

XXXIITH CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

SENATE.—Mr. Grimes offered a resolution giving the thanks of Congress to Rear Admiral Farragut and his officers and men for gallant conduct in the capture of the Mobile Bay, August 5th, 1864. Referred to the Naval Committee.

Mr. Trumbull called up the bill to protect all persons in the enjoyment of their civil rights, and means their vindication. It provides that there shall be no discrimination in civil rights or immunities among the inhabitants of any State or Territory of the United States, on account of race, color, or previous condition of slavery, but the inhabitants of every race and color, without regard to any previous condition of slavery or involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall have the same right to make and enforce contracts, sue, give evidence and give evidence, to inherit, purchase, lease, sell, hold and convey real and personal property, and to full and equal benefit of all laws and proceedings for the security of person and property, and shall be subject to like punishment, pains and penalties, and to none other, any law, statute, ordinance, regulation or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

Mr. Trumbull offered the following amendment, to be inserted immediately after that enacting clause in the first section: That all persons of African descent, born in the United States, and who are declared to be citizens of the United States.

At half-past three the Senate, on motion of Mr. Sumner, went into Executive session, and soon after adjourned. The House resumed the consideration of the amendment to the Constitution, apportioning direct taxation and representation, as reported from the Select Committee on Reconstruction.

Mr. Raymond (N. Y.) commenced a speech upon the subject, but had not proceeded far before he yielded the floor, at the request of Mr. Sumner, who stated that the Major General Sherman was in the Hall, and in order that gentlemen might have an opportunity of greeting him, he moved that the House take a recess for ten minutes.

The Speaker immediately left the chair, and joining Major General Sherman, congratulated him on his gallant and successful career, and expressed his warmest sympathies for him and his gallant army.

Mr. Washburne (Ill.) proposed three amendments to the bill, which were enthusiastically given, amid the waving of flags and handkerchiefs in the galleries.

General Sherman acknowledged the commendations of his gallant army, and in reply, he said that he was glad to have the House of Representatives, in a more accustomed to cheering, such as has been given by you, than to pitching my voice to the pillars of this room, which I never entered before, save in those galleries, and simply thank you from my heart for this reception you have given me. I hope I may continue to preserve the good wishes you have so kindly and so warmly expressed to me, and I shall endeavor to do all I can to that end. [Applause.]

The Speaker then introduced to General Sherman the members who thronged around him, and the five minutes' recess having expired, the House resumed its business.

Mr. Raymond (N. Y.) said the original intention was that the committee appointed to inquire into the political condition of the States lately in rebellion, in order to determine whether the States were ready to receive a republican representation in Congress. The House could judge how much information the resolution embodied on that subject, and what connection it had with the report which the committee was appointed.

The committee had reported, without explanation of reasons, a naked proposition to amend the Constitution, in order to admit the States lately in rebellion, to a republican representation in Congress. The House could judge how much information the resolution embodied on that subject, and what connection it had with the report which the committee was appointed.

The question of slavery, for instance, had undergone such a total change as to make an amendment to the Constitution was and was not. The President of the United States, in 1812, the British took possession of one-third of the territory of Maine, including the town and port of Castine, and held it a year and a half, and absolutely, that the United States were by the courts to have been absolved from obedience to the Government; but had Congress been called on to act when the question was presented, would it not be the duty of the Government to renege its functions, and went on as if the usurpation had never existed.

That was precisely the position of the rebel States. In the winter of 1861, a conspiracy against the Government of the United States existed in this city, in this House, aided by agents and co-conspirators in other sections of the country. It was the duty of the Government to take precautions against the projected usurpation. The distinguished chief then at the head of the army had recommended the stationing of troops at certain points in the Southern States to prevent the success of such an attempt at usurpation. The Government failed to perform its duty, and the President of the United States had a theory which prevented him; and even the Congress of that day would have refused to give him the power to do it effectually. Therefore, the default of the Government, and the usurpation acquired force.

Who did not believe that if there had been a reasonable force stationed in North Carolina, that the States would never have fallen into the hands of traitors and usurpers? The same was true of almost all the other States; if the Government had performed its solemn duty to maintain the Union, the rebellion would have been prevented. If a usurpation does not necessarily of itself take a State out of the Union, until it proves a State out of the Union, when does it take it out? It holds out permanently it is not a success, and does not achieve the object of taking a State out of the Union. The people of the State would not be satisfied with the usurpation, and they would be punished for their refusal. If they hesitated, their goods were confiscated. If the usurpers had been expelled in six months, in one year, or in two years, would anybody have contended that the States were out of the Union? and would any one new point out the precise line in point of

time when a State goes out of the Union by the usurpation of its powers? All through the war delegates and Representatives from States in rebellion—Louisiana, Tennessee and Kentucky—were admitted to this House. The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Broome) had been factious in opposing the fact that he (Mr. Raymond) curiously coincided in this matter with the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. Rogers).

He (Raymond) had learned long ago that it was much better to be right with a political opponent than wrong with a political adherent, and he had no hesitation in saying that he would far rather be right with the gentleman from New Jersey than be wrong even in such distinguished company as that of the gentleman from Pennsylvania. He knew nothing but right or wrong in this question, and should act on his own judgment, endeavoring to be right on every point. The gentleman from Pennsylvania would find that this was no new position for him, for he had expressed himself to the same effect in speech at Wilmington, Del., in the fall of 1863. If the States had gone out of the Union, they must have gone some party in rebel hands—Louisiana, Tennessee and Kentucky—curiously coincided in this matter with the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. Rogers).

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Quigley, who stated at the same time that he should favor Sunday travel. Adjourned.

A GEORGIA paper expresses the opinion that it would be sound policy to confer the right of suffrage upon certain classes of colored persons, and thus give the remaining franchise exclusively to improvement so as to secure for themselves also this inestimable privilege.

THE CONGRESSIONAL meeting house in Williamsstown, Mass., built in 1788, and in which the Williams College commencement have been held for seventy years, was totally destroyed by fire last Sunday.

THE OLD ESTABLISHED CHEAP CLOTHING STORE, 1024 CHESTNUT STREET, has removed to 116 SOUTH FRONT STREET.

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FIRE PROOF SAFES. MARVIN'S PATENT ALUM AND DRY PLASTER FIRE AND BURGLAR SAFES. 721 CHESTNUT STREET.

REMOVAL. GEORGE W. HILL. 116 SOUTH FRONT STREET.

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