Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1861.

THE OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS.

This week we lay before our readers in full, the President's Message and Gen. Cameron's Report, with abstracts of other important documents. We need hardly urge upon all an attentive perusal of them, imparting as they do a correct view of the actual state of the country at this time.

The first impression the reader of the Message will receive, will be the marked contrast between it and the Message of the rebel Davis. While President Lincoln's Message is beautiful and harmonious, in the truth, calmness and dignity, which pervade it, that of Davis, is in spirit, truculent, sanguinary, demoniac. The country and the world will not fail to see in these facts, conclusive evidence of the desperate condition of, and hopelessness of the rebel cause. The President analyzes clearly, the objects of the Southern rebellion, proving that it is a war upon the proper dignity of labor, and upon the political franchises of the poor; an attempt of despotism and aristocracy, to rule the masses with a rod of iron, as in the Dark Ages.—The President recognizes how causeless is the war, on the part of the rebels, and says that they must be vanquished and put down. To effect this, and preserve the Union, "all indispensable means must be employed."—On the Slavery question the spirit of the President is admirable. He wishes to restore the Union, if possible, with the least possible sacrifice of pre-existing ties and interests; but he places the duty of preserving the Union above all conflicting considerations, and what Congress may deem in its judgment, necessary, will doubtless, receive his sanction. The *Tribune* thinks that he may be late to realize the necessity of still sterner measures aimed at the source and mainspring of the rebellion; but he will not defeat the will of the loyal people, as embodied and expressed by their representatives. Hand in hand the Executive and the masses have entered upon this tremendous struggle, and they will not, they must not, fall out by the way to its triumphant conclusion.

To us it seem plain that if the rebels continue in arms, refusing to take the oath of allegiance, that it will become a necessity to emancipate their slaves, their great element of strength. If the Government confiscates a rebel's house, horse, or cattle, why not his slave? What distinction under their own ruling is there? We believe that the correct policy is, to notify by proclamation, the rebels to lay down their arms within a certain specified time. If they refuse, the Government has the right under the war power, to weaken the enemy, and the most effective way will be found in emancipating the slaves of the rebels, and remunerating loyal slaveholders for any losses they may sustain. This policy as merciful as it would be effective, will we believe, if circumstances warrant, yet receive the sanction of the President.

The Report of the Secretary of War is an interesting and important document. By it we learn that the Army now numbers 640,637 men, which does not include 77,875 three months' men. Gen. Cameron's suggestions; and views on the slavery aspect of this war, are able and generally approved. This Department of the Government has been conducted by Gen. Cameron in a manner that will challenge the admiration of posterity.

An abstract of the Report of the Secretary of the Navy, will be found in another column. Much herculean labor has been done in this Department since the commencement of the War—a Navy having in fact, been created.

On the whole, taking the public documents as a basis for the opinion, the affairs of the Nation are in faithful hands, and all its interests are carefully and wisely attended to in the executive branch of the Government.

WHAT CAN BE DONE WITH EMANCIPATED SLAVES?

The senseless clamor of "Abolition" which is now heard from a few traitors and traitorous journals, cannot alter the fact that the destruction of Slavery in this Republic, will be the result of this Southern rebellion. The heretofore solid fabric of Slavery, having for its corner-stone the Government, is crumbling into dust. Whether a month or a year be consumed in the demolition; whether it goes piece-meal, or suddenly in one grand crash, the result will be the same. Slavery in the United States, as an Institution, is doomed. In Missouri alone, within the last eight or nine months, the slave population of about 90,000 is diminished by 50,000; of these, 25,000 have left their masters, and disposed of themselves according to their own will and pleasure, and the other 25,000 have been hurried off to the South from a market where, it is presumed, they will presently be an utter loss. A bill will speedily be introduced in to the Kentucky Legislature for the confiscation of the property of rebels, including slaves, and there is every reason to believe that it will become a law. The system in a whole tier of States from Missouri to Delaware, though not yet plucked up by the roots and cast away, is loosened and broken so that its leaves and branches are withering and shriveling, and it must presently die. The same causes that have produced these results in the border States will be introduced, into those south of them, and will have like consequences. It hardly needs the intervention of the Government to announce emancipation as a military necessity, for events proclaim that a death-blow has been struck at Slavery, whether we like it or not.

The great problem seems to be, what shall be done with the four millions of slaves, when they are emancipated. Wise statesmanship may here step in, and so order, that free labor and not idleness, should follow the disappearance of Slavery. We need cotton for our own manufactures, and still more as an article of export. There is no necessity, in the nature of the case, of sacrificing a staple worth $200,000,000 because heretofore it has been raised by unpaid labor which is to be no longer at our command. On the contrary the value of the staple ought to be increased, not only by offering the stimulus of wages to those who have heretofore worked in a shiftless way without it, and by giving to them the example, and to the production the advantage, of the application of free and intelligent labor of Northern workingmen.

It is folly to say that white men cannot bear the exposure of the Southern climate, for the fact is that they always have borne it, as laborers, and are doing so more and more every year. Mr. Russell mentions in one of his earlier letters, in a description of the Houmas plantation on the cotton lands of the Mississippi, that there are twenty miles of deep ditching upon it, exclusive of canal; the work of Irish navvies. He naively adds, that "the work is too severe for African thews, and experience has shown it a bad economy to overask the slave." In other words, a negro costs money, and when the planter has work to do that kills men, they prefer Irishmen on wages—a consideration on the part of our "Southern brethren" which our Irish fellow-citizens, who have been invigled by such papers as the *Standard*, late upholding Slavery, may lay aside for future use. But more conclusive still is the testimony of figures. The census of 1850 shows that in the nine Southern most States, where, it is asserted, there can be no cultivation of the soil except by slaves, there were 800,000 engaged in agriculture, over 1,000,000 in out-door labor, and of the 900,000 persons engaged strictly in the cultivation of cotton, 100,000 were free whites.

While the Government could establish a parental organization over the liberated Slaves of the South, it would find an important outlet for about a million of them in Hayti; subsequently, for a large number in Liberia, when commercial intercourse is established with that country, while Central America would colonize a large number.—Hayti offers peculiar inducements for immigration, to the colored man. Read the following from the Haytian President:

Invitation.

Hayti will soon regain her ancient splendor.—This marvellous soil that our fathers, blessed by God, conquered for us, will soon yield to us the wealth now hidden in its bosom. Let our black and yellow brethren, scattered through the Antilles, and North and South America, hasten to cooperate with us in restoring the glory of the Republic. Hayti is the common country of the black race. Our ancestors, in taking possession of it, were careful to announce in the Constitution that they published, that all the descendants of Africans, and of the inhabitants of the West Indies, belong by right to the Haytian family.—The idea was grand and generous.

Listen, then, all ye Negroes and mulattoes who, in the vast Continent of America, suffer from the prejudices of caste. The Republic calls you;—she invites you to bring to her your arms and your minds. The regenerating work that she undertakes interests all colored people and their descendants, no matter what their origin or where their place of birth.

Hayti, regaining her former position, retaking her ancient sceptre as Queen of the Antilles, will be a formal denial, most eloquent and peremptory, against those detractors of our race who contest our desire and ability to attain a high degree of civilization.

GEFFRARD.

Testimony in abundance, from colored men now in Hayti, could be published in these columns, showing their satisfaction. We have only space for the following extracts from a letter from John Lewis Brown, formerly of New Orleans, and now a resident of St. Mark:

Liberty. Equality.

Dear Sister:—I received your letter dated August 1, and was very happy to hear than you were all well at present. I arrived in this land of the free and equal on the 22nd of May, so I have been here four months. I have eight months more to live here, then I have all the rights of the native born Haytian. Father, after you are here one year and a day, you have all the rights of a native born person; but, dear father, I have all the rights that I want now. I have no one to say to me "Pull off your hat," or "no colored person allowed in here;" but it is in this country, brother and sister, hand and heart.

Dear father, and sisters and brothers,—come, do, all of you, to this glorious country, where you can live and be free in a land that belongs to us—the only one on earth governed by our people. You would be more than astonished at our capital, the President and his Cabinet—the people of them colored! This is the land of the free.

It makes me cry to think where I was three years this time, and now to see me in a country where I am called Captain Brown by my brothers and sisters.

To come to this country you must, if there is no vessel at New Orleans, go to [New York] to Mr. James Redpath, the Haytian Commissioner, and register your name, and he will send you to this country.

Dear sister, I am glad to hear of my dear little sister's progress; but if I had her out here, I would give her an education equal to Harriet Beecher Stowe's, or any one else.

Oliver Cole of this Borough, is now in Hayti, among the men who decline, now that the chance of grasping a Sceptre is opened to them, of submitting to the Spittoon fate any longer.

For the information of colored men desiring to emigrate to Hayti, we publish the following:

New York Colony for Hayti.—Those persons intending to join this Colony will report themselves immediately to JAMES J. SPELMAN, 76 Grove Street, New York City.

Persons desiring to emigrate, will please direct their letters to the Haytian Consulate Office, Anthracite Building, 205½ Walnut Street, Philadelphia. Private letters should be directed to me at 814 South Street, Philadelphia.

J. B. SMITH, *Agent*.

These few facts are given to show that there is a way of treating practically, the results of emancipation, and it is the duty of all citizens who truly love their country and the interests of free labor, in which every white workingman and his family are concerned, to forget past prejudices and predilections, to address themselves to the work which events have forced upon us.

CONGRATULATORY.

That Charles J. Biddle, of Philadelphia, chosen to Congress while Colonel of a regiment of volunteers in the National service, has resigned his Colonelcy, by the request of his fellow leading Democrats of Philadelphia, and taken his seat in the House. We say it is cause of gratulation, for after penning his letter of acquiescence he could not have been trusted with a corporal's squad with assurance of his fidelity. He will be much less dangerous in Congress where his only *confreres* are Vallandigham of Ohio, and "Ben" Wood of New York. Mr. Biddle was not elected as a mere partizan, and since the publication of his letter, many who supported him, among them that sterling patriot, Frederick Fraily Esq., condemn him in no measured language. After abusing the Republican party and the Administration, in connection with the war, Mr. Biddle says:

"This, too, we may say for the Democratic party—while it maintains its name, 'Secession' was a little baffled clique, as the Republican party rose, 'Secession' became an army with banners."

—That is to say: Pickens, Meade, Hunter, Mason, Faulkner, Slidell, Jeff. Davis & Co., did not see fit to rebel against the Nation so long as they had full control of its Government and policy, and were drawing bountiful salaries, allowances and perquisites from its treasury; but, so soon as the people placed the Government in other hands, they sprung the mine which some of them had been thirty years preparing, and did their best to destroy the Republic. If there be anything in these facts of which the Democrats of the loyal States are proud, we make Col. Biddle welcome to it. If he should be guilty, during his Congressional term, of a meaner act than the writing of his recent letter, we shall propose that Col. Biddle be presented to Jeff. Davis, with the compliments of his warm admirer, Acker, of the *Standard*.

GRAND JURY REPORT.

To the Honorable the Judges of the Court of Over and Terminer, and Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the County of Schuylkill.

The Grand Inquest inquiring for the body of the County of Schuylkill, December Sessions, 1861, respectfully report:

That they have acted on forty-seven Bills of Indictment, of which number, fifty were returned "True Bills," and seven were "Ignored" most of these being for minor offences.

And they do further report that they have visited the Public Buildings belonging to the County, by the direction of the Court, and they are happy to state, that they have found them generally in good condition, and under excellent management. The heating apparatus in the County Prison (referred to by a former Grand Jury as being defective, we are happy to state has been replaced by direction of the keeper, Mr. Koffenyder, by four furnaces of improved construction which appear to be adequate to the purpose for which they are designed. And they would recommend the Commissioners of the County, to make an appropriation for the payment of their contract, which they find to have been done, and that the price is not more than is usual for the same description of work furnished to others.

We would also recommend an enlargement of the office occupied by the Prothonotary of the County, by the removal of the partition on the west side of the office, and by the erection of an additional fire proof, as we find the present fire proof crowded to such an extent as to prevent a proper care being taken of the papers and books belonging to the office.

In their visit to the Alms House, they are happy to state, that they are much gratified by the good order, cleanliness, and comfort which seem to pervade the whole establishment, and are willing to bear testimony to the efficiency of the present Steward, the Physician, and the assistants generally.

They would also beg leave to state, that from the appearance of the farm, the cattle, and the farm buildings belonging to the County, that the former, James Lewis, Jr., merits praise for the skill which he has shown in the management thereof.

In presenting these, the Grand Inquest tender their thanks to the Honorable Court, and its officers, for their courteous attention to them during the session. All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. W. CLEMENS, *Foreman*.

A Union conspiracy has been discovered at New Orleans.

A deserter from the 1st Regiment of Virginia Volunteers says that Blenkandl is converted into a great hospital, so many of the rebels are sick. Dissatisfaction, dispiritement, and discontent prevail among them. This we learn from various sources.

Recovered was at Fairfax Court House last week, and by the testimony of the Rebels that they should be in Washington this winter, probably intending to imply that they won't take it. When we learn also that all newspapers and other means are closed against information from the South, we cannot but wonder at the fact that the Government, when it comes, will be very likely to turn in its fatal race against those who have deluded them.

FIRST ANNUAL MESSAGE OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives:

In the latter of unprecedented political troubles, we have been of great and continuing favor for the present good health and most abundant harvests.

You will need no special messenger to inform you of the condition of the Union. Its maintenance with unbroken national, has been attended with profound political, and with some social disturbance. A distinct, and to the loyal portion of the American people here, startling portion of the American people here, during the whole year, have been engaged in an attempt to divide and destroy the Union.

A majority which reduces factious domestic division to expend to divergent abroad, and can party, if not both, is slow, sooner or later, to invite foreign intervention.—Nations have tempted to interfere are not always able to resist the temptation of seeming expediency and supposed gain or ambition, although measures adopted under such influences seldom fail to be unfortunate, and injurious to those who adopt them.

The distorted citizens of the United States, who have offered the ruin of our country to return for the old and comfort which they have invoked abroad, and have received less patronage and encouragement than they probably expected. If it were just to suppose, as the insurgents have assumed to assume, that foreign nations, in this case, discovering all moral, social and humane obligations, trampled under foot and boldly for the most, speedy restoration of commerce, including especially the acquisition of cotton, these nations appear to yet not to have such clear way to their ends, even directly or clearly through the destruction, then through the preservation of the Union.

If we could dare to believe that foreign nations are so lost to all noble principle than this, I am quite sure a sound argument could be made to show them that they can reach their aim more readily and easily by aiding to crush this rebellion than by giving it encouragement to it. The principal lever relied on by the insurgents for exciting foreign nations to hostility against us, as already intimated, is the embarrassment of commerce. Our ports are blockaded by our own people, and they say that the first act of war the Union which made as well our foreign as our domestic commerce. They can scarcely have failed to perceive that the effect of this blockade, has been to produce a surplus of cotton, and that one strong motive promises more durable peace, and a more extensive and valuable commerce than can the same nation broken into hostile fragments. It is not my purpose to review our diversions with foreign States, because, whatever might be their wishes or dispositions, the integrity of our country and the stability of our Government mainly depend, not upon these, but on the loyalty, virtue, patriotism and intelligence of the American people.

The correspondence itself, with the usual reservations, is herewith submitted. I venture to hope that it will appear that we have practiced prudence and liberality towards foreign powers, averting causes of irritation, and with firmness maintaining our own rights and honor.—Since, however, it is apparent that here, as in every other State, foreign dangers necessarily attend domestic difficulties, I recommend that adequate and ample measures be adopted for maintaining the public defences on every side. While under this general recommendation, provision for defending our sea-coast line occurs to the mind, I also, in the same connection, call the attention of Congress to our great lakes and rivers. It is believed that some fortifications and depots of arms and munitions, with harbor and navigation improvements, if any, will also be required, and upon these, would be of great importance to the national defence and preservation.

I ask attention to the views of the Secretary of War, presented in his report upon the subject of military defences.

Keenly sensitive as we are at the loss of Kentucky, Tennessee and Western North Carolina should be connected with Kentucky and other Southern States, I feel bound to say, that I have not yet been able to devise a practicable way to effect that object. The difficulties are formidable, but not insuperable. It is hoped that the loyal portions of the Union may be so much strengthened, as to be able to reclaim the lost portion, without the necessity of conquering the rest. The northern portion of that region is so much nearer to us, and its population so much more loyal, that it is believed to be comparatively easy to keep it in the Union, if it shall once be there. It is clearly the duty of the Government to afford all practicable aid to the loyal people, and to believe, that the same patriotism which has thus far sustained the Government, will continue to sustain it till peace and union shall again bless the land.

I respectfully refer to the report of the Secretary of War for information respecting the numerical strength of the army and for recommendations looking in view an increase of its efficiency and the well-being of the various branches of the service entrusted in his care.—It is gratifying to know that the patriotism of the people has proved equal to the occasion, and that the number of troops tendered greatly exceeds the force which Congress authorized me to call into the field.

I refer with pleasure, to the favorable mention of his report which make allusion to the creditable degree of discipline already attained by our troops and to the excellent sanitary condition of the entire army.

The recommendation of the Secretary for an organization of the militia upon a uniform basis, is a subject of vital importance to the future safety of the country, and is commended to the serious attention of Congress.

The large addition to the regular army in connection with the defection that has so considerably diminished the number of its officers, gives peculiar importance to his recommendation for increasing the number of the cadets to the greatest capacity of the Military Academy.

By mere omission, I presume, Congress has failed to provide Chaplains for hospitals established by volunteers. This subject was brought to my notice, and I was induced to draw up the form of a letter, one copy of which, properly addressed, has been delivered to each of the persons, and at the dates, respectively named, and stated in a schedule containing also the form of the letter (letter marked A.) and herewith transmitted.

The gentlemen I addressed, all entertained offers of the duties designated at the times respectively stated in the schedule, and have labored faithfully there ever since. I therefore recommend that they be remunerated at the same rates as Chaplains in the Army, further suggesting that general provision be made for Chaplains to serve at Hospitals as well as with regiments. The report of the Secretary of the Navy presents in detail the operations of that branch of the service, the activity and energy which have characterized its administration and the results of the measures to increase its efficiency and strength.

Such have been the additions by construction and purchase, that it may almost be said a Navy has been created and brought into service since our difficulties commenced. Besides blockading our extended sea coast, squadrons larger than ever before assembled under our flag, have been put afloat and performed deeds which have increased our Naval renown.

I would invite special attention to the recommendations of the Secretary for a more perfect organization of the Navy by introducing additional grades in the service. The present organization is defective and unsatisfactory, and the suggestions submitted by the Department will, it is believed, if adopted, obviate difficulties alluded to, promote harmony and increase the efficiency of the Navy.

There are three vacancies on the bench of the Supreme Court; two by the decease of Justice Daniel and McLean, and one by the resignation of Justice Campbell. I have so far forbore making nominations to fill these vacancies for reasons which I will now state: Two of the outgoing Judges resident within the States now overrun by revolt, so that if their successors were appointed in the same localities, they could not now serve upon their circuit, and many of the most competent men there probably would not take the personal hazard of accepting to be subjected to the duties of the office. I have been unwilling to throw all the appointments North ward, thus disabling myself from doing justice to the South on the return of peace, although I may remark that to transfer to the North one which has heretofore been in the South, would not, with reference to territory and population, be unjust.

During the long and brilliant judicial career of Judge McLean, his circuit grew into an empire altogether too large for any one Judge to give the Courts therein more than a nominal attendance. Rising from 1,036,270 in 1830 to 1,519,018 in 1840, to 2,151,507 in 1850, to 3,318,335 in 1860. Besides this, the country generally has outgrown our present judicial system. If authority was at all intended, the system requires that the Supreme Court should keep pace with Circuit Courts attended by Supreme Judges, while, in fact, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Florida, Texas, California, and Oregon have never had any such Courts.

Nor can this evil be remedied, without a change of the system, because the adding of Judges to the Supreme Court enough for the accommodation of all parts of the country with Circuit Courts, would create a Court altogether too numerous for a judicial body of any sort.—And the evil, if it be one, will increase as new States come into the Union. Circuit Courts are useful, or they are not useful. If useful, no State should be denied them. If not useful, no State should have them. Let them be provided for all, or abolished to all.

Three modifications occur to me, either of which I think, would be an improvement upon our present system. Let the Supreme Court be of convenient number in every event. Then first, let the whole country be divided into circuits of convenient size, the Supreme Judges to serve in a number of them corresponding to their own number, and independent Circuit Judges be provided for all the rest; or secondly, let the Supreme Judges be relieved from Circuit duties, and Circuit Judges provided for all the Circuits; or thirdly, dispense with the Circuit Courts altogether, leaving the Judicial Department wholly to the District Court and an independent Supreme Bench.

I respectfully recommend to the consideration of Congress the present condition of the Statute Laws, with the help that Congress will be able to find an early remedy for many of the inconveniences and evils which constantly embarrass those engaged in the practical administration of them. If we the organization of the Government, Congress has enacted some five thousand acts and joint resolutions, which fill more than six thousand closely printed pages, and are scattered through many volumes.

Many of these acts have been drawn in haste, and without sufficient caution, so that their provisions are often obscure in themselves, or in conflict with each other; or, at least, so much so in effect, that it will require for even the best informed person to ascertain precisely what the statute law really is. It seems to me very important that the statute laws should be made as plain and intelligible as possible, and be reduced to as small a compass as may consist with the fullness and precision of the laws themselves. There should be no more laws than are necessary, while every law necessary should be made as clear and definite as its nature will allow it to be. It seems to me that this can be done to a very valuable extent by a commission of two or three persons, and if a permanent and general revision, which would be revised and rewritten, so as to be contained in one volume, or at most, in two volumes of ordinary size and form, that I respectfully recommend to Congress to consider on the subject, and if any suggestion be approved, to devise such plan as to their wisdom shall seem most proper for the attainment of the desired object.

One of the most important components of the present insurrection is the entire expectation in many quarters of all the ordinary means of maintaining civil government, the idea being said to be the fruit of existing law. This is not true in whole or in part in all the insurgent States, and yet our armies advance upon and take possession of parts of those States, the practical evil becomes apparent.—There are doubtless, very many in whom the citizens of other States may apply for the enforcement of their lawful claims against citizens of the insurgent States, and there is a vast amount of debt maturing there, which, if we have estimated it so high as $200,000,000, due in foreign parts from insurgents, in open rebellion, to loyal citizens who are even now making great sacrifices in the discharge of their pecuniary obligations to support the Government. Under these circumstances I have been urgently solicited to establish by military power courts to administer substantial justice if not even the semblance of justice is to be left to them. In no case have I any doubt that the end proposed, the extinction of the debts, was just and right in itself, but because I have been unwilling to go beyond the province of my official duty to provide such remedies, I have not felt authorized to do so. But the power of Congress, I suppose are equal to the anomalous occasion; and therefore, I refer the whole matter to Congress, with the hope that if they shall think fit to provide remedies for the administration of justice in all such parts of the insurgent States and Territories as may be under the control of this Government, whether by a military or civil power, or by a blending of both, such provisions may be made to attach a temporary jurisdiction in the premises, in preference to a permanent one, by conferring it upon the District Courts of the United States, with the jurisdiction, in law and equity, now held by the Circuit Courts of the United States in those States, and in cases where the amount in controversy is not large, so much of the process, mesne and final, as may be adapted to the circumstances of the country, and to the ends of justice, to be issued and served by the officers of the United States, who may be in those States, and in the service of this Government, and to be returnable to the District Courts of the United States in those States, or to such other tribunal as may be deemed more convenient to the parties, and to be prosecuted there, or elsewhere, as may be deemed most conducive to the ends of justice, and to be made to bear upon the property and rights of persons, and to be satisfied out of the property and rights of persons, upon proof of their disloyalty. I recommend that Congress authorize that officer to cause the names of such persons to be stricken from the pension rolls.

The relations of the Government with the Indian tribes have been greatly disturbed by the insurrection, especially in the southern superintendency and in the Indian country south of Kansas. The Indian country south of Kansas is in possession of the insurgents from Texas and Arkansas. The Agents of the U. S. Government, appointed since the 4th of March last, have not been able to reach their posts, while the most of those who were in office before that time have espoused the insurrectionary cause and assumed to control the Indians. In some instances these officers and commissions from the insurrectionists. It has been stated in the public prints that a portion of these Indians have been organized and are now in the service of the insurrectionists against the Government. Although the Government has no official information upon the subject, letters have been written to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs by prominent men among the Indians, avowing their loyalty to the United States, and expressing a wish for the presence of the Federal troops to protect them. It is believed that upon the presentation of the facts to the Indian tribes, the Indians will rapidly erase all hostile demonstrations, and resume their former relations to the Government.

Agriculture, confessedly the largest interest of the nation, has not suffered to the extent which it might have suffered in view of the insurrection. While it is fortunate that this great interest is so independent in its nature as not to have demanded and exterted more from the Government, I respectfully ask Congress to consider whether something more cannot be given voluntarily with general advantage. Annual reports, exhibiting the condition of our agricultural interest, are received and carefully considered. They do form a fund of information of great practical value to the country. While I make no suggestion as to details, I venture the opinion that an Agricultural Bureau, upon a liberal scale, might profitably be organized.

The execution of the laws for the suppression of the African slave trade has been confided to the Department of the Interior. It is a subject of congratulation that the efficiency of the laws for the suppression of this inhuman traffic have been recently attended with unusual success. Five vessels being fitted out for the slave trade have been seized and condemned. Two mates of vessels, engaged in the trade and one person engaged in equipping a vessel as a slaver have been convicted, and subjected to the penalty of the law. One hundred and twenty-two persons, taken from on board a cargo of Africans on board the vessel, has been convicted of the highest grade of offence under our laws, the punishment of which is confinement at hard labor.

The Territories of Colorado, Dakota and Nevada, created by the last Congress have been organized, and civil administration has been inaugurated in them without any unfavorable incident, except in Nevada, it is considered that the leaves of treason was found existing in some of these new countries when the Federal officers arrived there.

The abundant native resources of these Territories, with the security and protection afforded by an organized government, will doubtless invite to them a large immigration when peace shall restore the business of the country to its normal channels. I submit the resolutions of the Legislature of Colorado, which evidence the patriotic spirit of the people of the Territory. So far, the laws passed by the Congress of the United States in all the Territories, as it is hoped it will be in the future, I commend their interest and defense to the enlightened and generous care of Congress.

I recommend the favorable consideration of Congress the interests of the District of Columbia. The insurrection has been the cause of much suffering and sacrifice to its inhabitants, who have given to the cause of their country much that it should not overlook their just claims upon the Government.

At your late session a joint resolution was adopted, authorizing the President to take measures for facilitating a proper representation of the industrial interests of the United States at the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations, to be holden at London the year 1862. I regret to say I am not able to give personal attention to this subject; a subject at once so interesting in itself, and so extensively and intimately connected with the material prosperity of our country. Looking to the Secretaries of State and of the Interior, a plan or system has been devised and partly matured, which will soon be laid before you.

Under and by virtue of the act of Congress, entitled an act to confiscate property used for insurrectionary purposes, approved Aug. 6, 1861, the legal claims of certain persons to the labor and service of certain other persons have been adjudicated, and numbers of the latter, thus liberated, are already dependent on the United States, and must be provided for in some way. Beside this, there are many others who are in the same condition by the action of the slave States, and who