

PROPHETIC WORDS.

A CARRIER'S ADDRESS WRITTEN IN 1813, IN WHICH ISAAC A. CHAPMAN PREDICTED THE DEVELOPMENT OF AMERICAN INDUSTRIES—THE WARRING WORLD THEN, AS NOW, CLAD IN HOSTILE ARMS.

The carrier's address as a feature of newspaper life has dropped out of use except in small communities, and has given way to the almanac, but the Record has been handed one that pleased Wilkes-Barre readers eighty-five years ago, and that will be curious and interesting to republish now. It is by Isaac A. Chapman, father of C. I. A. Chapman of this county. It is the original manuscript and was sent to Steuben Butler for publication in his paper, the Literary Visitor. It shows the original punch holes of the copy hook. It was written from Montcalm, Dec. 20, 1813, at which time Mr. Chapman was 26 years old. For a full sketch of Mr. Chapman see Historical Record, vol. 4, page 184. He was a prominent surveyor in this county, wrote the first history of Wyoming, published the Wilkes-Barre Gleaner in 1816, and was an enthusiast in mechanics and literature. He died lamented at the age of 41.

At the time the address was written, our country was in the throes of the War of 1812 and Mr. Chapman pathetically paints the sufferings of our armies, and in language truly prophetic looks forward to the time when the United States shall become independent of foreign commerce by developing its own manufactures, and when distant nations shall come to buy of us,—a prophecy which we have lived to see fulfilled. Though we boast to have made great advances in international relations and to have inaugurated an era of peace, the powers, just now so threatening, are about as they were when Mr. Chapman wrote in 1813.—
"Vain are our wishes, when with dire alarms

The warring world is clad in hostile arms."

The interesting old manuscript was handed the Record by C. E. Butler, son of Steuben Butler, publisher of the Visitor in 1913:

ADDRESS.