

XXXVIII CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23, 1864. SENATE.—A letter was presented to the Senate from the Vice-President, stating that he would be absent from the Senate a short time.

On motion, Mr. Foose was elected President pro tempore.

Mr. Sumner presented a petition, signed by many citizens of Iowa, asking the passage of a law prohibiting slavery which was referred to the Committee on Freedmen and Slavery.

Mr. Sumner presented the petition of Joel B. Stockton, of Arkansas, which states that he believes that the African race is the best material for a soldier, and asking that Congress shall establish a school for the present war, a regular army of two hundred thousand men, composed entirely of negroes.

Mr. Sumner presented a petition from women of Ohio, praying that something be done to ameliorate the condition of those persons who have been freed from slavery by the present war.

Mr. Sumner presented a petition from citizens of New York, in favor of placing all soldiers on military footing.

Mr. Sumner also presented petitions signed by Joseph Quincy, Governor Andrews, and other members of both branches of the Massachusetts Legislature, asking such amendments to the Constitution as may abolish slavery which was referred to the table.

Mr. Morgan presented the memorial of the Chamber of Commerce of the City of New York, praying for legislation on the part of Congress to foster and support manufactures.

Mr. Carlisle (W. Va.) offered the following joint resolution: "That the military power of the Government can only be rightly exerted against individuals in arms opposing its authority; that the prosecution of hostilities against such individuals in rebellion ought to be for the sole purpose of maintaining the constitutional Union and for the restoration of the Union to its original condition, leaving to each State the regulation of its domestic policy, subject to the control of Congress in the enjoyment of the rights of self-government, as recognized by the Constitution of the United States."

That the President be requested to declare, by proclamation, that whenever the people of any State shall recognize their State government by representatives chosen and sworn to their obligations to the Union under the Constitution, full pardon and amnesty shall be granted to each citizen of that State, assuring the citizens thereof that all their rights of person and of property, under the Constitution, shall be respected, excepting, however, from such pardon and amnesty such persons as are guilty of treason as recognized by the Constitution of the United States.

Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Wilson (Mass.), the Committee on Military Affairs reported the following report: "The Committee on Military Affairs has the honor to report that it has had the honor to receive, on the 23rd inst., a letter from the President of the United States, conveying to it a copy of the report of the Honorable William Westcott, Secretary of War, on the subject of the examination of candidates for admission to the military service of the United States, and requesting the Committee to report thereon to the Senate."

On motion of Mr. Wilson, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the report of the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Wilson presented a modification of his amendment heretofore reported.

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into the hands of the speculator, or into the treasury, which was now ready to totter and on the verge of falling.

He scouted the idea that there was any probability of the Government to withdraw its aid from the holders of the bonds.

He contended that there was no more objection to the holding of the bonds than there was to the holding of the consumer.

He contended that the holders of the bonds should not be treated as speculators.

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LETTER BAGS

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AUCTION SALES.

JAMES G. FREEMAN, AUCTIONEER. 227 N. 2d ST. PHILADELPHIA.

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