



## CRAWFORDSVILLE, IND.

Saturday, December 8, 1866.

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## The Message.

We publish this week the President's message, which undoubtedly will be read with great interest. The President adheres to his policy of reconstruction, and shows no disposition of backing down, notwithstanding the threats of the traitor rumpus to impeach him.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

*Friends of the Senate and House of Representatives:*

After a brief interval the Congress of the United States resumes its annual legislative labors. An all wise and merciful Providence has abated the pestilence which visited our shores, leaving its calamitous traces upon some portions of our country. Peace, order and tranquility, and civil authority have been formally declared to exist throughout the whole of the United States. In all of the States civil authority has superseded the coercion of arms, and the people, by their voluntary action, are maintaining their Governments in full activity and complete operation. The enforcement of the laws is no longer obstructed in any State by combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, and the *anomisties* engendered by the war are rapidly yielding to the beneficial influences of our free institutions, and to the kindly effects of unrestricted social and commercial intercourse. An entire restoration of fraternal feeling must be the earnest wish of every patriotic heart, and we will have accomplished our greatest national achievement, when, forgetting the sad events of the past, and remembering only their instructive lessons, we resume our onward course as a free, prosperous, and united people.

## RESTORATION POLICY.

In my message of the 4th of December, 1865, Congress was informed of the measures which had been instituted by the Executive, with a view to the gradual restoration of the States in which the insurrection occurred, to their relations with the General Government. Provisional Governors had been appointed, conventions called, Governors elected, Legislatures assembled, and Senators and Representatives chosen to the Congress of the United States. Courts had been opened for the enforcement of laws long in abeyance. The blockade had been removed, custom houses reestablished, and the internal revenue laws put in force in order that the people might contribute to the national income; postal operations had been renewed. Efforts were being made to restore them to their former condition of efficiency. The States themselves have been asked to take part in the high function of amending the Constitution, and of thus sanctioning the extinction of African slavery as one of the legitimate results of our internece struggle. Having progressed thus far, the Executive next found that it had accomplished nearly all that was within the scope of its constitutional authority. One thing, however, yet remained to be done before the work of restoration could be completed, and that was the admission to Congress of loyal Senators and Representatives from the States whose people had rebelled against the lawful authority of the General Government. This question devolved upon the respective Houses which, by the Constitution, are made the judges of the elections, returns and qualifications of their own members, and its consideration at once engaged the attention of Congress. In the meantime the executive department—no other plan having been proposed by Congress—continued its efforts to perfect, as far as practicable, the restoration of the proper relations between the citizens of the respective States; the States and Federal Government extending from time to time, as the public interest seemed to require, the judicial, revenue and postal systems of the country, with the advice and consent of the Senate, the necessary officers were appointed, and appropriations made by Congress for the payment of their salaries. The proposition to amend the Federal Constitution so as to prevent the existence of slavery within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction, was ratified by the requisite number of States, and on the 18th day of December, 1865, was officially declared to have become valid as a part of the Constitution of the United States. All of the States in which the insurrec-

tion had existed, promptly amended their constitutions so as to make them conform to the great change thus effected in the organic law of the land; declared null and void all ordinances and laws of secession; repudiated all pretended debts and obligations created for the revolutionary purposes of the insurrection, and proceeded in good faith to the enactment of measures for the protection and amelioration of the condition of the colored race.

Congress, however, yet hesitated to admit any of these States to representation, and it was near the close of the eighth month of the session that an exception was made in favor of Tennessee, by the admission of her Senators and Representatives.

I deem it a subject of profound regret that Congress has thus far failed to admit to seats the loyal Senators and Representatives from the other States, whose inhabitants, with those of Tennessee, had engaged in rebellion, ten States, more than one-fourth of the whole number, remain without representation. The seats of fifty members of the House and twenty of the Senate are yet vacant, not by their own consent, not by a failure of election, but by the refusal of Congress to accept their credentials.

Their admission, it is believed, would have accomplished much toward the renewal and strengthening of our relations with one people, and removed serious causes for discontent on the part of the people of those States. It would have accorded with the great principle enunciated in the Declaration of American Independence, that no people ought to bear the burden of taxation and yet be denied representation. It would have been in consonance with the express provisions of the Constitution, that each State shall have at least one Representative, and that no State shall, without its consent, be deprived of equal suffrage in the Senate.

These provisions were intended to secure to every State, and to the people of every State, the right of representation in Congress, and so important was it deemed by the framers of the Constitution that the equality of States shall be preserved in the Senate, that not even by an amendment of the Constitution can any State, without its consent, be denied a voice in that branch of the National Legislature.

It has been assumed that the existence of the States was terminated by the rebellious acts of their inhabitants, and that the insurrection having been suppressed, they were thenceforward to be considered merely as conquered territories. The Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Departments of the Government have, however, with great distinctness and uniform consistency, refused to sanction this assumption so incompatible with the nature of our republican system, and with the professed objects of the war. Throughout the recent legislation of Congress, the *undenied* fact makes itself apparent, that these ten political communities are nothing less than States of this Union.

At the very commencement of the rebellion, each House declared, with a unanimity as remarkable as it was significant, that the war was not waged on our part in any spirit of oppression, nor for any purpose of conquest or subjugation, nor for the purpose of overthrowing or interfering with the rights or established institutions of those States, but to defend and maintain the supremacy of the Constitution, and all laws made in pursuance thereof; and to preserve the Union, with all the dignity, equality, and rights of the several States unimpaired; and as soon as these objects were "accomplished," the war ought to cease." In some instances, Senators were permitted to continue their legislative functions, while in other instances Representatives were elected and admitted to seats after the States had formally declared their right to withdraw from the Union, and were endeavoring to maintain that right by force of arms. All of the States whose people were in insurrection as States, were included in the apportionment of the direct tax of twenty millions of dollars annually, laid upon the United States by the act approved August 5, 1861, Congress by the act of March 4, 1862, and by the apportionment of representation thereunder, also recognized their presence as States in the Union, and they have, for judicial purposes, been divided into districts as States alone can be divided. The same recognition appears in the recent legislation in reference to Tennessee, which evidently rests upon the fact that the functions of the State were not destroyed by the rebellion but merely suspended; and that principle is of course applicable to those States which like Tennessee, attempted to renounce their place in the Union. The Executive Department of the Government upon this subject has been equally definite and uniform, and the purpose of the war was specifically stated in the proclamation issued by my predecessor on the 22d of September, 1862. It was then solemnly proclaimed and declared that, "hereafter as heretofore, the war will be prosecuted for the object of practically restoring the constitutional relation between the United States and each of the States and the people thereof in which States that relation is, or may be, suspended or disturbed." The recognition of the States by the judicial department of the Government has also been clear and conclusive in all proceedings affecting them as States had in the Supreme, Circuit and District Courts.

## REPORT OF SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury affords much information respecting the revenue and commerce of the country. His views upon the currency, and with reference to a proper adjustment of our revenue system, internal as well as impost, are commendable to the careful consideration of Congress. In my last annual message I expressed my general views upon these subjects. I need now only call attention to the necessity of carrying into every department of the Government a system of rigid accountability, through retrenchment and wise economy. With no exceptional nor unusual expenditures, the oppressive burdens of taxation may be lessened by such a modification of our revenue laws as will be consistent with the public faith, and the legitimate and necessary wants of the Government.

The report presents a much more satisfactory condition of our finance than one year ago the most sanguine could have anticipated. During the fiscal year end-

ing the 30th of June, 1865, the last year of the war, the public debt was increased \$941,902,537, and on the 1st of October, 1865, it amounted to \$2,740,845,759. On the 31st of October, 1866, it had been reduced to \$2,551,310,006, the diminution, during a period of fourteen months commencing September 1, 1865, and ending October 31, 1866, having been \$206,371,565. In the last annual report on the state of the finance, it was stated that during the three quarters of the fiscal year ending the 30th of June last, the debt would be increased \$112,191,917. During that period however, it was reduced \$31,190,387, the receipts of the year having been \$89,905,005 more, and the expenditures \$200,529,235 less than the estimates. Nothing could more clearly indicate than these statements the extent and availability of the national resources, and the rapidity and safety with which, under our form of government, great military and naval establishments can be disbanded, and expenses reduced from a war to a peace footing.

During the fiscal year ending the 30th of June, 1866, the receipts were \$558,032,620, and the expenditures \$520,750,940, leaving an available surplus of \$37,281,680. It is estimated that the receipts for the fiscal year ending the 30th of June 1867, will be \$476,061,356, and that the expenditures will reach the sum of \$316,428,078, leaving in the Treasury a surplus of \$158,633,308. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1868, it is estimated that the receipts will amount to \$436,000,000, and that the expenditures will be \$350,247,641—showing an excess of \$85,752,359 in favor of the Government. These estimated receipts may be diminished by a reduction of excise and import duties; but after all necessary reductions shall have been made the revenue of the present and of following years will doubtless be sufficient to cover all legitimate charges upon the Treasury, and leave a large annual surplus to be applied to the payment of the principal of the debt.

The administration of loyal members from Congress, by allying doubt and apprehension, would turn capital, now awaiting an opportunity for investment, into the channels of trade and industry. It would alleviate the present troubled condition of those States, and, by inducing emigration, aid in the settlement of fertile regions now uncultivated, and lead to an increased production of those staples which have added so greatly to the wealth of the nation and the commerce of the world. New fields of enterprise would be opened to our progressive people, and soon the devastations of war would be repaired, and all traces of our domestic differences effaced from the minds of our countrymen.

## AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

In our efforts to preserve "the unity of Government which constitutes us one people," by restoring the States to the condition which they held prior to the rebellion, we should be cautious, lest, having rescued our nation from perils of threatened disintegration, we resort to consolidation, and in the end absolute despotism as a remedy for the recurrence of similar trouble. The war having terminated, and with it all occasion for the exercise of powers of doubtful constitutionality, we should hasten to bring legislation within the boundaries prescribed by the Constitution, and to return to the ancient landmarks established by our fathers. "The guidance of succeeding generations." The Constitution which at any time exists, until changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole people, is sacredly obligatory upon all." If, in the opinion of the people, the distribution or modification of the constitutional powers be in any particular, wrong, let it be corrected by an amendment in the way in which the Constitution designates. But let there be no change by usurpation; "for it is the customary weapon by which free Governments are destroyed." Washington spoke these words to his countrymen, when, followed by their love and gratitude, he voluntarily gave up his command of the army.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

The report of the Secretary of War furnishes valuable and important information in reference to the operations of his Department during the past year. Few volunteers now remain in the service, and they are being discharged as rapidly as they can be replaced by regular troops. The army has been promptly paid, carefully provided with medical treatment, well sheltered and subsisted, and is to be furnished with breech loading small arms. The military strength of the nation has been unimpaired by the discharge of volunteers, the disposition of unseervable or perishable stores, and the retrenchment of expenditure. Sufficient war material to meet any emergency has been retained, and from the disbanded volunteers standing ready to respond to the national call, large armies can be rapidly organized, equipped, and concentrated. Fortification on the coast and frontier have received, or are being prepared for, more powerful armaments; lake surveys and harbor and river improvements are in course of energetic prosecution. Preparations have been made for the payment of the additional bounties authorized during the recent session of Congress, under such regulations as will meet the requirements of the Government from fraud, and secure to the honorably discharged soldier the well earned reward of his faithfulness and gallantry. More than six thousand named soldiers have received artificial limbs or other surgical apparatus; forty-one national cemeteries, containing the remains of 104,526 Union soldiers, have already been established. The total estimate of military appropriations is \$25,205,663.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

It is stated in the reports of the Secretary of the Navy that the naval force at this time consists of two hundred and seventy-eight vessels, armed with 2,351 guns. Of these, one hundred and fifteen vessels, carrying one thousand and twenty-nine guns, are in commission, distributed chiefly among seven squadrons. The number of men in the service is 13,600. Great activity and vigilance have been displayed by all the squadrons, and their movements have been judiciously and efficiently arranged in such manner as would best promote American commerce, and protect the rights and interests of our countrymen abroad. The vessels unemployed are undergoing repairs, or are laid up until their services may be required. Most of the iron clad fleet is at League Island, in the vicinity of Philadelphia, a place which, until decisive action should be taken by Congress, was selected by the Secretary of the Navy as the most eligible location for that class of vessels. It is important that a suitable public station should be provided for the iron clad fleet. It is intended that these vessels shall be in proper condition for any emergency, and it is desirable that the bill accepting League Island for naval purposes which passed the House of Representatives at its last session, should receive final action at an early period, in order that there may be a suitable public station for this class of vessels, as well as a navy yard of area sufficient for the wants of the service, on the Delaware river. The naval pension fund amounts to \$11,750,000, having been increased \$2,750,000 during the year. The expenditure of the department for the fiscal year ending 30th June last, were \$43,324,526, and the estimates for the coming year amount to \$23,568,436. Attention is invited to the condition of our seamen, and the importance of legislative measures for their relief and improvement. The suggestions in behalf of this deserving class of our fellow citizens are earnestly recommended to the favorable attention of Congress.

REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

The report of the Postmaster General presents a most satisfactory condition of the postal service and submits recommendations which deserves the consideration of Congress. The revenues of the Department for the year ending June 30, 1866, were \$14,386,986, and the expenditures \$15,352,079, showing an excess of the latter of \$965,094. In anticipation of this deficiency, however, a special appropriation was made by Congress in the act approved July 28, 1865. Including the standing appropriation of \$700,000

for free mail matter, as a legitimate portion of the revenues yet remaining unexpended, the actual deficiency for the past year is only \$205,093—a sum within \$51,141 of the amount estimated in the annual report of 1864. The decrease of revenue compared with the previous year was one-fifth percent, and the increase of expenditures, owing principally to the enlargement of the mail service in the South, was twelve per cent. On the 30th of June last there were in operation six thousand nine hundred and thirty mail routes, with an aggregate length of one hundred and eighty thousand nine hundred and twenty-one miles, an aggregate annual transportation of seventy one million eight hundred and thirty seven thousand nine hundred and fourteen miles, and an aggregate annual cost, including all expenditures, of \$8,410,184.

The length of railroad routes is thirty-two thousand and ninety-two miles and the annual transportation thirty million six hundred and nine thousand four hundred and sixty seven miles. The length of steamboat routes is fourteen thousand three hundred and forty-six miles and the annual transportation three million four hundred and eleven thousand nine hundred and sixty two miles. The mail service is rapidly increasing throughout the whole country and its steady extension in the Southern States indicates their constantly improving condition. The growing importance of the foreign service also merits attention. The Post Office Department of Great Britain and our own have agreed upon a preliminary basis for a new postal convention, which it is believed will prove eminently beneficial to the commercial interests of the United States, inasmuch as it contemplates a reduction of the international letter postage to one-half the existing rates; a reduction of postage with all other countries to and from which correspondence is transmitted in the British mail, or in closed mails throughout the United Kingdom, the establishment of uniform and reasonable charges for the sea and territorial transit of correspondence in closed mails; and allowance to each post office department of the right to use all mail communications established under the authority of the other for the dispatch of correspondence either in open or closed mails on the same terms as those applicable to the inhabitants of the country providing the means of transmission.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior exhibits the condition of those branches of the public service which are committed to his supervision. During the last fiscal year, four million six hundred and twenty-nine thousand three hundred and twelve acres of public land were disposed of, one million eight hundred and ninety-six thousand five hundred and sixteen acres of which were entered under that homestead act. The pre-emption laws authorizing the electors of the District of Columbia to choose a delegate, to be allowed the same rights and privileges as a delegate representing a Territory. The increasing enterprise and rapid progress of improvement in the District are highly gratifying, and I trust that the efforts of the municipal authorities to promote the prosperity of the national metropolis will receive the efficient and generous co-operation of Congress.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE.

The report of the Commissioner of Agriculture reviews the operations of his Department during the past year, and shows the aid of Congress in its efforts to encourage those States which were scourged by war, are earnestly engaged in the reorganization of domestic industry. It is a subject of congratulation that no foreign combination against our domestic peace and safety, or our legitimate influence among the nations, have been formed or attempted. While the attention of the new Ministry is called to the subject of the abolition imposed upon the Executive by the Constitution, to see that the laws are faithfully executed, all citizens were warned by proclamation, against taking part in a aiding such unlawful proceedings and the super-civil, military and naval officers were directed to take all necessary measures for the enforcement of these laws. The expedition failed but it has not done without its painful consequences. Some of our citizens, it was alleged, were engaged in the rebellion, captured, and have been brought to trial, as for a capital offense, in the province of Canada. Judgment and sentence of death have been pronounced against some, while others have been acquitted. Fully believing in the innocence of the condemned, that severity of civil punishment is unqualified persons who have engaged in responsible attorney which have disastrously failed, is a subject of regret. Such representations have been made to the British Government in behalf of the condemned persons, as being sustained by an enlightened and humane judgment, will, it is hoped, induce in their cases an exercise of clemency and a judicious amnesty to all who were engaged in the movement. Counsel has been engaged by the Government to defend citizens of the United States against those who took part in the expedition.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

It is a subject of congratulation that no foreign combination against our domestic peace and safety, or our legitimate influence among the nations, have been formed or attempted. While the attention of the new Ministry is called to the subject of the abolition imposed upon the Executive by the Constitution, to see that the laws are faithfully executed, all citizens were warned by proclamation, against taking part in a aiding such unlawful proceedings and the super-civil, military and naval officers were directed to take all necessary measures for the enforcement of these laws. So long as those laws remain upon our statute books, they should be faithfully executed and if they operate harshly, unjustly or oppressively, Congress alone can apply the remedy, by their modification or repeal.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

The entire success of the Atlantic telegraph between the coast of Ireland and the province of Newfoundland, is an achievement which has been justly celebrated in both hemispheres as the opening of an era in the progress of civilization. There is reason to expect that equal success will attend, and even greater results follow, the enterprise for connecting the two Continents through the Pacific Ocean by the projected line of telegraph from the Arctic to the Asiatic possessions of America.

The resolution of Congress protesting against pardons by foreign Governments

of persons convicted of infamous offenses on condition of emigration, and submitted to that humane and enlightened ruler, and received by him with expressions of grateful appreciation.

The Executive, warned of an attempt by Spanish American adventurers to induce the emigration of freedmen of the United States, and afterwards returned on transatlantic vessels to their native countries, to the performance of military service in like manner as resident subjects of the United States arising from the claim in this respect made by foreign States have heretofore been matter of controversy between the United States and some of the European powers, and the irritation consequent upon the failure to settle this question increased during the war in which Prussia, Italy, and Austria were engaged. While Great Britain has not acknowledged the right of emigration, she has not practically insisted on it. France has been equally forbearing, and Prussia has proposed a compromise which, although evincing increased liberality, has not been accepted by the United States. Peace is now prevailing everywhere in Europe, and the present seems to be a favorable opportunity for an assertion by Congress of the principles of the Atlantic telegraph. The executive departments that maintained the one State fully excepts the native born citizens of any other State from the performance of military service under any foreign Government, so long as he does not voluntarily renounce its rights and benefits.

MEXICAN AFFAIRS.

In the month of April last, as Congress was aware, a friendly agreement was made between the Emperor of France and the President of Mexico for the withdrawal of the French expeditionary forces. The withdrawal was to be effected in three detachments, the first of which, it was understood, was to leave in November, the second in March, and the third in June. Immediately on the completion of this agreement, the French Government was to assume the same attitude in regard to non-intervention, as it is held by the United States. The repeated assurances have been given by the Emperor since that agreement, that France would complete the promised evacuation within the period named, or even sooner.

It was naturally expected that the proceeding thus contemplated would give rise to a crisis of great political interest in the Republic of Mexico. The newly appointed Minister of the United States, Mr. Campbell, was therefore sent forward, on November 4th, to assume his functions. It was also thought expedient that he should be sent to the vicinity of Mexico by the Lieutenant General of the Mexican Army, with the view of obtaining and enforcing the right to be informed of the movements of the French troops, and to determine the course to be pursued by the United States in re-establishing and maintaining necessary and proper intercourse with Mexico. Deeply interested in the cause of liberty and humanity, it seemed an obvious duty upon our part to exercise whatever influence we possessed for the restoration and permanent establishment in that country of

## INDIAN TREATIES.

Treaties have been concluded with the Indians who, enticed into armed opposition to our Government at the outbreak of the rebellion, have unconditionally submitted to