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EXECUTIVE POWER.

The tendency of the present discussion upon the limitations of executive power goes to show that in many respects it is an open question. In the early history of the country, it was contended by leading statesmen that the power of removal and appointment was jointly held by the Senate and the Executive, just as the treaty-making power is now held.

Now, however, when we are reconstructing the Union, and remodeling the essential elements of government, it is proper to look into this question of Executive Power.

The Constitution declares that the "President shall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the recess of the Senate, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of their next session."

This provision was modified, in his full plan of a constitution to read: "He shall have the appointment of the principal or chief officer of each of the departments of war, naval affairs, finance and foreign affairs, and shall have the nomination, and by and with the consent of the Senate, the appointment of all other officers to be appointed under the authority of a United States, except such for whom different provision is made by this Constitution; and provided, that this shall not be construed to prevent the Legislature from appointing by name, in such cases, persons to special and particular duties created in such laws; nor shall be construed to prevent principals in offices merely ministerial from continuing deputies. In the recess of the Senate, he may fill vacancies in offices by appointments, to continue in force until the next session of the Senate; and he shall commission all officers." The committee (Mr. Hamilton, a conspicuous member) directed this plan into the second section of the second article:—

"The President shall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the recess of the Senate, by granting commissions, which shall expire at the end of their next session."

Hamilton defended his doctrine of Senatorial advice elaborately, showing the good that would come from the "consent of the Senate" in the business of appointments, and contending "that it would contribute to the stability of the Administration."

After mature reflection on the subject of your letter of the 25th of last month, I am clearly of opinion that the terms of the proposed article above the appointment of officers to the battalions which is to be added to the Second Regiment of Artillery and Engineers, in my opinion, vacancy is a relative term, and the responsibility which has been once filled, it is the power to fill a vacancy is not the power to make an original appointment.

Having thus shown the spirit of the constitutional article on Executive appointments, we think it well to return to that spirit and reverse the early decree of the Senate on the question of removal—a decree which has in these latter years produced pernicious results.

power were for the general welfare, not for the creation of political compact. "What," said Jefferson, "remove my old friend because he opposes me and admits Burr? I would rather divide my last hoe-cake with him."

IS THE WAR TO BE RENEWED?—CHANGE IN THE BASIS OF REPRESENTATION.

Mr. Robert Dale Owen, in a letter recently published, declared that "the North would renew the war to-morrow," rather than endure the inequality of representation in proportion to voters which the Constitution now gives the Southern States in consequence of the destruction of slavery.

In New York aliens are not allowed to vote, but they are counted in deciding the number of representatives to which the State is entitled. In Massachusetts, nobody can vote except those citizens of the United States who can read and write—yet aliens as well as natives, who can do neither, are counted in the basis of representation.

Mr. Owen says that by refusing to exact this change as a condition of admission to representation in Congress (which he styles a peaceful, constitutional remedy), we make a "renewal of the war" on the part of the North necessary and probable, and thus peril the public tranquillity.

But Mr. Owen says that unless we make this change a condition precedent to any representation of the South in Congress, we can never secure it. Possibly that may be true, but it affords no reason for "renewing the war."

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OUR FALL ELECTIONS.—THE COMING POLITICAL REVOLUTION.

The public mind of the Northern States is ripe for a political revolution in our approaching fall elections. The people are ready. They need only the active organization of a national Johnson Union movement to bring them into line.

General Hamilton was consulted by the Secretary, and replied:— "After mature reflection on the subject of your letter of the 25th of last month, I am clearly of opinion that the terms of the proposed article above the appointment of officers to the battalions which is to be added to the Second Regiment of Artillery and Engineers, in my opinion, vacancy is a relative term, and the responsibility which has been once filled, it is the power to fill a vacancy is not the power to make an original appointment."

Between the so-called conservative Republicans and the Democrats in Congress we ought to have had ere this the downfall of Thaddeus Stevens. These two opposing factions, possessing, if combined, a majority against him, have each, to suit their factions purposes, played into his hands. The Democrats in Congress are mostly, if not all, of the Copperhead tribe; respectable trustees or desperate revolutionists, whose tactics would disgrace the roadways of a

New York Democrat's primary election. The conservatives of the House of Representatives are mere playthings in the hands of Stevens. He is amused when they speak in support of the Administration, for he has tried them, and knows that at the crack of his whip they will be dumb and submissive.

Thus the President has failed in Congress to secure a party capable of accomplishing anything. His necessities are unmet, bold and aggressive. Their purposes may be bad, their measures may be vicious and revolutionary; but in their light they show those qualities—courage, skill, tenacity, and energy which invariably command respect, and give even to a bad cause more or less of popular strength.

Notice is hereby given to holders of Certificates of Indebtedness, issued under Act of Congress approved March 16 and 17, 1862, and falling due in June, July, and August, 1866, with accrued interest thereon, to present said certificates to the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, on or before May 31, and that hereafter such certificates will cease to bear interest, and will be held in presentation at this Department, with interest only to the said date.

Notice is hereby given to the holders of the Dividend of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, on the Capital Stock of Five PER CENT, on the Capital Stock of the Company, to be paid on the 1st day of June next, to the order of the holders of the same.

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