PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S FIRST ANNU AL MESSAGE.

Representative!

To express gratitude to God, in the name of the People, for the preservation of the United States, is my first duty in addressing you. Our thoughts next revert to the death of the late President by an act of parriodal treason. The grief of the nation is still fresh; it finds some solace in the consideration that he lived to enjoy the highest proof of its confidence by entering an

sideration that he lived to enjoy the high-cet proof of its confidence by entering on the renewed term of the Chief Magistracy, to which he had been elected; that he breught the civil war substantially to a close; that his loss was deplored in all parts of the Union; and that foreign nations have rendered justice to his memory. His re-moval cast upon me a heavier weight of rendered justice to his memory. His re-moval cast upon ms a heavier weight of cares than ever devolved upon any one of his predecessors. To full my trust I need the support and confidence of all who are I with me in the various depart. associated with me in the various depart-ments of Government, and the support and confidence of the people. There is but one way in which I can hope to gain their ne-cessary aid: it is, to state, with frankness, the principles which guide my conduct, and their application to the present state of af-furs, well aware that the efficiency of my

labors will, in a great measure, depend on your and their undivided approbation. The Union of the United States of Amer-The Union of the United States of America was intended by its authors to last as long as the States themselves shall last, offic Usion situt he perpetual," are the words of the Confederation. "To form a mountain period Union," by an ordinance of the people of the United States, is the declared purpose of the Constitution. The hand of Divine Providence was never more abundy visible in the affairs of men than in plainly visible in the affairs of men than in the framing and adopting of that instru-ment. It is, beyond comparison, the greatmont. It is, beyond comparison, the great-cal event in American history; and indeed i) at not, of all events in modern times, the most pregnant with consequences for every people of the earth? The members of the Convention which prepared it brought to their work the experience of the Confeder-ation, of their everal States, and of other republican governments, old and new; but they needed and they obtained a wisdom they needed and they obtained a wisdom superior to experience. And when for its validity it required the approval of a peopla that occupied a large part of a continent and noted separately in many distinct conventions, what is more wonderful than that, after carnest contention and long discustom, all feelings and all opinions were altimately drawn in one way to its support. The Constitution to which lite was thus a parted contains within itself angles feel

sources for its own preservation. It has power to enforce the base punish the son, and insure domestic transpolity. In case and insure domestic transpolity. In case, at the usurpation of the povenment of a Sinte by one man, or an objarchy, it be comes a duty of the United States to make and the against after to third state of a magnificant form of government, and so to maniform the homogeneous-mess of all. Does the Tipes of time reveal detects? A simple state of a mendium is provided in the Control of the control o strution itself, so that its conditions circularly be made to conform to the requirements of a branch greather in No re on is allowed even for the thought of a possibility of its coming to an end. And these powers of self-preservation have always been assorted in thou complete integrity by every parintic Chief Magistrite—by Jefferson and Jacker into less than by Wishington and Madison. The parinty advice of the Cather of his County, while yet President, other purple of the Unit Exater, was, that other keet constitution, which was the work of their hands, on the be saccedly maintrained; and the in against words of President Letters including the packet of records. stitution itself, so that its conditions can al-

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under military authority emanating from the President as the head of the army, was the first question that presented itself for

the nr-1 question that presented itself for decision.

Now, fulfilling governments, established for an indiamic period, would have offered to security for the early suppression of discontent; would have divided the people into the vanquishers and the vanq and would have envenomed hatred rather than have restored affection. Once estab listed, no precise limit to their continuance Instead, no precise limit to their continuance was conceleable. They would have occaling the natural number of the migration of and from period of the country is one of the best means that can be thought of for the restoration of harmony; and that emigration would have been prevented; for what emigrant from abroad, what industrious cities and account of the original district original distric iren at home, would place himself willingly be made for the resumption of all its func-under military rule? The chief persons tions. It is manifest that treason, most who would have followed in the train of the flagranut in character, has been committed.

I found the States supering.

feets of a civil war Resistance to the general government appeared to have exhausted itself. The United States has recovered possession of their forts and arsenals; and their armies were in the occupation of every their find aftempted to accede. Whather Here it is for your fellow citizens of the Senate, and for you, fellow citizens of the House of Ropresentatives, to judge, each of the elections, returns, adopted, it would remain for the States, whose powers have been so long in abey ance, to resume their places in the two branches of the National Legislature, and thereby complete the work of restoration.

Thereby complete the work of restoration.

I know that sincere plulanthropy is carnets for the immediate realization of its received aims; but time is always an elemen and the states of the sincere states at the states of the sincere states at the sincere plus at time is always an elemen and the states of the sincere states at the sincere states at the sincere states are states at the sincere states at the s

you for yourselves, of the elections, returns, and qualifications of your own members.

The full assertion of the powers of the General Government requires the holding of Circuit Courts of the Huited States with in the district where their authority has been interrupted. In the present posture of our public affairs, strong objections have been urged to holding those coarts in any of the States where the rebellion has existed; and it was accertained, by inquiry, that the Circuit Court of the United States would not

motest aims; but time is always an element in reform. It is one of the greatest acts on record to have brought four millions of people into freedom. The career of free industry must be fairly opened to them; and then their future prosperity and condition must, after all, rest mainly on themselves. If they fail, and so perish, way, let us be careful that the failure shall not be attentional. be attributable to any denial of justice. In all that relates to the destiny of the freed-men, we need not be too anxious to read the ulative point of view, might raise alarm

od the States where it prevailed against the incoming of free industry. Where Labor was the property of the capitalist, the white man was excluded from employment, or had but the second best chance of finding it; and the foreign emigrant turned again of the tiersenguard have been been expensed in commission 500 vessels of All' classes and descriptions, at and descriptions, at and of the repeat of the second with 3,000 guns, and descriptions, at and the number of vessels at present in commission is 117, with \$50 guns and 12,128 and I by this prompt it; and the foreign emigrant turned against the descriptions, at and exceptions, and descriptions, at and descriptions, at and descriptions, at and the number of vessels of All' classes and descriptions, at and the number of vessels of All' classes and descriptions, at and the number of vessels of All' classes and descriptions, at and the number of vessels of All' classes and descriptions, at and of the number of vessels at present in commission is 117, with \$50 guns and 12,128 and I by this prompt of the capitalist, the white was a second best chance of finding the number of vessels at present in commission is 117, with \$50 guns and 12,128 and I by the number of vessels at present in commission is 117, with \$50 guns and 12,128 and I by the number of vessels at present in commission is 117, with \$50 guns and 12,128 and I by the number of vessels and descriptions.

established routes, and in favor of continuing the 'present system, which limits the
compensation for ocean service to the pestage earnings, are recommended to the
careful consideration of Congress.

It appears from the report of the Secretary of the Navy, that while, at the commencement of the present year, there were
in commission 530 vessels of all classes and

ment would be waining. And, if we lost of restoration shall preced in assformity beyond the letter of the Constitution to the comprehending within its jurisdiction a war to comprehending within its jurisdiction as well as the system of single past into collections. The lands in the lands of the constitution of the Union shall preced a few past in the collections of the Union shall preced a few past in the collections. The lands in the lands of the Constitution of the Union shall be put be existence of the States in the "suppose a manhorm of the Union shall be put be existence of the Constitution of the Union shall be put be existence of the Constitution of the Union shall be put be existence of the Constitution of the Union shall be put be existence of the Constitution of the Union shall be put be existence of the Constitution of the Union shall be put be existence of the Constitution of the Union shall be put be existence of the Constitution of the Union shall be put be existence of the Constitution of the Union shall be put be existence of the Constitution of the Union Shall be put be existence of the Constitution of the Union Shall be put be existence of the Constitution of the Union Shall be put be existence of the Constitution of the Union Shall be put to the Constitution of the Union Shall be put to the Constitution of the Union Shall be put to the Constitution of the Union Shall be put to the Constitution of the Union Shall be put to the Constitution of the Union Shall be put to the Constitution of the Union Shall be put to the Constitution of the Union Shall be put to the Constitution of the Union Shall be put to the Constitution of the Union Shall be under the Constitution of the Union Shall b

Our debt is doubly secure—first in the actual wealth and still greater undeveloped resources of the country; and next in the character of our institutions. The most pears immediately preceding the rebellion.

of was \$3,533,845. The revenues of the four material economic feed by the Postma at plus of receipts over expenditures of \$301.

430. Progress has been made in restoring the postal service in the Southern States. The views presented by the Postma atar General against the poicy of granting subsidiated to ocean mail steamship lines upon established routes, and in favor of continuing the present system, which however. has its root in the character of our taws. Here all men contributes to the public welfare, and bear their fair share of the public burdens. During the war, under impulses of patriotism, the men of the great bady of the people, without regard to their own comparative want of wealth, thrynged to our armier and filed our fleets of war, and hold themselves ready to offer of war, and hold themselves ready to offer their lives for the public good. Now, in their turn, the property and income of the country should bear their just proportion of the burdens of faxation, while in our impost

sequences of this conduct, work most disasticate to the States then in rebellion, increasing their desolation and misery by the profengation of our civil contest. It find, moreover, the chair to our civil contest. It find, moreover, the chair to a great extent, to drive the American fing from the rea, and to transfer, much of our shipping and our comments to the very Power whose subjects in a created the heccasily for such a change. These events dook place before I was called to the administration of the Provorment. The sincere desire for peace by which I am animated led me to approve the proposal, already made, to submit the questions which had thus arisen between the countries to arbitration. These questions are of such moment that they must have commanded the attention of the great Powers, and are so intervoves with the peace and internst of every one of them as to have consured an impartial decision. I segret to more my out that Great Brittan declined the arbitrament, but, on the other Känd, invited us to the formation of a joint commission the settle mutual classins between the two countries, from which those for the depredations before mentioned should be excluded. The popronition, in that very unsatirfactory form, has beed declined. The United States did not present the sub-

declined.

The United States did not present the sub-ject as an impeachment of the good faith of a Power which was professing the most friendly dispeditions, but as involving questions of public law, of which the settlemen, is essential to the peace of nations; and, though pecuniary reparation to their injured eities would have followed incidentally on a decision against Great Britian, such compensation was not their primary object. They had a higher mustive, and le was in the interests of peace and justice to astablish important principles of international law. The correspondence will be piaced before you. The ground on which the British Minister rests his justification is, substantially, that the numicipal law of a nation, and the domestic interpretations of that law, are the measure of its duty as a neutral; and I feel bound to declare my opinion, before you and before the world, that that justification cannot be sustained before the tribunal of nations. At the same time I do not gdvine to any present attempt in redrous by acts of legislation. For the faure, friendship between the two countries must rest on the basis of mutual justice.

From the moment of the establishment of our free Constitution, the civilized world has been convulsed by revolutions in the interest of democracy or of morrarchy; but through all these revolutions the United States have wisely and firmly refused to become propagadists of repullicanism. It is, the only government saties. The United States did not present the sub-

firmly refused to become propagandists of re-pulicanism. It is, the only government suited to our condition; but we have mover sought to impose it op others; and we have consistently followed the advice of Washington to recommend it only by the careful preservation and prudent use of the blessing. During all the in-terrenung period the polley of European Powers and of the United States has, on the whole, been harmonious. Twice, indeed, ramors of in-vasion of some parts of America, in the insisted of monarchy, have prevailed; twice my preds coasors have had occasion to announce the views of this nation in respect to such interfer-ance. On both occasions the remonstrance of sace. On both occasions the remonstrance of the United States was respected, from a deca-conviction, as the part of European Govern-ments, that the system of non-interferance and