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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

FELLOW-CITIZENS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: The continued disorganization of the Union, to which the President has so often called the attention of Congress, is yet a subject of profound and patriotic concern.

measures growing out of it. I have had the misfortune to differ from Congress, and have expressed my conviction without reserve, though with becoming deference, to the opinion of the Legislative Department, that the convictions are not only unchanged but strengthened by subsequent events and further reflection.

It is clear to my apprehension that the States lately in rebellion are still members of the National Union. When did they cease to be so? Ordinances of secession adopted by a portion, in most of them a very small portion, of their citizens were mere nullities. If we admit now that they were valid and effectual for the purpose intended by their authors, we sweep from under our feet the whole ground upon which we justify the war.

of government for the Southern States is not to be perpetual. It is true this military government is to be only provisional, but it is through this temporary evil that a greater evil is to be made perpetual. It is the broken promise of the Constitution that has broken provisionally to serve a temporary purpose, and in a part only of the country, we can destroy them everywhere and for all time.

It is manifestly and avowedly the object of these laws to confer upon the negroes the privilege of voting, and to disfranchise such number of white citizens as will give the negro clear majority at all elections in the Southern States. This to the mind of some persons is so important that a violation of the Constitution is justified as a means of bringing it about.

carefully inculcating the principles of justice and honor on the popular mind and by the most scrupulous fidelity to all our engagements of every sort. Any serious breach of organic law, perpetrated for a considerable time, cannot but create for the stability of our institutions. Habitual violation of prescribed rules which we bind ourselves to observe must demoralize the people.

The expenses of the United States, including the interest on the public debt, are more than six times as much as they were seven years ago. To collect and discharge this vast amount requires careful supervision as well as systematic vigilance. Our system never perfected, was much disorganized by the "Tenure of Office Bill," which has almost destroyed official accountability.

to state the merits of every case, furnished with the means of taking evidence and bound to decide according to established law. This would guarantee the safety of the accused when he acts in good faith and at the same time secure the rights of the other party. I speak, of course, with all proper respect for the present Senate; but it does not seem to me that any legislative body can be so constituted as to insure its fitness for these functions.

The present condition of our finances and circulating medium is one to which your early consideration is invited. The proportion which the currency bears to the value of the annual produce circulated by its means, is a question upon which political economists have not agreed; nor can it be controlled by legislation, but must be left to those irrevocable laws which everywhere regulate commerce and trade.