Her Britantic Majesty's Government, as was justly expected, have exercised their authority to prevent the departure of new hostile expeditions from British ports. The Emperor of France has, by a like proceeding, promptly vindicated the neutrality which he proclaimed at the beginning of the called a process of the process of the process of the called a process of the process of trade, which will ensure whenever present restored.

the beginning of the contest.

Questions of great intricacy and importance have arisen out of the blockade, and other belligerent operations between the Government and several of the maritime powers; but they have been discussed, and as far as was possible, accommodated in a spirit of frankness, justice and mutual good will.

It is especially gratifying that our prize courts, by the impartiality of their adjudications, have commanded the respect and confidence of

In conformity with the principles set forth in my last annual message, I have received a representative from the United States of Columbia have lived in the United States t egrea e part of their lives. There is reason to believe hat many persons born in foreign countries, have declared their intention to become who are who have been fully naturalized, citizens, the military duty required of them have evaded the military duty required of them by denying the tack, and thereby throwing by denying the the burden of proof.

by denying the the burden of proof.

upon the governmen. If, or impracticable,
It has been found diffi. It for impracticable,
It will be the proper sources of information of the proper sources of information of the property of ralizations effected, to send p-riodically a li-

the names of the persons naturalized or decla-ring their intention to become citizens, to the retary of the Interior, in whose department Secretary of the Interior, in whose department these names might be arranged and printed for general information. There is also reason to believe that foreigness frequently become cities of evading duties imposed by the laws of their native countries, to which, on becoming naturalized here, they at once repair, and though never returning to the United States they still claim the interposition of this government as cities a. Many-altercations and great prejudice have heretofore arisen out of this abuse. It have heretofore arisen out of this abo is therefore submitted to your serious consideration. It might be advisable to fix a limit be yond which no citizen of the United States re siding abroad may claim the interposition of his

The right of suffrage has often been assume and exercised by a leas, unrier preteores of naturalisation, which they have disavower when drafted into the military service. I submit the expediency of such an amendment of mit the expediency of such an amendment of the law as will make the fact of voting an es toppel against any plea of exemption from military service or other civil obligation on the

STAR AND CHRONICLE.

It is hereditary aristocracy of the empire to the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire does, proceed to be elliphene and liberal policy of the empire does, proceed to the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire does, proceed to the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire does, proceed to the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire does, proceed to the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire does, proceed to the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire does, proceed to the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire does, proceed the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire does, proceed the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire does, proceed the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the empire of the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the empire of the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the empire of the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the empire of the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the empire of the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the empire of the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the empire of the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the empire of the elliphene and liberal policy of the empire of the emp

increase of trade, which will ensue whenever peace is restored.

Our ministers abroad have been faithfully defending American rights. In protecting commercial interests, our consuls have necessarily had to encounter increased labors and responsibilities growing out of the war. These they have, for the most part, met and discharged with a all and efficiency. This acknowledgement justly includes those consuls who, residing in Morocco, Egypt, Turkey, Japan, China and other Oriental countries, are charged with complex functions and extraordinary powers.

Fourth, The operations under the "Act for Europlica and Calling Out the National Forces," detailed in the report of the Provost Marshal General.

Fifth, The operations of the Invalid Corps; and Sixth, The operations of the Invalid Corps; and

manning of the imparitality of their wijolitations where commanded the repret and confidence of martine powers.

The supplemental treaty between the United States and Gave Ritiation for the suppression of Petrany last, has been duly ratified and of Petrany last, has been duly ratified and control into execution. It is believed that an electrical control in the execution of the believed that an electrical control in the execution of the believed that an electrical control in the execution of the believed that an electrical control in the execution of the security of the case deration of the Santa, to convention for the adjustment of the security of the case deration of the Santa, to convention for the adjustment of the execution of the security of the case deration of the Santa, to convention for the adjustment of the execution of the security of

reading in the country which classes him as a beligerent, in whose gestion upon the ground that a country which classes him as a beligerent, in whose gestion upon the ground that a country which behalf the government of his country cannot ought to be reciprocated exempts our consuls in expect any privileges or immunities distinct all other countries from taxation, to the extent expect any privileges or immunities distinct from that character. I regret to say, how-ever, that such claims have been put forward, and is some instances in behalf of foreigners, pational trade and commerce. ought not to be exceptionally illiberal to inter-national trade and commerce.

The operations of the Treasury during the

The operations of the Treasury during the last year have been successfully conducted. The enactment by Congress of a National Bankering Law, has proved a valuable support of the public credit; and the general legislation in relation to loans has fully answered the expectations of its favorers. Some amendments may be required to perfect existing laws. But no change on their principles or general scope is believed to be needed.

Since these measures have been in operation.

change on their principles or general scope is believed to be needed.

Since these measures have been in operation, all demands on the Treasury, including the pay of the army and navy, have been promptly met and fully satisfied. No considerable body of troops, it is believed, were ever more amply wided and more liberally and punctually provided and more liberally and punctually paid, a undens incident to a great war ever were the "w borns. The receipts during the more cheering." who is a series of the receipts during the more cheering at a series of the receipts. There were derived from an and in the Treasury at its commencement, balance in the Treasury at its commencement, were \$901,125,674.86, a d the aggregate distributed the receipts, there were derived from customs of the receipts, there were derived from customs \$60.059.612.40; from internal revent. \$37. dice 640.787.95; from direct tax, \$1,485,103.61; from lands, \$167,617.17; from miscellaneous for the civil servic. \$23.255.922.08; for pensions and Indians, \$4,216.520.79, for interest on sublic debt, \$24.729.846.51; for the War Department, \$599.296.600.83; for the Navy Department, \$599.296.600.83; for the Navy Department, \$593.211,105.27; for payment of the service of the civil service, \$23.211,105.27; for payment of the service of the civil service, \$23.211,105.27; for payment of the service of the civil service, \$23.211,105.27; for payment of the service of the civil service, \$23.211,105.27; for payment of the service of the civil servic sames of the persons naturalized or decisions, to the their intention to become citizons, to the their intention to become citizons, to the large of the Intrior, in whose department panels and the intention of the second of th

into the war service.

Third, The exchange of prisoners, fully set forth in the letter of Gen. Hitchcock.

Fourth, The operations under the "Act for Eurolling and Calling Out the National Forces," detailed in the report of the Provost Marshal General.

The proper officers of the Treasury have in numbers the whole naval force of the coun The proper officers of the Treasury have received a representative from the United States of Columbia, and have accredited a minister to that Republic.

Incidents occurring in the progress of our civil war have forced upon my attention the uncertain state of international questions are touching the rights of foreigners in this country, and of United States are not touching the rights of foreigners in this country, and of United States are not touching the rights of foreigners in this country, and of United States are not touching the rights of foreigners in this country, and of United States are not touching the rights of foreigners in this country have been the performances of the heroic men demonstration. Stifsactory and important as the control of the marked our anxions and unpon the incomes of foreign consuls in this country. While such a demand my not, it is demonstrated in the success of international questions of public law, or perhaps of any existing treaty between the United States and a foreign country, the expensive form tax the incomes of such consuls as are not lated that in the event of civil war a foreigner consuls as are not lated that in the event of civil war a foreigner consuls as are not lated that in the event of civil war a foreigner consuls as are not lated that in the event of civil war a foreigner consuls as are not lated that in the event of civil war a foreigner consuls as are not lated that in the event of civil war a foreigner consuls as are not constant attention to their material well-ton the country of the Australian fails to over event which the success of the heroic men doministration. Stifsactory and important as ministration. Stifsactory and important of the Country at the commencement of the breatent and constant attention to their material well-ton the expense of civiling constitutions, being to the average of by the progress in the arts of civiling the construction to their material well-ton to the front the received and constant attention to their present attention to the

of fuel in the immediate vicinity of both, and all available and in close proximity to navigable waters. Without the advantage of public works, the resources of the nation have been developed and its power displayed in the construction of a navy of su h magnitude, which has, at the very period of its creation, rendered signal service to the Union.

The increase of the number of seamen in the public service, from 7,500 men in the spring of 1961, to about 34,000 at the present time, has been accomplished without special legislation, or extraordinary bounties to prombte that increase. It has been found, however, that the operation of the draft, with the high bounties paid for army recruits, is beginning to affect injuriously the naval service, and will, if not corrected, be likely to impair its efficiency by detaching seamen from their proper calling, and inducing them to enter the army. I therefore respectfully suggest that Congress might aid both the army and naval services by a definite provision on this subject, which would at the same time be equitable to the communities more provision on this subject, which would at the specially interested.

end to your consideration the sug-

This policy has received its most signal and beneficial illustration to the recent enactment granting homesteads to actual a titlers.

This policy has received 1's most signal and beneficial illustration in the received enectment granting homesteads to actual a-tilers.

Since the first day of January last, the before mentioned quantity of 1,455,514 acres of land have been taken up under its provisions. This fact, and the amount of sales, furnish gratifying evidence of locreasing settlement upon the public lands, notwithstanding the great struggle in which the energies of the nation have been engaged, and which has required so large a withdrawai of our citizens from their accuationed pursuits.

At home the same measures have been fully been fully and the namual elections following are highly encouraging to those whose official duty it is to bear the country through this great trial.—Thus we have the new reckoning. The crisis which threatened to divide the friends of the Union is past.

Looking, now, to the present and future, and with reference to a resumption of the mational authority within the States wherein that authority has been suspended, I have thought

been engaged, and wallings a withdrawal of our citizens from their accustometric provides.

I cordially concur in the recommendation of the Secretary of the Interior, suggesting a modification of the act in favor of those engaged in the military and naval cervice of the United states. I doubt not that Congress will cheer fully adopt such measures as will, without certainly changing the general features of the sentially changing the general features of the rystem, secure, to the greatest practical existent, it benefits to those who have left their bones in the defence of the country in this advance clais.

I invite your attention to the views of the Secretary as to the propriety of raising, by ap propriate legislation, a revenue from the minor of the United States.

It is also profered that if in any of the States named a state Government shall be, in the mode prescribed, set up, such Government the mode prescribed, set up, such Government aball.

outlying settlements and emigrants. Sound policy and our imperative duty to these wards of the G.vernment demand our anxious and

bed or patronized by the Government, in this District, to your generous and fortering care.

The attention of Congress during the last session was engaged to some extent with a proposition for enlarging the water communication between the Mississippi river and the Northeastern scaboard, which propositi n, however,

falled for the time.

Since then, upon a call of the greatest respectability, a convention has been held at Chicago upon the same subject, a summary of whose views is contained in a memorial addressed to the President and Congress, and which I was here the beauty of the contained in the contained in the president and congress, and which I was here the contained to the president and congress, and which I now have the honor to lay before you.
That this interest is one which, ere long, will
force its own way, I do not entertain a doubt.
While it is submitted entirely to your wisfom as to what can be done now, augmented nterest is given to this subject by the actual commencement of work upon the Pacific Bail-road, under auspices so favorable to rapid progress and completion. The enlarged naviga-tion becomes a palpable need to the great road. I transmit the Second Annual Esport of the

The preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, issued in September, was running its assigned period to the beginning of the new year. A mouth later the final Proclamation came, in cluding the annuancement that colored men of a suitable condition would be received into the war service. The policy of emancipation, and of employing black soldiers, gave to the future a new aspect, about which hope and fear and doubt contended in uncertain conflict.

According to our political system, as a matter of civil administration, the General Government had no lawful power to effect emancipation in any Stave, and for a long time it had been hoped that the rebellion could be suppressed without resorting to it as a military plan.

a suitable condition would be received into the war service. The policy of emucipation, and of employing black soldiers, gave to the future a new aspect, about which hope and fear and doubt contended in uncertain conflict.

According to our political system, as a matter of civil administration, the General Government had no lawful power to effect emancipation in any State, and for a long time it had been hoped that the rebellion could be suppressed without resorting to it as a military measure. It was, all the while, deemed possible that the necessity for it might come, and, that if it should, the crisis of the contest would then be presented.

that it it should, the crisis of the contest would then be presented.

It came, and, as was anticipated, was follow-ed by dark and doubtful days. Electon months having now passed, we are permitted to take another review. The rebel borders are pressed

the Interior, which is herewith laid before you, for useful and varied information in relation to the public lands, Indian affairs, patents, pensions, and other matters of public concern persect sions, and other matters of public concern persect lating to his department.

The quantity of i and disposed of during the country dominated by the complete opening of the solons, and other matters of public concern persect lating to his department.

The quantity of i and disposed of during the country dominated by the control parts, with no related to the present fiscal year, was 3.84 1.69 acres, of which 161,911 acres were also and first quarter of the present fiscal year, and the residue disposed of four hundred and fifty-six thousand five, hundred and fourteen six acres were taken up useder the Homestra I sw, and the residue disposed of under the laws grant to the public lands is largely on the increase.

It has long been a cherished opinion of some of our wivest statement that the people of the public lands is largely on the increase.

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It has long been a cherished opinion of some of our wivest statement that the people of the public lands is largely on the increase.

It has long been a cherished opinion of some of our wivest statement

much discussed in foreign countries, and, con-temporary with such discussion, the tone of public scatiment there is much improved.

At home the same measures have been fully

Looking, now, to the present and future, and with reference to a resumption of the national authority within the States wherein that authority has been suspended, I have thought fit to issue a Proclamation, a copy of which is herewith transmitted. On examination of this Proclamation it will appear, as is believed, that nothing is attempted beyond what is amply justified by the Constitution.

True the form of an oath is given but and the form of an oath is given but and the form of an oath is given but and the form of an oath is given but and the form of an oath is given but and the form of an oath is given but and the form of an oath is given but and the form of an oath is given but and the form of an oath is given but and the form of an oath is given but and the form of an oath is given but and the form of an oath is given but and the form of an oath is given but and the form of an oath is given but and the form of an oath is given but and the first and the form of an oath is given but and the first and the

crail lands of the United States.

The measures provided at your last session for the removal of certain Indian tribes have been negotiated, which will, in due time, be as been negotiated, which will, in due time, be as been negotiated, which will, in due time, be as been negotiated, which will, in due time, be as Senate.

They contain stipulations for extingulating the possessory rights of the Indians to large and valuable tracts of land. It is hoped that the effect of these treaties will result in the earlies stated, is explicit and full. But why tender the benefits of this provision only to a State Government set up in this particular way?

This section of the Constitution of the United States to guarantee to every State in the Union a republican form of government, and to protect the State in the cases stated, is explicit and full. But why tender the benefits of this provision only to a State Government set up in this particular way?

This section of the Constitution contemplates outlying settlements and emigrants. Sound

a case wherein the element within a Stare favorable to republican Government, in the Union, may be too feeble for an opposite and hostile element external to, or even within the

But if it be proper to require as a test of admission to the political body an oath of allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and to the Union under it, why also to the laws and proclamations in regard to slavery?

Those laws and proclamations were enacted and put forth for the purpose of aiding in the suppression of the rebellion. To give them their fullest effect there had to be a pledge for their fullest effect there had to be a piedge for their malutenance. In my judgment, they have aided, and will further aid, the cause for which they were intended. To now abandon them would be not only to relinquish a lever of power, but would also be a cruel and an astouching breach of faith.

I may add, at this point, that while I remain in my present position I shall not attempt to retract or modify the Emancipation Proclamation nor shall I return to slavers any present

tion, nor shall I return to slavery any person who is free by the terms of that Procismation,

cluded in the oath, and it is believed the Excutive may lawfully claim it in return for
pardon and restoration of forfeited rights,
which he has clear sonstitutional power to
withhold altogether or grant upon the terms
which he shall down wisest for the public
interest.

The persons excepted from the benefits of the
foregoing provisionass call who are or shall have
been, civil or diplomatic officers or agents of the

he oath is subject to the modifying and abro-ating power or legislation and supreme judicial

he proposition.

The suggestion in the Proclamation of the

By the Proclamations plants presented which may be accepted by them as a rallying point, and which they are assured in advance will not be rejected here. This may bring them to act sooner than they otherwise would.

The objections to a premature presentation of a plan by the National Executive, consist in the danger of committals on points which could be more safely left to further developments.

Care has been taken to so shape the document as to avoid embarrasaments from this source. Saying that, on certain terms, certain classes will be pardoned, with rights restored, it is not said that other classes or other terms will never be included.

Saying that reconstruction will be accepted

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construction.

Hence our chiefest care must still be directed to the army and navy, who have thus far borne their harder part so nobly and well.

And it may be esteemed fortunate that in giving the greatest efficiency to these indepensable arms, we do also honorably record to the gallant men, from commander to sentinel, who composed them, and to whom, more than to others, the world must stand induted for the home of freedom diseathrailed, regenerated, emisaged and perpetasted. eniarged and perp tasted. ABBAHAM LINCOLN

December 8th, 1863.

Proclamation of Amnesty.

The following proclamation is appended to o mossige : PROCLAMATION.

PROCLAMATION.

Whenes, in and by the Constitution of the United States, it is provided that the President "shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for off mess against the United States, except in cases of impeachment;" and Whenes, A retellion now exists whereby the loyal State governments of several States have for a long time been subverted, and many persons have committed and are now entity of

for a long time been subverted, and many per-sons have committed and are now guilty of treason against the United States; and Waeres, With reference to said rebeillou and treason, laws have been enacted by Congress, declaring furfeitures and confiscation of property and liberation of slaves, all upon terms and conditions therein stated, and also declaring that the President was thereby authorized at any time thereafter, by proclamation to exthat the President was thereby authorized at any time thereafter, by proclamation, to ex-tend to persons who may have participated in the existing retellion, in any State or part thereof, pardon and amnesty, with such excep-tions and at such times and on such conditions as be may deem expedient for the public wel-

Whereas, The Congressional declaration for limited and conditional pardon accords with well-established judicial exposition of the pardoning power; and
Witerous, With reference to said rebellion,

the President of the United States has issued several proclamations, with provisions in regard to the liberation of slaves; and

Whereas, It is now desired by some persons heretofore engaged in said rebellion to resume their all-giance to the United States, and to reinaugurate loyal State governments within and for their respective States; therefore, I, Abraham Lencoln, President of the United

States, do proclaim, declare, and make known to all persons who have, directly or by impli-cation, participated in the existing rebellion, except as hereinafter excepted, that a full par-don is hereby granted to them and each of them, with restoration of all rights of property, except as to slaves, and in property cases where rights of third parties shall have intervened, rights of third parties shall have intervened, and upon the condition that every succh person shall take and subscribe an oath, and thence-forward keep and maintain said oath inviolate; and which oath shall be registered for perma-nent preservation, and shall be of the tener and effect following, to wit:

"I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear, in resence of Almighty God, that I will hencepresence of Almighty God, that I will nearly forth faithfully support, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the union of the States thereunder; and that I will, in like manner, abide by and taithfully support all acts of Congress passed during the existing rebellion with reference to slaves, so long and who is free by the terms of that Preclamation, recelling with reserved to slaves, so long and or by any of the acts of Congress.

For these and other reasons it is thought best that support of these measures shall be in cluded in the oath, and it is believed the Executive may lawfully claim it in return for the President, made during the existing rebelium.

the oath is subject to the modifying and abrogating power or legislation and supreme judicial decision.

The proposed acquiescence of the National Executive it any reasonable temporary State strangement for the freed people, is made with the view of possibly modifying the confusion and destitution which must at best attend all cases by a total revolution of labor throughout the whole States.

It is hoped that the already deeply afflicted people in these States may be somewhat more cready to give up the cause of their affliction, if to this extent this vital matter be left to themselves, while no power of the National Executive to prevent an abuse is abridged by the proposition.

The suggestion in the Proclamation is \$1.

The Ladies of Milton will have clasping the photograph of three children