

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

The following are the Congressional proceedings of yesterday, continued from our Fourth Edition:

WASHINGTON, January 8.

The bill to admit Nebraska was taken up. The motion was upon Mr. Brown's amendment.

"That the act shall not take effect, except upon the fundamental condition that there shall be no discrimination made in Nebraska on account of color, and that the officers of its

State constitution, restricting suffrage to white persons."

Mr. TOWNE, of Pennsylvania, spoke at some length against the bill.

Mr. GRIMES, of Iowa, explained the vote he was about to give. He would vote for Mr. Brown's amendment, which would adopt the proposed vote for the bill. He could not vote for the admission of Nebraska as negro suffrage as a condition to his admission, for he had doubts as to the right of any state to force its slaves to vote.

Having voted for negro suffrage in the District of Columbia, and being desirous early in the bill over the President's veto, he was not disposed to abandon that principle now.

Mr. HOWARD, of Michigan, introduced a bill authorizing the president to accept, once for all, the services and officers of the War Department for the capture of Jefferson Davis. It is the same bill introduced last session, and provides for the payment to Col. Fritchett, \$19,000; Captains Hathaway and Hudson, \$720 each; Lieut. L. H. G. Johnson, \$600; Corporal P. J. Davis and Campbells, \$355; Sergeant J. A. Groves, \$355; Sergeant J. E. Stevens, \$275; Hospital Steward Amos Knight, \$200; Commissary Steward Dugan, \$200; Sergeant O. C. Gooding and nine others of the staff, \$100 each; Sergeant B. F. Gooding and others of the "dark rank," \$200 each; Corporal Darwain, and others of equal rank, \$107, and to private Hiram Austin and others \$106. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. EGDUNDS, of Vermont, maintained that Congress had a right to admit a State and attach conditions to the act in the manner proposed by the amendment which he intended to offer.

Mr. HOWELL, of Michigan, denied the right of Congress to impose such stringent conditions relating to suffrage, or any other matter over which a State has control according to the Constitution of the United States.

Mr. KIRKWOOD, of Iowa, advocated the passage of his amendment. In young that he should not fear that he was committing himself against negro suffrage when the reconstruction of the southern States came up.

Mr. WADE, of Ohio, resumed the floor in defense of the bill, and made a long argument regarding points already elicited in the course of the debate.

Mr. EDMUND, of Vermont, replied to arguments urged against his amendment, asserting the right of Congress to impose the conditions of his amendment.

Mr. DOUGLASS, of Wisconsin, asked Mr. Edmonds whether, under the Constitution, as proposed to be amended, or as it stands, it does not recognize the right of the States to regulate the question of suffrage?

Mr. EDMUND said there was nothing in the Constitution to prevent Congress from enforcing equal rights in the territories of the United States.

Mr. MORRILL, of Maine, offered a resolution directing the Secretary of the Senate to send the bill to the Secretary of State, with a certificate of its passage, by a two-thirds vote, in each House. Adopted.

The CHAIR laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of War transmitting a statement of claims made by the War Department to the date of December 31, 1866. Referred to the Military Committee.

The consideration of the Nebraska bill was referred.

Mr. ORESWELL, of Maryland, took the floor in defense of his amendment. He announced himself in the course of his remarks, as a new convert to the doctrine of negro suffrage. He denied the right of white citizens of a State to disfranchise the black citizens, and held that Congress was bound, under the Constitution of the United States, to require equal rights to all.

Mr. SAULSBURY, of Delaware, asked when the right was denied.

Mr. ORESWELL said in 1810.

Mr. SAULSBURY—Has Maryland had a republican form of government since?

Mr. ORESWELL explained that while slavery existed and was protected by the constitution, it did not exist in Maryland; but now that it is gone, it could not be done.

Pending the consideration of the bill and amendment, the Senate, at five o'clock P. M., adjourned, with an understanding that a vote should be taken at three P. M. to-morrow.

House of Representatives.

The House proceeded, as the next business, in order, to the consideration of the joint resolution making the 13th amendment a law. The proceedings were directed by Mr. KASSON, of Iowa, declaratory of the purpose of Congress in proposing the constitutional amendment prohibiting slavery in the United States.

Mr. KASSON's resolution was as follows:

"An act declaratory of the meaning of the 13th amendment to the Constitution of the United States, declaring that the true intent and meaning thereof was to prohibit slavery or involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, and to declare that the immediate control of officers of the law, and according to the laws of the land, of all persons held in actual service of the person so held in service, and that all orders, judgments, or decrees, authorizing or directing the sale into slavery, and the holding in slavery, of any person, shall be held to be in violation of the thirteenth constitutional amendment, and therefore null and void."

Mr. CRAVEN, of Indiana, asked Mr. Kasson to yield him for a moment, but Mr. Kasson declined, saying that he presumed the gentleman wished to renew his motion to adjourn in order to celebrate the eighth of January, but he proposed by the passage of the joint resolution here before, to celebrate the battle of January 1st, rather than it had been celebrated at New Orleans or anywhere else.

Mr. KASSON proceeded to advocate the passage of his joint resolution.

Mr. DOUGLASS, of Wisconsin, inquired whether Congress had power to give construction to a constitutional amendment that should be binding on States which had adopted that amendment?

Mr. FINCH, of Ohio, also wanted to know whether Congress had the power to declare the judgment and redress of a Court void, and to set them aside.

Mr. THAYER, of Pennsylvania, remarked that what was the old ghost come back again.

Mr. KASSON argued that Congress had the right to declare invalid what was in itself so.

Mr. ROSS, of Kentucky, called the attention of Mr. Kasson to the fact that in New Mexico and Colorado there were several thousand Indians held in slavery.

Mr. KASSON understood there was peace now, but that his side of the House had taken action within the last few days to remedy the evil, and he had no doubt that his excellent friend from Illinois (Mr. Rose) would be round recorded against any action that should be taken to abolish the Indian slave.

Mr. ROSS inquired whether Mr. Kasson was not aware that government officers in New Mexico and Colorado were owning, buying, and selling persons.

Mr. KASSON replied that if so, the President of the United States would take the advice of his friends, Mr. Ross, and have those officers court-martialed for violating the Constitution and laws.

The debate was participated in further by Messrs. Thayer, Phillips, and Grinnell.

Finally Mr. Kasson moved a substitute for the original resolution, modifying it so as to make it a bill, and to have it apply to persons who hold negroes so sold into slavery.

The vote on the passage of the bill was taken by yeas 106, nays 24. So it passed, and resulted—yeas 106, nays 24.

It now reads—an act to proclaim and enforce the 13th amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

Whereas, The Congress of the United States, in

the second session of the thirty-eighth Congress, proposed to the several States for adoption the 13th amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which is now, by the ratification of three-fourths of the states, part of the Union, become part of the Constitution, and which, by its terms, forever prohibits slavery or involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, and declares that the power of Congress to prohibit such practice in the District of Columbia, and in the Territories, shall not be denied or restrained.

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