gala day at the capital; the public offices were closed; the term of the rangers under Hays having expired, they came in for their pay and received their discharge, while recruits for another campaign were enlisted. Visiting in Austin prevailed on new year's day as it does here. President Jones is at his plantation at Washington, but is looked for shortly to complete the necessary transfers of government. He may feel distressed at the result, but Texas will feel the benefit of the change. To use the language of a correspondent of the N. O. Delta—"The day has dawned—order is coming out of confusion—a thousand fires on her hills now blaze as beacon lights to guide the overwhelming multitudes that throng every avenue to her luxuriant prairies. The cabins rise like magic in every grove, and the patriarchal families, with their crowds of men servants and maid servants, their flocks and their herds, are wending their way through the prairies, or gathering around their camp fires by the road side, seeking the new home. From present appearance, Texas will fill up with emigration more rapidly than any of the Western States has heretofore done."

Living is tolerably cheap at Austin as far as the products of the country extend, but colonials are high. The land office is well arranged, has authentic maps of the country and civil clerks. Bexar, on the river San Antonio, is rapidly improving, and exhibits more evidence of prosperity than it has since the war. The trade with the Mexicans of the Rio Grande, which has been interrupted by the late heavy rains, is again reviving. Col. Hays encamped for one or two days on the bank of the Rio Grande, opposite the Presidio. The Mexican Commandant at that post made no attempt to molest him, and a small detachment of his men crossed the river and purchased some provisions of the Mexicans on the opposite bank. He met with no hostile Indians on his route, and saw no traces of them between Bexar and the Presidio.

INCREASE OF THE WEST.—If the west increased its population by the decrease of the east, it would be a mere transfer of population; but the east, although losing some of its residents by emigration, yet does not fall off in the aggregate. By the late census, we have the following returns in four states: Ohio, 1,732,832; Indiana, 854,321; Illinois, 705,011; Michigan, 304,285; the total increase in five years has been 802,566.—These four states have 40 members of Congress at present, and if the same ratio exists in 1850, they will have nearly 70 members. The eastern and middle states are almost stationary in members, while the west is greatly on the increase. In a few years, therefore, the west will have the numerical force in Congress, unless a rash spirit in favor of war curtails their population as well as resources. In a war, whether on our northern or southern frontiers, the west will bear its share of the battle. Large armies on the lakes towards Canada, and numerous volunteers, down the Mississippi towards Texas, would soon thin the rapidly increasing power of the west, and some there are who push on the west in hope of this result. Let them look to it in time.—New York Sun.

The daily consumption of flour in the city of New York and its vicinity, is estimated to be 2,200 barrels.