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VOLUME 2

President's Message. Fellow Citizens of the Senate and House of

Representatives : Upon the re-assembling of Congress, it again becomes my duty to call your attention to the state of the Union, and disorganized condition under the various laws which have been passed upon the subject of reconstruction. It may be safely assumed as an axiom in the government of the States, that the greatest wrongs inflicted upon the people are caused by unjust and arbitrary legislation, or by the unreleuting decrees of despotic rulers, and that injurious and oppresnanimity to retrace his steps when convinced of error, will sooner or later be rewarded with the respect and gratitude of an intelligent and patriotic people. Our own history, although embracing a period of less than a century, affords abundant proof that most, if not all our domestic troubles are directly traceable to violations of the organic law, and excessive legislation.

THE RECONSTRUCTION LAWS SHOULD BE RE-PEALED.

The most striking illustrations of the fact are furnished by the enactments of the past three years upon the question of reconstruction. After a fair trial they have substantially failed and proved pernicious in their results, and there seems to be no good reason why they should longer remain upon the statute books. States to which the Constitution guarantees a republican f rm of Government, have been reduced to military dependencies, in each of which the people have been made subjects to the arbitrary will of the commanding general. Although the Constitution requires that each State shall be represented in Congress, Virginia, Mississippi and Texas are yet excluded from the Houses, and contrary to the express provisions of that instrument, were ther show, that in 1791 the annual national denied participation in the recent election for a President and Vice President of the United States. The attempt to place the whole population under the domination of persons of color in the South, has impaired if not destroyed the kindly relations that had previously existed between them, and mutual distrust has engendered a feeling of animosity which, leading in some instances to collision and bloodshed, has prevented that co-operation between the two races so essential to the success of industrial enterprises in the Southern States. Nor have the inhabitants of those States alone suffered from the disturbed condition of affairs growing out of these Congressional enactments. The entire Union has been agitated by grave apprehensions of trouble, which might again involve the peace of the nation. Its interests have been injuriously affected by the derangement of business and labor, the consequent want of prosperity throughout that portion of the country.

The Federal Constitution, the Magua Charta of American rights, under whose wise and salutary provisions we have successfully conducted all our domestic and foreign affairs; sustained ourselves in peace and in war, and became a great nation among the powers of the earth, must assure ly now be adequate to the settlement of all questions growing out of the civil war waged alone for its vindicated. This great act is made most manifest by the condition of the country. When Congress assembled in the month of December, 1865. civil strife bad ceased. The spirit of rebellion had spent its entire force in the Southern States. The people had warmed into national life, and throughout the whole country a healthy reaction in public sentiment had taken place by the application of the simple, yet effective provisions of the Constitution. The Executive Department. with the voluntary aid of the States, had brought the work of restoration as near completion as was within the scope of its authority, and the nation was encouraged by the prospect of an early and satisfactory adjustment of all its difficulties, Congress, however, intervened, and refusing to perfect the work so nearly consummated, declined to admit members from the States, adopted a course of measures, fustrating all that had been successfully accomplished, and, after three years of agitation and strife has left the country farther from the attainment of union and fraternal feeling than at the inception of the Congressional plan of reconstruction. It needs no argument to show that the legislation which has produced such consequances should be abrogated, or else made to conform to the genuine principles of Republican Government. Under the influence of party passions and sectional prejudice other acts have been passed not

warranted by the Constitution.

THE TENURE-OF-OFFICE BILL. Congress has already been made familiar with my views respecting the tenure-of-office bill. Experience has proven that its repeal is demanded by the best interests of the country, and that while it remains in force the President cannot enjoin that rigid accountability of public officers so essential to an honest and efficient execution of the laws, its revocation would enable the Executive Department to exercise the power of appointment and removal in accordance with the original design of the Federal Con-

The act of March 2d, 1867, making apinterfere with the President's constitutional right to protect themselves with their own minish confidence in the public councils and rooted and wide-spread, and imperil the naannulled, for while the first might, in times people toward their political institutions.—
of great emergency, seriously embarrass the Without proper care the small balance which Executive in efforts to employ and direct it is estimated will remain in the Treasury

made the nation's safe and unerring guide; they can be productive of no permanent benefit to the country, and should not be permitted to stand as so many monuments of deficient wisdom which has characterized

our recent legislation.

THE PUBLIC EXPENDITURES. The condition of our finances demands the early and earnest consideration of Congress. Compared with the growth of our population, public expenditures have reached an amount unprecedented in our history. The popula-tion of the United States in 1790 was nearly four millions of people; increasing each decade about thirty-three per cent., it reached sive measures are the greatest evils that can in 1860 thirty-one millions, an increase of be inflicted upon a nation. The legislator seven hundred per cent. on the population in or the ruler who has the wisdom and mag- 1790. In 1869, it is estimated it will reach thirty-eight millions, or an increase of eight hundred and sixty-eight per cent, in seventynine years. The annual expenditures of the Federal Government in 1791 were four millions two hundred thousand dollars; in 1820 eighteen millions two hundred thousand dollars; in 1850, forty-one millions; in 1860. sixty-three millions. In 1864, nearly thizteen hundred millions, and in 1869, it is estimated by the Secretary of the Treasury in his last annual report that they will be three hundred and seventy-two millions. By comparing the public disbursement of

1869 as estimated with those of 1791, it will

be seen that the increase since the beginning of our government has been eight thousand six hundred and eighteen per cent., while the increase of the population for the same period was only eight hundred and sixtyeight per cent. Again, the expense of the Government in 1860, the year of peace immediately preceding the war, were only sixty five millions, while in 1869, the year of peace three years after the war, it is estimated they will be three hundred and seventy millions, an increase of four hundred and eighty-nine per cent. while the increase of population was only twenty-one per cen . r the same period. These statistics furexpenses compared with the population were but little more than one dollar per capita, and in 1860, two dollars per capita, while in 1869 they will reach the extravagant sum of nine dollars and seventy-eight cents per capita. It will be observed that all of these statements referred to exhibit the disbursements of peace periods. It may, therefore, be of interest to compare the expenditures of the three war periods, the war with Great Britain, the Mexican war and the war of the rebellion. In 1814 the annual expenses incident to the war of 1812 reach the highest amount, about \$31,000,000 while our population slightly exceeded 8,-000,000, showing an expenditure of only three dollars and eighty cents per capita .-In 1847 the expenditures growing out of the war with Mexico, reached fifty-five millions. and the population about twenty-one milhone, giving only two dollars and sixty cents per capita for the war expenses of that year. In 1865 the expenditure called for by the rebellion reacked the vast amount of twelve hundred and ninety millions, which, compared with a population of thirty-four millions, gives thirty-eight dollars and twenty-eight cents per cents per capita .--From the 4th day of March, 1789, to the 30th of June, 1861, the entire expenditures of the Government were seventeen hundred millions of dollars. During that period we were engaged in wars with Great Britain and Mexica, and were engaged in hostilities with powerful Indian tribes. Louisiana was purchased from France at a cost of fifteen nillions of dollars; Florida was ceded to us by Spain for five millions; California was credit should be sacredly observed, but in acquired from Mexico for fifteen millions. and the Territory of New Mexico was obtained from Texas for the sum of ten mil lions. Early in 1861 the war of the rebelion commenced, and from the first of July of that year to the thirtieth of June, 1865. the public expenditures reached the enormous aggregate of thirty-three hundred millions. Three years of peace have intervened, and during that time the disbursements of the Government have successively been five hundred and twenty millions, three hundred and ninety millions. Adding to these millions estimated as necessary for the fiscal tain a total expenditure of sixteen hundred millions of dollors during the war, or nearly

of the public service. Abuses which were tolerated during the war for the preservation of the nation will not be endured by the people now, that profound peace prevails. INTERNAL REVENUE AND GUSTOMS RECEIPTS. The receipts from internal revenues and gradually diminished, and the continuance involve us in national bankruptcy, or else make inevitable an increase of taxes already too onerous and in many respects obnoxious on account of their inquisitorial character. One huadred millions annually are expended for the military force, a large portion of both unnecessary and unconstitutional. One hundred and fifty millions are required each year to pay the interest on the public debt. An army of tax gatherers impoverishes the THE PRESIDENT AS COMMANDER IN-CHIEF, nation, and public agents, placed by Congress beyond the control of the Executive, propriations for the support of the army for divert from their legitimate purposes large the year ending June 30th, 1868, and for sums of money, which they collect from the other purposes, contains provisions which | people in the name of the government. Judicious legislation and prudent economy can functions as Commander-in-chief of the ar- alone remedy these defects, and avert evils my, and deny to States of the Union the which, if suffered to exist, cannot fail to di- oreate a prejudice that may become deepmilitia. These provisions should be at once | weaken the attachment and respect of the | tional credit.

as much as was expended the seventy-two

years that preceded the rebellion, and em-

the necessity of retrenchment in all branches

THE NATIONAL INDESTRONESS. It becomes proper in this connection to an indebtedness of seventy-five millions of preceding year. dollars, created during the war of the Revolution. This amount had been reduced to forty-five millions of dollars, when, in 1812, war was declared against Great Britain .-The three years' struggle that followed per cent., which was originally stipulated largely increased the national obligations. when the investment was made, An amendand in 1816 they had attained the sum of one bundred and twenty-seven millions .-Wise and economical legislation, however, enabled the Government to pay the entire amount within a period of twenty years, 203.94, and the estimates for the coming and the extinguishment of the national debt filled the land with rejoicing, and was one of the great events of President Jackson's administration. After its redemption, a large fund remained in the Treasury, which was deposited for safe keeping with the several States on condition that it should be returned when required by the public wants. In 1849, the year after the termination of an expensive war with Mexico, we found ourselves involved in a debt of sixtyfour millions, and this was the amount owe. by the government in 1860, just prior to the outbreak of the rebellion. In the spring of 1861 our civil war commenced; each year of its continuance made an enormous addition to the debt, and when, in the spring of 1865, the nation successfully emerged from the conflict, the obligations of the government had reached the immense sum of \$2 .-873,992,909. The Secretary of the Treastotal increase during thirteen month of fortysix and a half millions.

REDUCTION OF THE PUBLIC DEBT. The President then argues in favor of a reduction of the public debt, in which he says we should without further delay make provision for the payment of our obligations at as early a day as may be practicable.-The fruit of the labors of the people, he goes on to say, should be enjoyed by our citizens. rather than be used to build up and sustain moneyed monopolies in our own and other lands. Our foreign debt is already compu-\$850,000,000. Citizens of foreign countries to contribute large sums for their support. The idea that such a debt is to become permanent should be at all times discarded, as

taxation is too heavy to be borne. The President also discusses the rate of an extravagant per centage for the use of the not forget what is due to the masses of the | ial information, people. It may be assumed that the holders of our securities have already received upon their bonds a larger amount than their ori ginal investment, measured by a gold standard. Upon this statement of facts it would become just and equitable that the six per cent. interest now paid by the Government should be applied to the reduction of the principal in semi-annual instalments, which in sixteen years and eighteen months would liquidate the entire national debt. Six per amounts three hundred and seventy-two cent. in gold would at present rates be equal to nine per cent. in currency, and equivalent year ending the 30th of June, 1869, we ob- to the payment of the debt one and a half times in a fraction less than seventeen years.

This, in connection with all the other advantages derived from their investment, would afford to the public creditors a fair braced the extraordinary expenditures already and liberal compensation for the use of their named, these startling facts clearly illustrate | capital, and with this they should be satisfied.

OUR GURBENCY. The President, after adverting to the inflation of the currency, says that it is the may he consistent with the principles of customs have, during the past three years, and those of the national banks to convert medium may not necessarily follow. This. however, would depend upon the law of deborne in mind that by making legal-tender and bank notes convertible into coin or its one hundred per cent. Legislation for the accomplishment of a result so desirable is derequires that all creditors of the Government | gle branch of public service. should be paid in a currency possessing uniform value. This can only be accomplished by the restoration of currency to the standard established by the Constitution, and by this means we would remove a discrimination which may, if it has not already done so.

THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

\$341,392,868, and the expenditures \$386,- der the Homestead law cover two million 152.470, showing a small balance of \$5,240,- three hundred and twenty eight thousand 298 in favor of the Government. For the nine hundred and twenty-three acres, nearly fiscal year ending June 30, 1870, it is esti- one-fourth of which was taken under the act mated that the receipts will amount to \$327,- of June 21st, 1867, which applies only to 000,000, and the expenditures to \$303,000,- the States of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisi-000, leaving an estimated surplus of \$24,- ana, Arkansas and Florida.

THE PENSION BUREAU.

On the 30th of June, 1868, one hundred and sixty-nine thou ann six hundred and make a brief reference to our public indebt- fity-three names were borne on the pension edness, which has accumulated with such | rolls, and during the year ending on that alarming rapidity and assumed such colossal day, the total amount paid for pensions, inproportions. In 1789, when the Govern- cluding the expenses of disbursements, was ment commenced operations under the \$24,010,982, being \$5,394,025 greater than Federal Constitution, it was burdened with that expended for like purposas during the

> Exception is taken to the act of 23d July last, which reduces the interest on the fund loaned to the Government by the Secretary as trustee, to three per cent., instead of six ment of the Pension laws is suggested to remedy omissions and defects in existing enactments. The expenditures of the departyear amount to \$20,993,314.

THE PATRNT OFFICE. During the year ending the 30th of September last, the expenses of the Patent Office exceeded the receipts by . bhundred and seventy one dollars, and including re-issues and designs, fourteen thousand one hundred

and fifty-three patents were issued-INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Treaties with various Indian tribos have been concluded, and will be submitted to the Senate for its constitutional action. I cordiatlay sanction the stipulations which provide for reserving lands for the various tribes. where they may be encouraged to abandon their nomadic habits, and engage in agricultural and industrial pursuits. This policy, inaugurated many years since, has met with signal success whenever it has been pursued in good faith and with becoming liberality ury shows that on the 1st day of November, by the United States. The necessity for ex-1867, this amount had been reduced to tending it as far as practicable in our rela-\$2.491,504.450, but at the same time his tions with the aboriginal population is greater his report exhibits an increase during the now than at any preceding period. Whilst past year of \$35,625,102, for the debt on | we furnish subsistence and instructions to he first day of November last is stated to the Indians and narrantee the undisturbed have been \$2,527,129,552. It is estimated enjoyment of their treaty rights, we should by the Secretary that the returns for the habitually insist upon the faithful observance past month will add to our liabilities the of their agreement to remain within their reurther sum of eleven millions, making a spective reservationsr This is the only mode by which these collisions with other tribes safety of our frontier settlements secured.

THE PACIFIC BAILWAYS. The compunies constructing the railway rom Omaha to Sacramento have been most energetically engaged in prosecuting the work, and it is believed that the line will be completed before the expiration of the next fiscal year. The six per cent. bonds issued to these companies amounted on the fith instant to \$44,837,00fi, and additional work had been performed to the extent of \$3,200. ted by the Secretary of the Treasury at | 000. The Secretary of the Interior in August last, invited my attention to the report receive interest upon a large portion of our of a Director of the Union Pacific Railroad securities, and American tax-payers are made | Company, who had been specially instructed to examine the location, construction and equipment of their road, and submitted for the opinion of the Attorney General certain questions in regard to the authority of the Executive, which arose upon this report, interest now paid by the Government, and | and those which had from time to time been comes to the conclusion that we are paying presented by the Commissioners appointed appointed to examine this and other lines, money borcowed. He says: Our national and have recently submitted a statement of their investigations, of which the report of making provision for our creditors we should | the Secretary of the Interior furnishes spec-

THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

The report of the Secretary of War contains information of interest respecting the several Buaeaus of the War Department, and the operations of the army. The strength of our military force on the 30th of September last was 68,600 men, and it is computed that this number will be decreased to 43,000. It is the opinion of the Secretary of War, that within the next year a considerable diminution of the infantry force may be made without detriment to the interest of the country, and in view of the great expense attending the military establishment and the absolute necessity of retrenchment, wherever it can be applied, it is hoped that Congress will sanction the reduction which his report recommends. While in 1860. sixteen thousand three hundred men cost the nation \$16,472,000, the sum of \$65,682,000 as necessary for the support of the army during the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1870. The estimates of war debt, for the last two obvious duty of the Government, as early as fiscal years, were for 1867, \$33,814,461, and and for 1868, \$25,205,669. The actual sound political economy, to take such mea- expenditures during the same periods were sures as will enable the holder of its notes respectively, \$95,224,415 and \$123,246,648. The estimate submitted in December last, them without loss into specie or its equiva- for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1869, was of useless and extravagant expenditures will lent. A reduction of our paper circulating \$77,124,707. The expenditures for the first quarter, ending the 30th of September last, were \$27,219,117, and the Secretary of the mand and supply; though it should be Treasury gives \$65,000,000 as the amount which will probably be required during the remaining three-quarters, if there should be equivalent, their present specie value in the no reduction of the army, making its aggrewhich is employed in the execution of laws bands of their holders would be enhanced gate cost for the year considerably in excess of ninety-three millions. The difference between the estimates and expenditures for the manded by the highest public considerations. | three fiscal years which have been named, is He further says that equal and exact justice | thus shown to be \$175.545,343 for this sin-

The report of the Secretary of the Navy exhibits the operations of that department and of the Navy during the year. A considerable reduction of the force has been effected. There are forty-two vessels carrying four hundred and eleven guns in the six squadross which are established in different parts | may require, and to vindicate the rights of of the world. Three of these vessels are returning to the United States and four are any others who may be exposed to danger in The Secretary of the Interior, in his re- used as storeships, leaving the actual cruis- the theater of war port, gives valuable information in reference | ing force thirty-five vessels, carrying three The common strength of the nation for its protection and preservation, the other is not be realized, and additional millions be of his department, and reviews the operation of the Navy is two hundred and flity six guns. The total numbers of the interests confined to the supervision hundred and flity six guns. The total numbers of his department, and reviews the operation of his department, and reviews the operation of the nation for its at the close of the present fiscal year will be interests confined to the supervision hundred and flity six guns. The total numbers of his department, and reviews the operation of his department, and reviews the operation of the nation for its at the close of the present fiscal year will be interests confined to the supervision bundred and flity six guns. The total numbers of his department, and reviews the operation of his department, and reviews the operation of his department, and reviews the operation of the nation for its at the close of the present fiscal year will be not be realized, and additional millions be of his department, and reviews the operation of the nation for its at the close of the present fiscal year will be not be realized. contrary to the express declaration of the added to a debt which is now enumerated tions of the Land Office, Pensien Office, Pat- and six, mounting seventeen hundred and tions of the Land Office, Pensien Office, Pat- and six, mounting seventeen hundred and tions of the Land Office, Pensien Office, Patcontrary to the express declaration of the Constitution, that a well regulated militia by billions. It is shown by the able and some personal comprehensive report of the Secretary of the State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. It is believed that the repeal of all such laws would be accepted by the American people as at partial return to the fundamental principles of the government, and an indiprinciples of the government, and an indi-eastlon that hreafter the Constitution is to be fiscal year ending June 30, 1869, will be principles of the government, and an indi-eastlon that hreafter the Constitution is to be fiscal year ending June 30, 1869, will be promotive of economy a little cayenne pepper. Stir it over the yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities is recommended which will, being greater by \$284.883 than yard facilities

tematic survey of the North Pacific Ocean is advised, in view of our recent acquisitions, our expanding commerce, and the increasing intercourse between the Pacific States and Asia. The Naval Pension Fund, which consists of a moiety of the avails of prizes captured during the war, amounts to \$14,-

THE POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT.

The Postmaster General's report furnishes a full and clear exhibit of the operations and condition of the postal service The ordinary postal revenue for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1868, was \$15 202,400, and the total expenditures embracing all the service for which special appropriations have been made by Congress, amounted to \$22,730,-592, showing an excess of expenditures of \$6.437,771; showing an excess of expenditures of \$6,437,771 deducting from the expenditures the sum of \$1,896,525, the amount of appropriations for ocean, steamship and other special rervices, the excess of expenditures was \$4,541,466. By using an unexpended balance in the Treasury of \$3,-800,000, the actual sum for which a special appropriation is required to meet the defisiency, is \$7,412 66. The causes which produced this large excess of expenditure over revenue, were the restoration of services in the late insurgent States, and the putting into operation of the new service established by acts of Congress, which amounted within the last two years and a half to about forty-eight thousand seven hundred miles, equal to more than one-third the whole amount of the service at the close of the war. New postal conventions with Great Britain, North Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Switzerland, and Italy, respectively, have been carried into effect; under their provisions important improvements have resulted in the reduced rates of international postage, and the colarged mail facilities with European countries. The cost of the United States trans-Atlantic Ocean mail service, since January 1, 1868. has been largely lessened under the operation of these new conventions; reducion of over one-half having been effected under the new arrangement for Ocean mail steamship service, which went into effect on that date. The attention of Conby the Postmaster General.

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS.

No important question has occurred dur-

ing the last year in our accustomed cordial and friendly intercourse with Costa Rica, and with the whites can be avoided and the Guatemala, Honduras, San Salvador, France, Austria, Belgium, Switzerland, Portugal, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, Rome, Greece, Turkey, Persia, Egypt, Liberia, Morocco, Tripoli, Tunis, Muscat, Siam, Borneo and Madagascar. Cordial relations have also been maintained with the Argentine and the Oriental Republics. The expressed wish of Congress that our national good offices might be tendered to those Republics, and also to Brazil and Paraguay, for bringing to an end the continuous war which has so long been raging in the Valley f the La Plata, has been assiduously comslied with, and fully acknowledged by all he belligerents. That important negotiaion, however, has thus far been without result. Charles A. Washburn, late United States Minister to Paraguay, having resigned, and being desirous to return to the United States, the Rear Admiral commandng the South Atlantic Squadron was early lirected to send a ship of war to Ascencion. the capital of Paraguay, to receive Mr. Washburn and his family, and remove them from a situation which was represented to be endangered by faction and foreign war. The Brazilian commander of the allied invading forces refused permission to the Wasp to pass through the blockading forces, and that vessel returned to its accustomed anchorage, remonstrance having been made against the refusal. It was promptly overruled, and the Wasp therefore resumed her errand, received Mr. Washburne and family. and conveyed them to a safe and convenient seaport. In the meantime an excited controversy had arisen between the President of Paraguay and the late United States Minister, which it is understood grew out of his proceedings in giving asylum in the United States legation to alleged enemies of that Republic. The question of the right to give asylum is one always difficult and often productive of great embarrassment in States well organized and established. Foreign powers refuse either to concede or exercise hat right except as to persons actually belonging to the Diplomatic service. On the other hand all such powers insist upon exercising the right of asylum in States where the law of nations is not fully acknowledged, respected and obeyed. The President of Paraguay is understood to have been opposed to Mr. Washburne's proceedings, owing to the njurious and very improbable charge of personal complicity in insurrection and treason. The correspondence, however, has not reached the United States. Mr. Washburne, in connection with this controversy, represents that two United States' citizens attached to the legation were arbitrarily seized at his side when leaving the capital of Paraguay, committed to prison, and there subjected to torture for the purpose of procuring confessions of their own criminality, and testimony to support the President's allegations against the United States Minister. A dispatch has been received from Mr. McMahon, the newly appointed Minister to

Paraguay, saying that he had reached the La Plate. He has been instructed to proceed without delay to Asunscion, there to investigate the whole subject. The Rear admiral, commanding the United States South Atlantic Squadron, has been directed to attend the new Minister with a proper naval force, and to sustain such just demands as the occasion the United States citizens referred to, and of

With these exceptions, friendly relations

ent or hostile movement has been made by either party during the last two years, and there are no indications of a present purpose forgo the hope that it may soon be accepted by all the belligerents and lead to a secure establishment of peace and friendly relations between the Spanish - American Republics and Spain-a result which would be attended with common benefits to the belligerents. and much advantage to all commercial na-

I communicate for the consideration of Congress a correspondence which shows that the Bolivian Republic has established the extremely liberal principle of receiving tuto its citizenship any citizen of the United States, or of any other of the American Republics, upon the simple condition of voluntary registry. The correspondence herewith submitted will be found painfully replate with accounts of the ruin and wretchedness -produced by recent earthquakes of unparalled severity in the Republics of Peru Ecuador and Bolivia. The diplomatic agency and naval officers of the United States who were present in these countries at the time of these disasters, furnished all the relief in their power to the sufferers, and were promptly rewarded with grateful and couching acknowledgements by the Congress of Peru. an appeal to the charity of our fellow-citizens has been answerd by much liberality. In this connection I sub-mit an appeal which has been made by the Swiss Republic, whose government and institutions are kindred to our own, in behalf of its inhabitants, who are suffering extreme destitution produced by recent inundations. Our relations with Mexico during the year

have been marked by an increasing growth of mutual confidence. The Mexican Government has not yet acted upon the treaties celebrated here last summer for establishing the rights of naturalized citizens upon a fust and liberal basis for regulating Cousular powers, and for the adjustment of mutual claims. All commercial nations, as well as all friends of republican institutions, have occasion to regret the frequent local disturbances which occur in some of the constituent States of Cogress is invited to the practical suggestions lumbia. Nothing has occurred, however, to effect the harmony and cordial friendship which have for several years existed between that youthful and vigorous republic and our own. Negotiations are pending with a view to the survey and construction of a ship canal across the Isthmus of Darien, under the auspices of the United States. I hope to be able to submit the result of that perotiation

to the Senate during its present session. into last year by the United States and Nicarauga has been ratified by the latter republic. Cesta Rico, with the earnestness of a sincerely friendly neighbor, solicits reciprocity of trade, which I commend to the consideration of Congress. The convention created by treaty between the United States and Venezuela, in July, 1865, for the muta- is told of a band of 1,000 gypsies that they al adjustment of claims, has been held, and its decisions have been received at the Department of State. The heretofore recogized Government of the United States of Venezuela has been subverted, a Provisional Government having been instituted under circumstances which promise durability. It this, the enemy returned, captured the

has been formally recognized. I have been reluctantly obliged to ask explanation and satisfaction for national iniu ries committed by the President of Hayti. The political and social condition of the Republics of Hayti and St. Domingo are very unsatisfactory and painful. The abolitler of slavery, which has been carried into effect throughout the Island of St. Domingo and islands of Cuba and Porto Rico, has been followed by a profound popular conviction of the rightfulness of republican institutions and an intense desire to secure them. The attempts, however, to establish republics there encounters many obstacles, most of which may be supposed to result from long indulged habits of colonial supineness and dependence upon European powers ..

EXTENSION OF THE PUBLIC DOMAIN. The Presi lent says that the acquisition of Alaska was made with the view of extending the National jurisdiction in the American step could be taken in the same direction, he says that last year he entered into a treaty with the King of Denmark for the purchase of the islands of St. Thomas and St. Johns, on the best terms then attainable. and with the express consent of the people of those islands. This treaty still remains under consideration in the Senate. A new convention has been entered into with Denmark, enlarging the time fixed for the final ratification of the original treaty. He further commends to Congress the consideration of the subject of the peaceful annexation of the two republics of the island of St. Domingo to the United States.

COMMERCIAL RECIPROCITY WITH MAWAYI. The President asks the Senate to confirm the treaty for the establishment of commercial reciprocity between the Hawaiian Kingdom and this Government.

TEBATIES. The President makes mention of two treaties between the United States and Haty, for the regulation of Consular Powers, and the extradition of criminals. A liberal Consular Convention has been negotiated with Belgium. Treaties have been ratified between the United States and North Germany and Bavaria for the regulation of the rights of naturalized citizens.

HUDSON BAY CLAIMS. The examination of claims against the United States by the Hudson Bay Company is being dlligently prosecuted.

REVOLUTIONS IN JAPAN AND SPAIN.

NUMBER 46 POPULAR YOTE FOR PRESIDENT. I renew the recommendation contained

my communication to Congress, dated the 18th to resume hostilities on either side. Great
Britian and France have cordially seconded
our propositions of mediation, and I do not ing the Federal Constitution that it shall pro-

> 1. For the election of President and Vice President by a direct vote of the people, instead of through the aid of electors, and masing them ineligible to re-election to the

2. For a distinct designation of the person who shall discharge the duties of President in the event of a vacancy in that office by the death, resignation, or removal of both the President and Vice President, 3. For the election of Senators of the Uni-

ted States directly by the people of the several States, instead of by the Legislatures. 4 For the limitation to a period of years of the terms of Federal Judges.

Profoundly impressed with the propriety of making these important modifications in the Constitution, I respectfully submit them for the early and mature consideration of Congress. We should, as far as possible, remove all pretext for violations of the organic law by remedying such imperfections as time and exparlence may develope, ever remembering that the Constitution which at any time exists, until changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole people, is severally binding upon all. In the performance of a duty imposed upon me by the Constitution, I have thus communicated to Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommended for its consideraion such measures as have seemed to me necessary and expedient. If carried into effect, they will hasten the accomplishment of the great and beneficent purposes for which the constitution was ordained, and which it comprehensively states were to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillist, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the lessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity. In Congress are vested all legislative powers, and upon them devolves the responsi bility as well for framing unwise and excessive laws as for neglecting to devise and adopt measures absolutely demanded by the wants of the country. Let us earnestly hope that, before the expiration of our respective terms of service, now rapidly drawing to a close, an All Wise Providence will so guide our counsels as to strengthen and preserve the Federal Union ; inspire reverence for the Coustitution ; restore prosperity and happiness to our who people, and promote on earth peace and good will toward men. ANDREW JOHNSON. WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 2, 1868-

Gypsies made their first appearance in Hungary about the year 1417, in the reign of Sigismund. In Northern Hungary, inhabited by Sclavonians, they re-The very liberal treaty which was entered mained nomadic. The color of these gypsies varies from white to red. In Hungary proper they number 30,009 to 40,-000. There their trades are blacksmiths, musicians and horse dealers. Maria Theresa endeavored to interest them in agricultural pursuits, but ansuccessfully. It successfully defended a fortress against a more numerous force. Driving back their assailants, they boasted that their victory would have been more complete if they had not expended their powder. Hearing fort, and, to their disgrace, hilled every gypsy.

INGERIOUS ESCAPE. - A remarkable account is given in a late English paper of the escape of a convict from prise ... cell in which he was confined had an iron door, with a lock entirely on the outside. the entire West Indies, except the Spanish | The only implements the prisoner had were a wooden spoon, some bits of wire, and a needle and thread. Out of the spoon he made a key; by means of the needle he passed a thread over and under the door; bits of wire were pushed through the inspection hole and fastened to this long thr. d extending from top to bottom. The key was also pushed through, and being fastened to the thread, was brought opposite to the key-hole by dexterous manipulation of the slender line, worked gently in, then turned by means of the wire, and hemisphere; and, believing that a further the door was opened. This is the greatest exhibition of skill and patience on

> A GOOD STORY is told on Hancock, a scalawag Judge in Mississippi. He had been endeavoring to convert a conservative negro, and failing, swore that "any nigger who would vots against his own race and color ought to be hung " Sambo hung his head for a moment, as if in deep meditation, and then looking the Judge straight in the face, said : "You say a nigger who votes agin his own race and color ought to be hung ?"

"Yes," said the Judge, "he ought to be

"Well, Judge," said Sambo, "what do you think ought to be done wid de white man who vote agin his own race and color !" The Judge bid his sable friend good night, and has never invited him to his house since.

CURE FOR CROUP .- The parents of young children are apt, at this season of the year, to be anxious about croup. An exchange publishes the following recipe for the relief of croup, and which we copy for the benefit of mothers : Take one ounce of sweet oil and add to it half an ounce of gum opal. Apply to the chest, under Japan remains a theater of civil war, mark- the arms, the palms of the hands and holed by religious incidents and political severities lows of the feet. It will generally relieve ed by religious included empire. The the most severe cases of croup in five mintrality among the belligerents, and acknowl. utes. Remember to use externally, and edges with pleasure that he has been frankly give the patient plenty of cold water to drink.

HAM TOAST. - Boil a quarter pound of lean ham; chop it small, with the yolk of three eggs, well beaten, half an ounce of preservation of order, the Previsional Govern- butter, two table-spoonsful of cream, and ment established at Madrid has been recogni a little eavenne pepper. Stir it over the