The President's Message. The message of President Johnson is a document, which will commend itself so universally to all right-thinking men in the nation, that we feel there is no need for us to make any extended comments upon it. It will be read by the whole mass of the American people. They will understand it and appreciate it. It is a calm and dignified State paper, admirably drawn and couched in the most fitting terms. There is no backing down in it. Convinced of the correctness of his views in regard to the restoration of the South, and assured that his way is the way of safety for this nation, President Johnson adheres to his policy and again urges Congress to adopt it. Having done this he throws the responsibility upon that body, and stands prepared to use every energy he possesses, to aid in a speedy and complete restoration of the Union The summary of the reports of the several heads of departments is admirable, and will furnish to the mass of readers all they desire.

His statement of our relations with foreign governments is clear and satisfactory, and he will be sustained by the masses in the views he puts forth. Taken as a whole the Message will compare very favorably with any similar document which has preceded it. How Would Negro Suffra e Affect Government Bonds?

During the late elections the most exciting appeals were made to the holders of United States Bonds. They were told that these securities would be safer and more valuable if the Radicals were kept in power. There is good reason to believe that not a few voters were sufficiently simple to allow themselves to be influenced by the pretentious falsehoods which were paraded before them so constantly. Did they act wisely in sustaining the

Radical party? Is its policy calculated to enhance the value of Government Securities, and to render them more secure? We have from time to time endeavored to show how much the value of these evidences of national indebtedness depends upon national prosperity, ind how necessary to such prosperity i the complete and speedy restoration of all the States to their proper place in the Union. While the South is kept in its present abnormal condition it can never be prosperous, can never furnish its proper quota to make up the sum of the national wealth, and can never be prepared to pay its proper proportion of the taxes which are necessary to maintain the value of the national securities. In opposing the restoration of the Southern States to their place in the Union, by imposing impossible and degrading conditions upon their people, the Radicals are daily undermining our financial structure. Since the late elections the Radical

leaders have thrown off the thin veil of disguise they wore during the campaign. They now unhesitatingly, openly and avowedly declare in favor of negro suffrage. Have timid bondholders ever thought what effect the enfranchisement of the negroes would have upon continuance of the war the masses did not stop to think of the huge debt that was being heaved as a burthen upon their shoulders. Under the excitement which prevailed all classes were ready to pledge the entire wealth of the nation to secure the preservation of the Union. Since the termination of the struckle all sections, all parties and all classes of men in every section have pledged themselves to the payment of the national debt. Upon that resolve of the people, voluntarily made, and upon that alone, rests the security of United States Bonds. Thmoment the masses feel severely the pressure of the heavy taxation neces sary to pay the interest on the huge debt created by the war, that moment the strongest possible argument in favor o repudiation will have begun to addres itself directly to the people. Then will every dollar of our public securities be entirely dependent upon the sense of honor which may prevail among the masses. So long as a majority of the voting population are willing to bear heavy burthens rather than the nation shall be disgraced by being forced into national bankruptey, so long will our public securities maintain their value in the financial markets of the world, but not one hour longer.

Any sagacious bondholder ought t be able to see that there is great danger in admitting the negroes to the ballot box. In ordinary times the most popul lar politicians in this country are those who promise to lessen the taxes or to cheapen the value of commodities; and to the arguments of such men a vast majority of our present voting popula tion listen with great eagerness. The poor are the multitude. They have not been accustomed to regard with favor laws made especially to secure the rights of the rich. In the midst of a crisis when bread is dear and labor scarce they will eagerly listen to any one who promises to help them. In such an hour the sense of publie honor has always been found to be a weak barrier against the out cries of an excited populace. In a government such as ours, in which everything depends upon the decision of the masses, and the law of the land is only an expression of organized public opinion, and liable to change with the passions and caprices of the populace, the only security for national or State debts is to be found in the intelligence and public spirit of the people. Capital can only control voters when it can show them that it is to their immediate pecuniary interest to vote in a given way. The moment a conflict arises between the interests of the rich and the poor, that moment a sharp animosity is excited against those who have been favored by fortune. The history of the world is full of examples of that kind. To increase largely the voting population of a country is to afford new facilities for the creation of popular excitements. To add to our present voters all the negroes would be to put the future destinies of this great nation

Bonds, and of other evidences of public Constitutional party. It is confidently GEN, GRANT Is said to be Interested In the new rallroad across the lathmus | Government,

equal to the majority given General

Geary. They would hold the balance

of power. Would the financial and all

the other interests of this State and of

the nation be safe in such hands?

We put the question to the timid bond-

holders of Pennsylvania and of the

North generally. They have chosen to

side with the Radicals. It is for them

to say whether the resolve to prevent a

restoration of the Union and to confer

the right of suffrage upon the negroes is

Murder as a Political Argument. There is a small and very scurrilous heet published in this city called the Express. It is scarcely known out of Lancaster, and exercises no influence on public opinion outside of an extremey small circle. Yet it is pretentious in ts way. It rejoices in a military editor, who cuts and slashes with his pen in a manner that is quite distressing to people of weak nerves. If this fellow had shed blood with the same profusion with which he nowsheds ink, he would have made the earth red wherever he went, and have gained some military reputation. We believe, however, that his belligerent propensities have been exhibited to a much greater extent since he assumed the role of editor than ever they were in the tented field. He who was a lamb in battle now safely roars like a very lion through the columns of a newspaper. Evidently he is his pen. He does not care how he assails antagonists. He disregards all restraints, preferring falsehood to truth, and dealing habitually in the grossest calumnies. He shows an utter unconsciousness of the existence of anything in the shape of moral obligation, and seems to regard unfairness and untruth-

fulness as the highest qualification of a hired scribbler. In writing as he does, we sometimes think he is only the pliant and purchased tool of more malignant and less intellectual men. If such be the case his offense is only the less excusable. No meaner method of eking out an existence can be imagined than the habitual prostitution of talents and all the better parts of a man's nature at the peremptory bidding of a taskmaster. We have been led into these strictures by the tenor and character or an article which appeared in the Express of Tuesday. The sad news had been telegraphed the friends of two highly respectable and much esteemed gentlemen, former ly of this county, that they had been murdered near Vicksburg, Mississippi, where they had leased a cotton plantation. Nothing was known of the manner in which the dastardly crime had been perpetrated. The only news received at the time the article was written, was that the body of one of them had been found, and that the other brother was missing. Without a particle more evidence of any kind, the hired editor of the Express proceeded at once to arraign the entire white popuation of the South, and to denounce every man, woman and child in all that section as particeps criminis, and equally guilty of this murder. Of course, he acquitted the negroes. They, the pets and proteges of the party of great moral ideas, could not be guilty of a crime. To breathe such a suspicion was to comnit an offence not to be forgiven. A more despicable article than the

one to which we have alluded never appeared in any newspaper. It required all the malignity and meanness of a nuch deprayed heart to prompt it. The evil wrought by such distempered harangues cannot be over estimated. They are calculated to foster a hate sufficiently bitter to prevent any real reunion of the two great sections of this country. The seeds of animosity thus sown will rankle for years to come, and will keep open the gaping wounds made by our civil war for centuries to come unless there is a stop put to their dissemination. The utter untruthfulness of a great majority of the horrible stories with which the Radical newspapers of the North are constantly filled is well known to most men; but there are multitudes who believe them. A prominent General in the Union army, who has had extensive opportunities for observing the actual condition of affairs

date as follows: Persons and property are as safe as at the Jorth. In fact, crimes and social vices are Persons and properly are as safe as at the North. In fact, crimes and social vices are less common here than there, while North-ern settlers have suffered less from horse thieves than their Southern neighbors. The "outrages" upon the freedmen, of which the Northern papers are so full, depend in the main upon the imagination, the activity and fertility of the Radical reporters. Judg-ie feeting the properties of the second ng from my own observation, they are on .ud all untrue.

A single line of such testimony, and the above is of a tenor with the uniform utterances of every real soldier who has traveled through the South since the war ended, is worth more than all the stuff with which Radical newspapers fill their columns from day to lay. These pestilent sheets have been iven the lie direct, time and again, by nion Generals of the most exalted character—yet they persist in a repeti tion of their manufactured falsehoods They first invent some case of crime and then declare that from the fictitious details which they spread before the public, the spirit of the entire Southern seople may be safely and surely inferred. Is it not time there was an end of this?

Any casual visitor from the South who had chanced to be present at the recent Court of Quarter Sessions for this county, might just as well have undertaken to prove; from the fornication and bastardy cases tried, that there was no such thing as virtue among the fair aughters of Lancaster county. The inference would not have been one whit nore unfair than those daily drawn by number of instances which might have een adduced would, in the hands of an unscrupulous fellow like the hired editor of the Express, have made up a very strong case.

Laying Down a Programme. The Radicals in Congress have promptly taken extreme ground. The first matter of business transacted in the Senate was the calling up of the oill to enfranchise the negroes in the District of Columbia. It was done by Sumner, and there is no reason to doubt that it will be passed. President Johnson will veto it, but the Radicals can pass it over his veto by a majority of wo-thirds. In the House the first act of the Rac

cal majority was to repeal the 13th ection of the act of July 17th, 1862, which authorized the President to grant pardon and amnesty to persons who ook part in the rebellion. That means war against the whole white population of the South. Thaddeus Stevens, after offering a gratuitous insult to the President, by moving to postpone the reading of the annual message, introduced a bill to regulate removals from office To confer the right of suffrage upon the negroes with the hope that they may be enabled to continue in power through their votes, and to prevent any of their creatures from being removed from office in the meantime, is the programme laid down on the first day of the session by a majority of the Radicals in Congress, " Ex una dicommendinge," From the proceedings of Monday we learn in their hands. Here in Pennsylvania what other days will be like. they would comprise a body of voters

----Seward's Despatch to Bigelow. The Government is impatiently await ing advices from Minister Bigelow through the cable. Secretary Seware telegraphed him five thousand words on Monday at an expense of \$19,000 in gold. This is the first time that this Government has used the cable.

General Sherman's Mission. The mission of General Sherman is simply to view the military situation of calculated to enhance the value and to affairs in Mexico and add his assurance increase the security of United States | that our Government will sustain the believed that such representations will be sufficient to check all revolutionary plots and secure stability to the Juarez newspapers. We congratulate them on

A Fitting Welcome The grand welcome to the Radicals of Congress, which has been so loudly heralded beforehand, turned out to be a fitting one. There was a considerable crowd present, but a very large majority were negroes. Comparatively few white men were to be seen in the procession. It was principally made up of the impecunious contrabands of the District of Columbia. Whether they were paid for marching we do not certainly know, but there is reason to believe they were That, and the promise to make them voters, induced a considerable turn out. The welcome was a fitting one.

The speeches delivered were well suit ed to the audience assembled. In reply to the welcoming speech, Speaker Colfax replied in a prepared address. He authoritatively laid down the programme of the Radicals in Congress, and declared it to be their firm resolve bent upon waging vigorous battle with | not to permit the restoration of the Southern States to the Union until the negroes were allowed to vote and placed in all respects upon an equality with white men-

Mr. Colfax was followed by Senator Yates, of Illinois, who harangued the motley crowd present in the language of a thorough blackguard. A single extract will serve as a specimen of his speech. We clip from Forney's Press. Said he:

Fellow-catizens: I understand that som people are in a very great hurry about admitting our Southern brethren into the Union, and giving them the control of this Union, and giving them the convolutions, and giving them the control of this when I was willing to have them come in. I said, well, I am in no great hurry about it myself, [laughter;] that I never would be willing to have them come in until free speech was recognized upon every inch of American soil, from the Atlantic to the Pacific impulgance; that they never the Pacific, [applause]; that they neve should come in until every America should have the privilege of going to an should have the privilege of going to any portion of this country and enjoying all the privileges of the Government, [applause] until the Constitutional guarantee of a republican government shall be given to every State in this Union; until the skeletons o Union men shall no longer hang dangling from trees in the South; until we see pening and a desire to swear allegiance to from trees in the South; until we see peni tence, and a desire to swear allegiance to the Government. Never until these things the Government. Never until these things occur, shat they come back again. (Cries of "No, never.") No, fellow-citizens, not until Gabriel's last trump shall sound. [Laughter and applause.] Why, I understand that our Democratic friends in my State are all on a sudden for universal suffrage. [Laughter.] They say it is something like the boy who being directed by his lather to take some castor oil, said, "But, father I don't like castor oil years, well it is rather rich." (Laughter.)

said, "But, father I don't like castor oil very well, it is rather rich." [Laughter] So suffrage, especially my sort of suffrage, not impartial suffrage or intelligent suffrage, but universal suffrage, is rather rich. [Laughter] And the suffrage of intelligent suffrage, but universal suffrage, is rather rich. [Laughter] and applause.] Now I can say to my Democratic friends this is a fair race; it has the same law for all men, the same chances for all men. Yes, God Almighty bless this Government, that came and patted me on the back as a poor boy and said, "You have as good chance in this country as any other boy." Yes, we are all citizens in this country—whites, blacks, English, American, Irish, German, Laplanders, Chinese and Portuguese. [Applause.]
I will again say to my Democratic friends it is a fair race; it is an even fight, and God t is a fair race; it is an even fight, and 6 bless you. You can no doubt beat some hese niggors. [Laughter.] You cannot, course, all be Fred. Douglasses. [Laughter course, alt be Fred. Douglasses. [Laughter.]
But hen, if you will read the Scriptures
and join the Republican party, I will bet
there are lots of niggers in this country
whom you can beat. [Laughter and applause.] Fellow-citizens, I desire to re
mind you that in these cursory remarks I
am not responding in behalf of the Senate,
I always speak for myself, and the Senate
will have to speak for itself.

M. M. Mallow of Dividual closkin follow.

W. D. Kelley, of Philadelphia, follow. We give his speech in full as we find it in the Press :

Loud cries being made for the Hon, Wm, D. Kelley, of Philadelphia, that gentlema came forward and spoke as follows: Fellow citizens: I feel that you urselves injustice in asking me to efface a impression made upon you by the ad-trable addresses to which you have all tened. I shall do little more than say listened. I shall do little more than say Amen to what has been said. The day of political inequality in this country has pass ed. (Renewed applause.) Congress re-turns to its duty with a majority of more than 400,000 free people at its back. [Ap-

"The majority alone of those who said well done," is more than the entire white vote of the ten insurgent States. I take the question which the distinguished Senator from Illinois answered us put to me by this assemblage of people; "When will you be ready to admit these States?" I will tell you when. When Congress shall have disavowed those bastard organizations which now rule over the territory formerly degree and by the names of those ten States. lesignated by the names of those ten States. Cries. of "Good," and applause.] When, (Cries of "Good," and applause.) When, having disavowed those products of usurpation, it shall have given enabling acts by which the whole people of each State shall have elected a convention to frame a constitution, and when that convention shall have done its work, and it shall have been submitted to a vote of the whole people. [Cries of "Good," and applause.] If it can be proven, after such a vote that there was a citizen of any townvote, that there was a citizen of any township in any State, who was even blacker than the devit himself-[laughter!—whose vote was exceluded upon that ground, that is shall be cause sufficient for rejecting the constitution. [Applause.] When they shall come with constitutions having this republican origin, and being as republican in fact, I will consent—and, God helping me, I never will consent until then—to the admission of any of them. What more can I say? cote, that there was a citizen of any town

say?

[A voice. "No more."]
Mr. Kelley. You are right—[laughter]—and so, God blessing you, the race that have made immortal the names of Wagner, Port Hudson and Milliken's Bend, and made bid you God speed under God's blessing Applause.]
Surely a motley crowd, composed

orincipally of negroes, as Kelley ad-nits this was, constituted a fitting audi-ence for such orators. In all respects the welcome was an appropriate one. The Lash Falls for Once. For once "Old Thad's" lash failed t drive the flock of Radicals in the House. His attempts to prevent the reading of the Express and similar papers, and the | the President's Message in that body were indecently persistent. First ho moved that the House adjourn, without hearing the message read, saying he had no notion of waiting to hear it after it had been sent all over the country. On that motion the yeas and nays were called, and one ferocious representation was voted down. Immediately thereafter he moved to postpone its reading. Again he had to succumb. When the clerk was about half through with the reading he again moved to adjourn, but found that even the malignant crew about him had some little sense of decency left. The lash failed on the first day of the Session. We will see whether

> nower in the future. A Negro Mayor for Boston The Philadelphia Press of Tuesday as the following telegram: Boston, Nov. 27. A caucus of citizens olsea, last night, nominated R. S. Fros Mayor. His principal competitor was W. Morris, a colored man, and a lawwho received 242 votes against 344 vote

> it will prove to have greater compelling

The Republicans of Boston are honest nen. They put their theories into practice, and do not go dodging about the bush like such subterfuges as many of their brethren in Pennsylvania. They give evidence of their belief in the creed of their party, and are not ashamed to follow it to legitimate conclusions. For so doing they deserve commendation. We hope the negro candidate for Mayor of Boston may be elected. We have no doubt the "hub" would get along much in its present way under the rule of an Ethiopian.

Henry Ward Beecher in 1844. The following resolution of Henry Ward Beecher was offered in New York on the 2d day of May, 1844: "Resolved, That it is the duty of Abolitionists, South and North, to agitate and rengitate until they effect the overthrow of the Federal Constitution, and effect the dissolving of the American Union."

Editors in Luck. D. H. Nelman, editor of the Easton Sentinel, and A. J. Gerritson, editor of the Montrose Democrat, have been appointed United States Assessors of their respective districts. They are both sound Democrats, and publish good

Negro Suffrage in the Distri t. Senator Morrill, of Maine, it is understood, will immediately introduce a bill to confer the privilege of suffrage upon the freedmen of the District of Columbia, and will energetically insist on an early vote. It is said to be his purpose to have this new law in full force before the next municipal election in that city. It was Senator Morrill who introduced

and carried through the bill emancipating the slaves of that District. If he presses this second proposition with the nergy and persistency that characterized his efforts for the first, it is more than probable that it will be successful. The Radicals are fully ripe now for what they did not dare to attempt heretofore. Their successes in the recent elections have been interpreted to mean an indorsement of negro suffrage by the people of Pennsylvania and other Northern States. The negroes of the District: of Columbia, as they were the first to be emancipated, will be the first to be invested with the right of suffrage.

go backward." The Columbia Herald. We have received the first number of the Herald, a newspaper just started in Columbia. It is edited by Geo. Young, jr., and published by W. Hayes Grier. It is a handsome little sheet, presenting a fine typographical appearance, and the number before us shows that those in charge of it possess no little ability as writers. It is especially devoted to the local interests of the borough of Columbia, and we have no doubt it will be well patronized. It is soundly Democratic in politics, and show evidence of ability to defend the right. We welcome it to our exchange list, and wish its pro prietors abundant success.

The watchword is "revolutions never

HENRY J. RAYMOND, who, in the Times, daily exhorts the Southern States to "submit" to the constitutional amendment, or threatens them with its imposition and a worse fate if they shall refuse to submit to it, wrote the address of the Philadelphia Convention, stood up in its presence, and twice read the following passage from it, amid the applause of that body of Northern and Southern representative men:

"And the ten millions of Americans who "And the ten millions of Americans wito live in the South would be unworthy citi-zens of a free country, degenerate sons of a heroic ancestry, unfit ever to become the guardians of the rights and liberties be-queathed to us by the fathers and founders the Republic, if they could accept, with uncomplaining submissiveness, the i ations thus sought to be imposed upon them.

The Gender of a Newspaper. The Reading Times seems to be much puzzled to determine what gender a newspaper belongs to. In noticing the Solumbia Herald, the Times says: The Columbia Herald published by Geo ung, Jr., at Columbia, made its first ap-Pounds of the control aneaster county.

The Times was bound to be right. It nakes the Herald masculine, teminine and neuter. It must be one of the three. Which is it?

Curtin a Johnson Man. Cameron's organ, the Harrisburg Telegraph, pitches into the Philadelphia Daily News, which is supposed to favor Curtin for the United States Senate in the following fashion:

The Daily News, published by Joseph R. Flanigen of "sade door memory," at present the naval officer of the Port of Philadelphia, a strong advocate of "My Poluy," and during the late election a violent opponent of Gen. Genry, has come out boldly advocational than the present of the Control o eating the election of Gov. Curtin to the inited States Senate, and in a late number t interestines senate, and it a late future is republishing the articles in favor of Curtin from the Chambersburg Repository. The News knows that Curtin is a Johnson man and hence the support of the Johnson organ to His Excellency.

The table following shows the imports and exports into and from the United States for the four months ending Oc-

tober 31, 1866: Specie and bullion ree goods.....utlable goods entered for consump-..\$127.557.01

.\$82,625,669 Total exports..... These figures, which are taken from the monthly report of the Bureau of Statistics, exhibit the startling fact that our imports exceed our exports to the amount of \$44,931,956 for the first four months of the fiscal year 1867, and when it is remembered that the imports are at gold and the exports at a currency valuation, the difference becomes more alarming.

In addition to the statement of im-

ports and exports, the report contains commercial reports from various foreign countries, old and new tonnage returns rom Louisville for the second quarter of 1865, number of title deeds and mortgages with the values respectively, for certain countries and towns in the gages United States, Bank of England rates discount since 1844, and a statement of the exports from Lyons, France, for the month of October, 1866, and the ten months ending October 31, 1864, 1865

The Democracy Hold the Strength o the Political Situation. We hold the strength of the political situation, because to-day a large majority of all the people of the United ates are Democrats; because in the Northern States, Democrats, although in a minority, are so near to a majority that a trifling change would shift the balance of power; because that mino rity has maintained itself-steadfast and immovable against the persecutions of a lawless administration; against a de-moralizing inflation of paper money; against the influence of a system patronage distributed in every part of the country; against the tide of tanati-cism which has repeatedly submerged its unmoved phalanxes. We hold the its unmoved phalanxes. We hold the strength of the political situation, be cause the principles thus steadfastly held, of a liberal and progressive Democracy, are the only recourse which the nation has from the difficulties into which it has fallen. Republicanism has been tried and found wanting. It neither gives union nor peace to the peo ole, nor desires to give them, nor can Upon all the issues of the future— free-trade, a sound currency, and what not—it is unquestionable that a liberal progressive Democracy will command the hope and confidence and trust of the people of the North as well as of the people of the South. All the progress of all the peoples of the earth is in the direc-tion whither Democracy leads the way. "We have contended steadfastly that the Democratic party holds the strength of the political situation. Now that our opponents begin to realize that fact we iall hope to see some slightly terrified Democrats at the West and East pluck up their drowning honor by the locks. -N, Y. World.

Official Report of the Arrest of John H Nucratt. WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—This Government had information as long ago as last winter that John H. Surratt had gone to Europe. The person who com-municated the facts conversed with him during the voyage across the Atlantic, and also reported that Surratt, believing that he was far removed from danger, was free and outspoken about his connection with the assassination conspiracy. To-night Secretary Seward repeived a despatch by the Atlantic Cable, dated to day, as follows: "I have arrested John II. Surratt, one of President Lincoln's assassins. No doubt of dentity

Alexandria Egypt.

HALL, U. S. Consul General.

The Meeting of Congress

The Senate was called to order at 12 o'clock precisely by Mr. Foster, President pro tem. Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. Dr. Gray, of the Baptist Church.
Mr. Anthony presented the following resolutions, which were severally adopted, that the Secretary inform the House that a quorum of the Senate is assembled, that the hour for meeting in the Senate be 12 o'clock until otherwise ordered, and that committee of two be appointed to join a SENATE. committee of two be appointed to join committee of the House and wait upon the President to receive his Message.

Mr. Summer said, if there was no business before the Senate he would move to call up Senate the Senate he would move to call up Senate, bill No. 1, an Act to regulate the elective franchise in the District of Colum-bia.

The Rev. Dr. Boynton opened the House with a prayer of thankfulness for the results of the late elections, which tend, he said, to establish the principles of liberty to all classes and conditions. The roll of members classes and conditions. The roll of members was called, when 146 answered to their names. Three new members were sworn in from Tennessee and two from Kentucky. A committee was appointed to wait on the President and inform bim that Congress had assembled and was ready to receive any communication.

Mr. Eliot asked leave to introduce a bill

Mr. Ellot asked leave to introduce a bit or repeal the 13th section of the act of July 17th, 1862, which section authorizes the President to grant pardon and amnesty to persons who took part in the rebellion.

Mr. Finck, of Ohio, objected, and the rules were suspended so as to allow the bill to be introduced. introduced.

Mr. Elliott's bill was then put upon its passage, and was passed by a vote of 111 to A resolution was adopted calling for in

A resolution was adopted calling for information as to the arrest and escape of John H. Suratt.

A bill was introduced and referred, directing the sale of \$2,000,000 of gold by the Secretary of the Treasury every Monday.

Also, a bill for the meeting of Congress on the 4th of March.

2 P. M.—The President's Mossage has just been received. ust been received.

ust been received.

Mr. Stevens moved to postpone the read-ng until to-morrow. The motion was ejected, and the Clerk proceeded to read rejected, and the Clerk proceeded to read
the Message.

Mr. Stevens introduced a bill to regulate
removals from office, which was made the
special order for Friday.

Mr. Schenck, Ohio, introduced a bill to equalize the bounties of soldiers, sailors and marines. Referred to the Committee on

Military Affairs,
Washington, Dec. 4 WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.
SENATE.—Mr. Summer gave notice of his intention to introduce to morrow, resolutions declaring the entire control of Congress over the subject of Reconstruction, and the right to exclude the lately rebeliance. Subject of New Terraconstation in Conlious States from representation gress and from voting on amendments.

A motion to take up Mr. Chandler's resolution offered yesterday, calling for information about Mexican Affairs, was lost. Mr. Chandler called up the bill passed by he House yesterday, repealing the section an act of 1862, giving amnesty to the resident. Mr. Chandler's motion was lost, and the

Senate then adjourned.

House.—A resolution was adopted, re-ferring the bounty bill of last session to the Military Committee for amendments, and Military Committee for amendments, and the increase of members' pay to the Judiciary Committee for repeal.

Mr. Wentworth introduced a resolution insisting upon the adoption of the Constitutional amendment before the House will consider the propriety of giving the Southern States congressional representation, which was agreed to.

An additional rule was adopted for the appointment by each Congress of a stated

An additional rule wis adopted for the appointment by each Congress of a stated committee on Freedmen affairs.

The currency act reported at the last session came in order, and was postponed until the 3d Tuesday in December. Indictment of Conover for Perjury.

Indictment of Conover for Perjury.
The Grand Jury of the Criminal Court of Washington has found a true bill of indictment against Sanford Conover, alias Charles A. Dunham, for perjury. This indictment covers thirty pages of closely written legal cap, and commences by reciting that, on the 9th of April last, the House of Representatives instructed the Judiciary Committee to inquire whether there was probable cause to believe that the murder of President Lincoln, and the attempted assassination of the to believe that the murder of President Lincoln, and the attempted assassination of the Secretary of State, were incited or procured by Jefferson Davis; that in the course of their inquiry it became a material matter and question with them whether a certain deposition in regard to the complicity of Jefferson Davis in the plot, made at the instance and procurement of Sanford Conover, where the Australia Charles A Davis in the plot and the instance and procurement of Sanford Conover, where Charles A Davis and Procurement of Sanford Conover, alias Charles A. Dunham, before Judge Ad alias Charles A. Dunham, before Judge Advocate Holt by one Joseph A. Hoare, under the assumed name of William Campbell; and also certain other depositions, among others, one made at the instance of Conover before the same party, by one W. H. Robert, alias James Snead, should be received as evidence. It further recites that the afflants, Houre and Roberts, came before the committee on the 8th of May last, and testified that the affidavits were made at the instance of Conover: that they committed the contents to memory, &c., and that on the same day Conoverappeared before the committee, and testified that the affidavits were true,

c. Judge Advocate General Holt sometime ago demanded, under the Articles of War, a court of inquiry for the investigation of the various charges which have been made against him, alike in connection with the Conover testimony, and with his conduct in the recreation of Mrs. Surrett and other he prosecution ged assassins of President Lincoln. The President has declined to order the court, on the ground that he does not deem it no cessary to the Judge Advocate General's vindication. 

The Washington Star says that "a large-portion of the floating population brought here by the war still linger long after the demand for their labor has ceased, and jostle each other for a livelihood in all the trades, and in a there contest for the small-est governmental offlee. Descending the social scale, we have some thirty thousand colored people, contrabands, &c., seeking employment here, of whom it is sale to say hat twenty thousand will not average a lay's work in a week during the coming winter. The poor-house is already over-lowing and unable to afford a shelter for flowing and unable to afford a shelter for the swirms of vagrants and houseless ones affoat upon our streets, and Heaven only knows what will become of the thousands of the unemployed here when the severity of winter comes upon us."

The Cotton Crop. The Cotton Crop.
Messrs, Neill Brothers & Co., of New Orleans, in their latest circular on the cotton crop, estimate that it will be from 2,050,000 to 2,300,000 bales, or from 44 to 49 per cent., of the crop of 1859-460, which was 4,675,000 bales. These factors state that the Mobile district will yield 250,000 to 300,000 bales; the New Orleans district 750,000 to 850,000 bales; Virginia and the Carolinas, 250,000 to 275,000 bales; Georgia and Florida, 350,000 to 370,000 bales; Texas, 200,000 to 225,800, and all other sources from 250,000 to 225,800, and all other sources from 250,000 to 225,800, and all other sources from 250,000 to 275,000. They say their statements are based upon personal observations made in all parts of the South by the members of their firm. The last number of De Bow's Review estimates the crop from 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 bales. The Commercial Chronicle thinks it may reach 2,300,000 bales. We give these estimates, without endorsing any give these estimates, without endorsing any of them, for the benefit of the many persons who are interested in the productio

sons who are interested in the production of the cotton crop of the present year. A despatch from Mobile, dated Nov. 28th, announces that the receipts of cotton at all the Southern ports, from Sept. 15th, the beginning of the cotton year, amount to 400,000 bales,—Phila. Ledger.

A Man Struck by a Falling Star. The London Morning Advertiser reports that one of the falling stars struck a waiter, named Pike, at Thompson's coffee-house in Shoe lanc. Pike came to the editor o the Advertiser and said that while standing the Advertiser and said that while standing in the middle of the street, between Shoe lane and Salisbury court, with no one near him, and gazing upward, he became aware of a burning sensation in the neck, upon which he lore at his neckeloth, and the next moment the burning substance passed down his left breast, scorching the shirt in its course, and inflicting three small but severe burns on the flosh, with one large wound. These burns (says the editor) we saw, but. hese burns (says the editor) we saw, but being of a skeptical and matter of fact turn, we suggested a fusee or lucifer; this, however, was carnestly negatived, and we foltourselves unduly incredulous upon further examination, as no substance whatever could be found in the young man's clothing, and he was certainly by no means likely to inflict such an injury on hitself for the purpose of a mere sensation. A medical man who saw him yesterday think it a scald by fused metal or sulphur, and the young man is decidedly in a state of considerable suffering twenty four hours from the accident. being of a skeptical and matter of fact turn rom the accident.

The War in South America

The War in Nouth America.

The news from the sent of war in Paraguay is dated Rio Janelro, October 29. In addition to the change of commanders in the Brazilian army, which was reported in the Iterata a few days ago, a new commander has been appointed to the fleet in place of Admiral Viscount Timandare. A levy of 25,000 men in Brazil is demanded, but the recruits are coming in but slowly. The loss of the allies at Fort Curupaity is now reported to be 7,000 men, besides three iron-clads being seriously damaged. The allied army, it was rumored, would fall back on Corrientez. Tidewater Canal.

For the week ending on the 24th ult., here were towed from the canal basin at there were towed from the canal basin at Havre-de-Grace 102 boats, as follows: To Baltimore, 74 boats, loaded with lumber, coal, &c., to Philadelphia, 19 boats, loaded with lumber, coal, &c., and to Sposutia 9 boats, carrying coal. During the present season much the greatest number of boats towed from Havre-de-Grace have gone to Baltimore. This seems to Indicate that of late the trade of the canal is principally to that city, whereas in former years the bulk of the trade went to Philadelphia. Cansatering the near approach of the dose of navi-An order has been issued by the Navy Department regulating the enlistment of boys as naval apprentices or into the naval service, requiring fathers, mothers or quardians, as the case may be, desiring to enter their sons or wards, to take oath to the fact of such relationship or custody, and in the case of the mother, to swent that her husband is dead, and of guardian, dyldence that both parents are deceased.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

After a brief interval the Congress of the United States resumes its annual legislative labors. An all-wise and merciful Providence has abated the pestilence which visited our shores, leaving its calamitous traces upon some portions of our country. Peace, order, tranquility, and civil authority have been formally declared to exist throughout the whole of the United States. In all of the States civil authority has su-In all of the States civil authority has su-In all of the States civil authority has superseded the coercion of arms, and the people, by their voluntary action, are maintaining their governments in full activity and complete operation. The enforcement of the laws is no longer "obstructed in any State by combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings;" and the animosities engendered by the war are rapidly yielding to the beneficent influences of our free institutions, and to the kindly effects of unrestricted social and commercial intercourse. An entire restoration of fraternal feeling must be the earnest wish of every patriotic heart; and we will have accomplished our grandest national achievement when, forgetting the sad events of the past, and remembering only their instructive lessons, we resume our onward career as a free, prosperous, and united people. ree, prosperous, and united people.
In my message of the 4th of December. 1865, Congress was informed of the measures which had been instituted by the Execu-tive with a view to the gradual restoration tive with a view to the gradual restoration of the States in which the insurrection oc curred to their relations with the General Government. Provisional Governors had been appointed, Conventions called, Governors elected, Legislatures assembled, and Senators and Representatives chosen to the Congress of the United States. Courts had been connected for the enforcement of laws

Congress of the United States. Courts had been opened for the enforcement of laws long in abeyance. The blockade had been removed, castom-houses re-established, and the internal revenue laws put in force, in order that the people might contribute to the national income. Postal operations had been renewed, and efforts were being made to restore them to their former condition of officiency. The States themselves had been officiency. The States themselves had been asked to take part in the high function o unending the Constitution, and of thus anctioning the extinction of African slavery one of the legitimate results of our ir

as one of the legitimate results of our internecine struggle.

Having progressed thus far, the Executive Department found that it had accomplished nearly all that was within the scope of its constitutional authority. One thing, however, yet remained to be done before the work of restoration could be completed, and that was the admission to Congress of loyal Sanators and Rangespatiatives from the that was the admission to Congress of loyal Senators and Representatives from the States whose people had rebelled against the lawful authority of the General Government. This question devolved upon the respective Houses, which by the Constitution, are made the judges of the elections, returns, and qualifications of their own members; and its consideration at once engaged the attention of Congress. raged the attention of Congress. In the meantime, the Executive Depart

ment—no other plan having been proposed by Congress—continued its efforts to perfect, as fur as was practicable, the restoration of as far as was practicable, the restoration of the proper relations between the citizens of the respective States, the States, and the Federal Government, extending, from time to time, as the public interests seemed to require, the judicial, revenue, and postal systems of the country. With the advice and consent of the Senate, the necessary officers were appointed, and appropriations and consent of the Senate, the necessary officers were appointed, and appropriations made by Congress for the payment of their salaries. The proposition to amend the Federal Constitution, so as to prevent the existence of slavery within the United States or any place subject to their jurisdiction, was ratified by the requisite number of States; and on the 18th of December, 1865, it was officially declared to have become it was officially declared to have become valid as a part of the Constitution of the United States. All of the States in which United States. All of the States in which the insurrection had existed promptly amended their Constitutions, so as to make them conform to the great change thus effected in the organic law of the land; declared null and void all ordinances and laws of secession; apudiated all pretended debts and obligations greated for the resolution. and obligations created for the revolution-ary purposes of the insurrection; and pro-ceeded, in good faith, to the enactment of

ceeded, in good faith, to the enactment of measures for the protection and ameliora-tion of the condition of the colored race. Congress, how-ver, yet hesitated to admit any of these States to representation; and it was not until towards the close of the eighth month of the session that an excep-tion was made in favor of Tennessee, by the admission of fer Senators and Representhe admission of her Senators and Represen atives.
I deem it a subject of profound regret

I deem it a subject of profound regret that Congress has thus far failed to admit to seats loyal Senators and Representatives from the other States, whose inhabitants, with those of Tennessee, had engaged in the rebellion. Ten States—more than one-fourth of the whole number—remain without representation; the seats of fifty members in the House of Representatives and of twenty members in the Senato are yet vacant—not by their own consent, not by a failure of election, but by the refusal of a failure of election, but by the refusal of Congress to accept their credentials. Their admission, it is believed, would have accomplished much towards the renewal and strengthening of our relations as one people, and removed serious cause for discontent on the part of the inhabitants of those States. It would have accorded with the great principle enunciated in the Declaration of American Independence, that no people ought to bear the burden of taxation, and yet be denied the right of representation. a failure of election, but by the refusal o ver be denied the right of representation It would have been in consona xpress provisions of the Constitution, that each State shall have at least one Repre-"each State shall have at least one kepresentative," and "that no State, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Sonate." These provisions were intended to secure to every State, and to the people of every State, the right of representation in each House of Congress; and we have often was it deemed by the and so important was it deemed by the ramers of the Constitution that the equality

of the States in the Senate should be proved, that not even by an amendment of herved, that not even by an ammonment of the Constitution can any State, without its consent, be denied a voice in that branch of the National Legislature. It is true, it has been assumed that the existence of the States was terminated by the rebellious acts of their inhabitants, and but the insurrection having been suphat the insurrection having been suppressed, they were thenceforward to be con pressed, they were thenceforward to be considered increly as conquered territories. The Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Departments of the Government have, however, with great distinctness and uniform consistency, refused to sanction an assumption so incompatable with the nature of our republican system, and with the professed objects of the war. Throughout the recent legislation of Congress, the undeniable fact makes itself apparent, that these ten political communities are nothing less

ten political communities are nothing less than States of this Union. At the very commencement of the rebellion, each Hous commencement of the rebellion, each House declared, with a unanimity as remarkable as it was significant, that the war was not "waged, upon our part, in any spirit of oppression, nor for any purpose of conquest or subjugation, nor purpose of overthrowing or interfering with the rights or established institutions of those States, but to defend and maintain the supremney of the Constitution and all laws made in pursuance thereof, and to preserve the Union with all the dignity, equality, and rights of with all the dignity, equality, and rights of the several States unimpaired; and that as soon as these objects" were "accomplished the war ought to cease." In some instances Senators were permitted to continue their egislative functions, while in other instan egisiative functions, while in other instan-res. Representatives were elected and ad-nitted to seats after their States had for-mily declared their right to withdraw from the Union, and were endeavoring to maintain that right by force of arms. Al

maintain that right by force of arms. All of the States whose people were in insur-rection, as States, were included in the ap-portionment of the direct tax of twenty millions of dollars annually laid upon the United States by the act approved 5th August, 1861. Congress, by the act of March 4, 1862, and by the apportionment of representation thereunder, also recognized their presence as States in the Union; and they have, for judicial purposes, been divided into districts, as States alone can be divided. The same recognition appears in the recogni The same recognition appears in the record legislation in reference to Tennessee, which evidently rests upon the fact that the func ons of the State were not destroyed by the rebellion, but merely suspended; and that principle is of course applicable to those attempted tates which, like Tenn

enounce their places in the Union.

The action of the Executive Department of the Government upon this subject has been equally definite and uniform, and the been equally definite and uniform, and the purpose of the war was specifically stated in the Proclamation issued by my prede-cessor on the 22d day of September, 1862. It was then solemnly proclaimed and de-clared that "hereafter, as herotofore, the war will be prosecuted for the object of practically restoring the constitutional re-lation between the United States and each of the States and the presult thereof an of the States and the people thereof, 1 which States that relation is or may be su pended or disturbed." The recognition of the States by the Judi

also been clear and conclusive in all proceedings affecting them as States, had in the Supreme, Circuit, and District Courts.

In the admission of Senators and Representatives from any and all of the States, there can be no just ground of apprehension that persons who are disloyal will be clothed with the powers of legislation; for this could not happen when the Constitution and the laws are enforced by a vigilant and faithful Congress. Each House is made the "judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of its own members," and may, "with the concurrence of two thirds, expel a member." When a Senator or Representative presents his certificate of elecoxpet a member." When a Sountar or Rep-resentative presents his certificate of elec-tion, he may at once be admitted or rejected; or, should there be any question as to his objetifity, his credentials may be referred continuity, the credentials may be referred for investigation to the appropriate committee. If admitted to a sent, it must be upon evidence satisfactory to the littise of which he thus becomes a member, that he possesses the requisite constitutional and legal qualifications. If refused admission as a member for want of due alleghance to the Government, and returned to his constitueins, thus are almost better the constitueins.

also been clear and conclusive in all

effectively exerted in the interests of loyalty energy exerted in the interests of loyalty to the Government and fidelity to the Union. Upon this question, so vitally affecting the restoration of the Union and the permanency of our present form of government, my convictions, heretofore expressed, have undergone no change; but on the contract the contract of the co ment, my convictions, heretofoet pressed, have undergone no change; but on the con-trary, their correctness has been confirmed by reflection and time. If the admission of loyal members to seats in the respective Houses of Congress was wise and expediloyal members to seats in the respective Houses of Congress was wise and expedient ayear ago, it is no less wise and expedient now. If this anomalous condition is right now—if, in the exact condition of these States at the present time, it is lawful to exclude them from representation, I do not see that the question will be changed by the efflux of time. Ten years hence, if these States remain as they are, the right of representation will be no stronger—the right of exclusion will be no weaker.

The Constitution of the United States makes it the duty of the President to recommend to the consideration of Congress commend to the consideration of Congress "such measures as he shall judge necessa-ry or expedient." I know of no measure ry or expedient. I know of no measure more imperatively demanded by every con-sideration of national interest, sound policy, and equal justice, than the admission of loyal members from the now unrepresent-ed States. This would consummate the work of restoration, and exert a most salu-tary influence in the re-establishment of tary influence in the re-establishment of peace, harmony, and fraternal feeling. It gress.
The report of the Postmaster General would tend greatly to renew the confide

would tend greatly to renew the confidence of the American people in the vigor and stability of their institutions. It would bind us more closely together as a nation, and enable us to show to the world the in herent and recuperative power of a Government founded upon the will of the people, and established upon the principles of liberty, justice, and intelligence. Our increased strength and enhanced prosperity would irrefragably demonstrate the followed the arguments against free institutions of the arguments against free institutions drawn from our recent national disorders drawn from our recent national disorders by the enemies of republican government. The admission of loyal members from the States now excluded from Congress, by al-laying doubtand apprehension, would turn capital, now awaiting an opportunity for investment, into the channels of trade and investment, into the channels of trade and industry. It would alleviate the presen-troubled condition of those States, and, by iducing emigration, aid in the settlement of fertile regions now uncultivated, and lead to an increased production of these staples which have added so greatly to the staples which have added so greatly to the wealth of the nation and the commerce of the world. New fields of enterprise would be opened to our progressive people, and soon the devastations of war would be re-paired, and all traces of our domestic dif-ferences effaced from the minds of our

ountrymen. In our efforts to preserve "the unity of In our efforts to preserve "the unity of Government which constitutes us one people," by restoring the States to the condition which they held prior to the rebellion, we should be cautious, lest, having rescued our nation from perils of threatened disintegration, we resort to consolidation, and in the end absolute despotism, as a remedy for the recurrence of similar troubles. The war having terminated, and with it all occasion for the exercise of powers of doubtful constitutionality, we should husten to

at any time exists, until changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole people, is sacredly obligatory upon all." "If, in the opinion of the people, the distribution or modification of the constitutional powers be, in any particular, wrong, let it be corrected by an amendment in the way in which the Constitution designates. But let there be no change by usurpation; for "it is the customary weapon by which free Governments are destroyed." Washington spoke these words to his countrymen, when followed by their love and gratitude, he voluntarily retured from the cares of public life. "To keep in all things within the pale of our constitutional powers, and cherish the Federal Union as the only rock of safety," were prescribed by Jefferson as rules of action tendent to his "countrymen as ish the Federal Union as the only rock of safety," were prescribed by Jefferson as rules of action to endear to his "countrymen the true principles of their Constitution, and promote a union of sentiment and action equally an spicious to their happiness and Jackson held that the action o the General Government should always be strictly confined to the sphere of its approstrictly comined to the sphere of its appro-priate duties, and justly and for obly urged that our Government is not to be mainfain-ed nor our Union preserved "by in casions of the rights and powers of the several States. In thus attempting to make our General Government strong, we make it would. Its true strength consists in leaving

weak. Its true strength consists in leaving individuals and States as much as possible o themselves: in making itself felt, not in to themselves; in making itself felf, not in its power, but in its beneficence; not in its control but in its protection; not in binding the States more closely to the centre, but leaving each to move unob structed in its proper constitutional orbit." These are the teachings of men whose deeds and services have made them illustrious, and who, long since withdrawn from the scenes of life, have left to their country the rich legacy of their example, their wisdom and their patriotism. Drawin: fresh inspiration from their lessons, let us emulate them in love of country and respect for the them in love of country and respect for the Constitution and the laws.

The reportofthe Secretary of the Treasury affords much information respecting the revenue and commerce of the country. His views upon the currency, and with reference to a proper adjustment of our revenue system, internal as well as impost, are commended to the careful consideration of Congress. It may last annual message I expenses the major and the same of the careful consideration of Congress. gress. In my last annual message I ex-

pressed my general views upon these subects. I need now only call attention to the necessity of carrying into every depart-ment of the Government a system of rigid accountabillity, thorough retrenchment, untubillity, thorough and wise economy. With no exceptional nor unusual expenditures, the oppresive burdens of taxation can be lessened by such a modification of our revenue laws as will be consistent with the public faith, and the legitimate and necessary wants of th

the legitimate and necessary wants of the Government.

The report presents a much more satisfactory condition of our finances than one year ago the most sanguine could have anticipated. During the fiscal year ending the 30th of June, 1865, the last year of the war, the public dolt was increased \$941, 902,537, and on the 31st of October, 1865, it amounted to \$2,740,854,750. On the 31st day of October, 1866, it had been reduced to \$2,551,310,006, the diminution, during a period of fourteen months, commencing September 1, 1865, and ending October 31, 1866, having been \$206,379,565. In the last annual report on the state of the finances, it was having been \$206,379,565. In the instannual report on the state of the finances, it was estimated that during the three quarters of the fiscal year ending the 30th of June Inst, the debt would be increased \$112,194,947. During that period, however, it was reduced \$31,196,387, the receipts of the year having been \$89,005,905 more, and the expenditures \$200,529,235 less than the estimates. Nothing could more clearly indicate than these statements the extent and availability of the national resources, and the rapidity of the national resources, and the rapidity and safety with which, under our form of government, great military and naval es tablishments can be disbanded, and ex-penses reduced from a war to a peace footing.

During the tiseal year ending the 30th of June, 1866, the receipts were \$558,032,620 and the expenditures \$520,750,940, leaving an available surplus of \$37,281,680. It is

estimated that the receipts for the fiscal \$475,061,386, and that the expenditures will reach the sum of \$316,428,078, leaving in the reach the sum of \$316,425,078, leaving in the friend year ending June 30, 1868, it is estimated that the receipts will amount to \$436,000,000, and that the expenditures will be \$350,247,641—showing an excess of \$85,752,359 in favor of the Government. These estimated receipts may be diminished by a reduction of excise and innort duties; but reduction of excise and import dut es; but after all necessary reductions shall have been made, the revenue of the present and been made, the revenue of the present and
of following years will doubtless be sufficient to cover all legitimate charges upon
the Treasury, and leave a large annual surplus to be applied to the payment of the
principal of the debt. There seems now to
be no good reason why taxes may not be
reduced as the country advances in population and wealth, and yet the debt be ex
tinguished within the next quarter of a
century. entury,
The report of the Secretary of War fur-

The report of the Secretary of War fur-nishes valuable and important information in reference to the operations of his Depart-ment during the past year. Few volun-teers now remain in the service, and they are being discharged as rapidly as they can be replaced by regular troops. The army has been promptly paid, carefully provided with medical treatment, well sheltered and subsisted, and is to be furnished wit, breech louding small arms. The military breech-loading small arms. The mining strength of the nation has been unimpaired by the discharge of volunteers, the dispo breech-loading small arms. The military strength of the nation has been unimpaired by the discharge of volunteers, the dispo-sition of unserviceable or perishable stores, and the retrenchment of expenditure. Suf-ficient war material to meet any emergency has been retained, and, from the disbanded volunteers standing ready to respond to the nationlead, large armies can be rapidly organized, earlighted, and concentrated. organized, equipped, and concentrated. Fortifications on the coast and frontier have Fortifications on the constant frontier have received, or are being prepared for more powerful armaments; lake surveys and harbor and river improvements ore in course of energetic prosecution. Preparations have been made for the payment of the additional bounties authorized during the recent session of Congress, under such regulations as will protect the Government from frand, and secure to the honorably discharged solding the well-granted reward discharged soldier the well-earned reward of his hithfulness and gallantry. More than six thousand maimed soldiers have received artheiral limbs or other surgical apparatus; and forty-one national cemeteries, containing the remains of 104,526 Union soldiers have already been established. The total estimate of military appropriations is \$25,000,000. 205,669,

It is stated in the report of the Secretary of the Navy that the naval force at this time consists of two hundred and seventy time consists of two hundred and seventyeight vessels, armed with two thousand
three hundred and fifty oneguns. Of these,
one hundred and fifteen vessels, carrying
one thousand and twenty-nine guns, are
in commission, distributed chiefly among
seven squadrons. The number of men in
the service is thirteen thousand six hundred.
Great activity and vigilance have been displayed by all the squadrons, and their
movements have been judiciously and efficiently arranged in such manner as would
best promote American commerce, and protect the rights and interests of our countryopelitaents, they are admenished that none att persons layed to the United States will he allowed a voteo in the Logislativa Coun-cile of the Nation, and the political power and moral influence of Congress are thus

nen abroad: The vessels unemployed are men abroad: The vessels unemployed are undergoing repairs, or 'are laid up until their services may be required. Most of the iron clud fleet is at League Island, in the vicinity of Philadelphia, a place which, until decisive action should be taken by Congress, was selected by the Secretary of the Navy as the most eligible location for that class of vessels. It is important that a suitable public station should be provided for the iron-clad fleet. It is intended that these vessels shall be in proper condition for any emergency, and it is desirable that the bill accepting League Island for naval purposes, which passed the House of Representatives at its last session, should receive final action at an early period, in order that sentitives at its last session, should receive final action at an early period, in order that there may be a suitable public station for this class of vessels, as well as a navy-yard of area sufficient for the wants of the service on the Delaware river. The Naval Pension fund amounts to \$11,750,000, having been increased \$2,750,000 during the year. The expenditures of the Department for the fiscal year ending 30th June last, were \$43,324,526, and the estimates for the coming year amount to \$23,568,436. Attention is invited to the condition of our seamen, and year amount to \$23,008,436. Attention is invited to the condition of our seamen, and the importance of legislative measures for their relief and improvement. The sug-gestions in behalf of this deserving class of our fellow-citizens are earnestly recom-mended to the favorable attention of Con-

The report of the Postmister Goneral presents a most satisfactory condition of the postal service, and submits recommendations which deserve the consideration of Congress. The revenues of the Department for the year ending June 30, 1866, were \$14,386,986, and the expenditures \$15,352,079, showing an excess of the latter of \$985,093. In anticipation of this deliciency. were \$14,386,986, and the expenditures \$15, 552,079, showing an excess of the lattler of \$965,093. In anticipation of this deticiency, however, a special appropriation was made by Congress in the act approved July 28, 1896. Including the standing appropriation of \$700,000 for free mail matter, as a legitimate portion of the revenues yet remaining unexpended, the actual deficiency for the past year is only \$25,093—a sum within \$51,141 of the amount estimated in the annual report of 1894. The decrease of revenue compared with the previous year was one and one diffu per cent, and the increase of expenditures, owing principally to the enexpenditures, owing principally to the en-largement of the mail service. In the South was twelve per cent. On the 30th of Junwas twelve per cent. On the 30th of Juno hast'there were in operation six thousand nine hundred and thirty mail routes, with an aggregate length of one hundred and eighty thousand nine hundred and twentyone miles, an aggregate annual transportation of seventy-one million eight hundred and thirty seven thousand nine hundred and fourteen miles, and an aggregate in the seventy of t hundred and fourteen miles, and an aggregate annual cost, including all expenditures, of \$8,410,184. The length of railroad routes is thirty-two thousand and ninety-two miles, and the annual transportation threty million six hundred and nine thousand four hundred and sixty-seven miles. The length of steamboat routes is fourteen thousand three hundred and forty-six miles, and the annual transportation three million four hundred and eleven thousand sine hundred and sixty two miles. The mail hundred and fourteen miles, and an aggre hundred and sixty two miles. The mai war having terminated, and with it all oc-casion for the exercise of powers of doubt-ful constitutionality, we should hasten to bring legislation within the boundaries prescribed by the Constitution, and to re-turn to the ancient landmarks established by our fathers for the guidance of succeed-ing generations. "The Constitution which at any time exists, until changed by an ex-plicit and authentic act of the whole peo-ple, is spreadly obligatory unon all." "If. Postal Convention, which it is believed win prove emmently beneficial to the commercial interests of the United States, imasmuch as it contemplates a reduction of the international letter postage to one half the existing rates; a reduction of postage with all other countries to and from which correspondence is transmitted in the British mail, or in closed mails through the United Kingdom: the establishment of uniform and reasonable charges for the sea and territo rial transit of "correspondence in closec ands; and an allowance to each Post Office nunis; and an anowance to can rost Omeo-Department of the right to use all mail com-munications established under the authority of the other for dispatch of correspondence, either in open or closed mails, on the same terms as those applicable to the inhabitants of the country providing the means of trans-The report of the Secretary of the Interior

The report of the Secretary of the Interior exhibits the condition of those branches of the public service which are committed to his supervision. During the last fiscal year, four million six hundred and twenty-nine thousand three hundred and twelveneres of public land were disposed of, one million eight hundred and ninety-two thousand five hundred and sixteen acres of which were entered under the homestend act. The podicy originally adopted relative to the policy of the second and the transfer of "unoffered banks to be brightly the homestead of the precision of "unoffered lands; with the transfer of the homestead of the brightly and brightly a the settler from the payment of puremises money, and secure him a permanent home, upon the condition of residence for a term of years. This liberal policy invites ent-gration from the old, and from the more consultation of the more model. To crowded portions of the new world propitious results are undoubted, and will be more signally manifested when time shall have given to it a wider development. Congress has made liberal grants of pub-lic land to corporations, in aid of the con-struction of railroads and other internal im-provements. Should this policy bereafter prevail, more stringent provisions will be required to secure a faithful application of the fund. The title to the lands should no pass, by patent or otherwise, but remain in the Government and subject to its conin the Government and subject to its control until some portion of the road has been actually built. Portions of them might then, from time to time, be conveyed to the corporation, but never in a greater ratio to the whole quantity embraced by the grant than the completed parts bear to the entire length of the projected improvement. This restriction would not operate to the prejudice of any undertaking conceived in good faith and executed with reasonable energy. both and executed with reasonable energy as it is the settled practice to withdraw from market the lands falling within the operaas it is the settled pricine to winning from market the lands falling within the operation of such grants, and thus to exclude the inception of a subsequent adverse right. A breach of the conditions which Congress may deem proper to impose should work a forfeiture of claim to the lands so withdrawn but unconveyed, and of title to the lands conveyed which remain unsold.

Operations on the several lines of the Pacific Rai-road have been prosecuted with unexampled vigor and success. Should no untoreseen causes of delay occur, it is confidently anticipated that this great thoroughfare will be completed before the expiration of the period designated by Congress.

During the last fiscal year the amount paid to pensiocers, including the expenses of disbursement, was thirteen million four hundred and fifty-mae thousand nine hundred and ninely-six dollars; and fifty thousand one hundred and seventy seven

thousand one hundred and seventy sever inmes were added to the pension rolls The entire number of pensioners, June 30 1866, was one hundred and twenty six thousand seven hundred and twenty-two. This fact furnishes melancholy and striking proof of the sacrifices made to vindicate the constitutional authority of the Federal Government, and to maintain involate the integrity of the Union. They impose upon us corresponding obligations. It is estimated that thurty-three million dollars will be required to meet the exigencies of this of this branch of the service during the text is an year. 1866, was one hundred and twenty six Dext fiscal year, Treates have been concluded with the

Train's have been concluded with the lands was, entired into armed epposition to our Government at the outbreak of the reheliton, have unconditionally submitted to our authority, and manifesæd an earnest desire for a renewal of friendly relations. During the year ending September 30, 1866, 8,716 putents for useful inventional designs were issued and at that date nd designs were issued, and at that dat the balance in the Treasury to the credit o he Patent fund was two hundred

the Patent tund was two hundred and twenty-eight thousand two hundred and ninety-seven dollars.

As a subject upon which depends an Immense amount of the preduction and commerce of the country, I recommend to Congress such legislation as may be necessary for the preservation of the levess of the Mississippi river. It is a matter of national importance that early steps should be taken not only to add to the efficiency of these barriers against destructive inundations, but for the removal of all obstructions to the free and safe mayigation of that great the free and safe mavigation of that great channel of trade and commerce. The District of Columbia, under existing laws, is not entitled to that representation in the National Councils which, from our earliest history, has been uniformly ac-corded to each Territory established from time to time within our limits. It main-safes neculiar relations to Congress, lo he free and safe navigation of that grea

ains peculiar relations to Congress, whom the Constitution has granted power of exercising exclusive power of exercising exclusive legislation over the sent of government. Our follow-citizens residing in the District, whose interests are thus confided to the special guardinaship of Congress, exceed in number the population of savoral of our Territories, and no just reason is porceived why a delegate of their choice should not be admitted to a sent in the House of Representatives. No mode seems so unpropriet and mitted to a seat in the House of Representatives. No mode seems so appropriate and effectual of embling them to make known their peculiar condition and wants, and of securing the local legislation adapted to them. I therefore recommend the passage of a law authorizing the electors of the District or Columbia to choose a delegate, to be allowed the same rights and privileges as a delegate representing a Territory. The increasing enterprise and rapid progress of improvement in the District are highly gratifying, and I trust that the efforts of the municipal authorities to promote the prosperity of the national metropolis will receive the effectent and generous occoperation of Congress.

f Congress, The report of the Commissioner of Agriculture reviews the operations of his be-partment during the past year, and asks the aid of Congress in itsefforts to encourage those States which, scourged by war, are-now enruestly ongaged in the reorganiza-tion of domestic industry. It is a subject of congratulation that no-foreign combinations against our domestic-