



R. L. JOHNSTON, Editor.

HE IS A FREEMAN WHOM THE TRUTH MAKES FREE, AND ALL ARE SLAVES BESIDE.

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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.

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 that 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.

The Federal Constitution, which the Magna Carta of American rights, under whose auspices and salutary influence have been 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 assuredly now be adequate to the settlement of all questions growing out of the civil war waged since the year 1861.

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 enjoy that rigid accountability of public officers so essential to an honest and efficient execution of the law.

THE PRESIDENT AS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF. The act of March 2d, 1867, making appropriations for the support of the army for the year ending June 30th, 1868, and for other purposes, contains provisions which interfere with the President's constitutional functions as Commander-in-chief of the army, and deny to States of the Union the right to protect themselves with their own militia.

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 DEBT. 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.

By comparing the public disbursements 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 sixty-eight per cent.

REDUCTION OF THE PUBLIC DEBT. The President then argues in favor of a reduction of the public debt, and says we should without further delay make provision for the payment of our obligations as early a day as may be practicable.

INTERNAL REVENUE AND CUSTOMS RECEIPTS. The receipts from internal revenues and customs have, during the past three years, gradually diminished, and the continuance of useless and extravagant expenditures will involve us in national bankruptcy.

THE PUBLIC DOMAIN. The Secretary of the Interior, in his report, gives valuable information in reference to the interests confined to the supervision of his department, and the operations of the Land Office, Pension Office, Patent Office and Indian Bureau.

\$841,392,868, and the expenditures \$336,152,470, showing a small balance of \$504,240,398 in favor of the Government.

THE NATIONAL INDEBTEDNESS. It becomes proper in this connection to make a brief reference to our public indebtedness, which has accumulated with such alarming rapidity and assumed such colossal proportions.

THE PATENT OFFICE. During the year ending the 30th of September last, the expenses of the Patent Office exceeded the receipts by one hundred 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 tribes have been concluded, and will be submitted to the Senate for its constitutional action.

THE PACIFIC RAILROADS. The companies constructing the railway from Omaha to St. Louis have been 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 WAR DEPARTMENT. The report of the Secretary of War contains information of interest respecting the several Bureaus of the War Department, and the operations of the army.

OUR CURRENCY. The President, after adverting to the inflation of the currency, says that it is the obvious duty of the Government, as early as may be consistent with the principles of sound political economy, to take such measures as will enable the holder of its currency to convert it into specie or its equivalent.

THE NAVY. 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, and there are forty-two vessels carrying four hundred and eleven guns.

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der the Homestead law cover two million three hundred and twenty-eight thousand nine hundred and twenty-three acres, nearly one-fourth of which was taken under the act of June 21st, 1867, which applies only to the States of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Florida.

THE PENSION BUREAU. On the 30th of June, 1868, one hundred and sixty-nine thousand six hundred and fifty-three names were borne on the pension rolls, and during the year ending on that day, the total amount paid for pensions, including the expenses of disbursements, was \$24,010,982, being \$2,914,025 greater than that expended for like purposes during the preceding year.

THE PORTOFFICE 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 \$16,292,400, and the total expenditures embracing all the services for which special appropriations have been made by Congress, amounted to \$22,750,592, showing an excess of expenditures of \$6,458,192.

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS. No important question has occurred during the last year in our accustomed cordial and friendly intercourse with Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, San Salvador, France, Austria, Belgium, Switzerland, Portugal, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, Rome, Greece, Turkey, Spain, Egypt, Liberia, Morocco, Tripoli, Tunis, Muscat, Siam, Borneo and Madagascar.

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ent or hostile movement has been made by either party during the last two years, and there are no indications of a present purpose to resume hostilities on either side.

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REPUBLICAN VOTE FOR PRESIDENT. I renew the recommendation contained in my communication to Congress, dated the 18th of July last, a copy of which accompanies this message, that the judgment of the people should be taken on the propriety of so amending the Federal Constitution that it shall provide:

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

PROFESSOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA. 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 consideration such measures as have seemed to me necessary and expedient.

GRISWOLD made their first appearance in Hungary about the year 1417, in the reign of Sigismund. In Northern Hungary, inhabited by Slavonians, they remained nomadic. The color of these gypsies varies from white to red.

INSURGENT ESCAPE.—A remarkable account is given in a late English paper of the escape of a convict from prison.

A GOOD STORY is told on Hancock, a sailing Judge in Mississippi. He had been endeavoring to convert a conservative negro, and failing, swore that "any nigger who would rob against his own race and color ought to be hung."

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.

HAM TOAST.—Boil a quarter pound of lean ham; chop it small, with the yolk of three eggs, well beaten, half an ounce of butter, two table-spoonsful of cream, and a little cayenne pepper.