## The President's Message

## PROCLAMATION OF AMNESTY.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9, 1863. Fellow citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives :-- Another year of health, and of sufficiently abundant harvests, has passed. For these, and especially for the improved condition of our National affairs, our renewed and profound gratitude to God is due. We remain in peace and friendship with foreign powers.

The efforts of disloyal citizens of the United States, to involve us in foreign wars, to aid an inexcusable insurrection, have been unavailing. Her Britannie Majesty's Government, as was justly expect. sumed and exercised by aliens, under ed. have exercised their authority to prevent the departure of new hostile expeditions from British ports. The Emperor of France has, by a like proceeding, | cy of such an amendment of the law as promptly vindicated the neutrality which will make the fact of voting an estoppel he proclaimed at the beginning of the against any plea of exemption from milicontest.

Questions of great intricacy and importance have arisen out of the blockade, and other belligerent operations between the Government and several of the mari- brought into serious jeopardy- through time powers : but they have been discussed, and as far as was possible, ac- | aristocracy of the empire to the enlightcommodated 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 maritime powers.

United States and Great Britain for the he sustained in the destruction by fire, of suppression of the African Slave Trade, the Legation at Yeddo. made on the 17th day of February last, has been duly ratified and carried into excountien. It is believed that, so far as it is believed will result in effecting a American ports and American citizens continuous line of telegraph through that are concerned, that inhuman and odi- Empire from our Pacific coast. I recomous traffic has been brought to an end.

I shall submit, for the consideration of the Senate, a convention for the ad- the Atlantic Ocean, and also a telegraph justment of possession claims in Wash- | between the Capital and the National ington Territory, arising out of the treaty of the 15th of June, 1846, between the United States and Great Britain, and established with any reasonable outlay, which have been the source of some disquiet among the citizens of that now rapidly improving part of the country.

A novel and important question inyolving the extent of the maritime jurissurround the Island of Cuba, has been to refer it to the arbitrament of a friend- stored.

ly power. A convention for that purpose will be submitted to the Senate. I have thought it proper, subject to the approval of the Senate, to concur with arrangement for the liquidation of the Scheldt dues, upon the principles which

waters of Denmark. The long pending controversy between this Government and that of Chili, touching the seizure at Sitena, in Peru, by Chilian officers of a large amount in treasure belonging to citizens of the United States, has been brought to a close by the award of his Majesty, the King of the Belgians, to whose arbitration the The mineral resources of Colorado, Nequestion was referred by the parties .---The subject was thoroughly and patiently examined by that justly respected magistrate, and although the sum awarded to the claimants may not have been as

heretofore submitted, while it is confiquota of educated officers, for which legal large as they expected, there is no rea-I again submit to your consideration dently expected that at the close of the on to distrust the wisdom of his Majes has been made at the naval he expediency of establishing a system tv's decision. That decision was promptly year both disburgements and debt will for the encouragement of immigration .school, the vacancies caused by the nehe found pretty considerably less than glect or omission to make nominations bility, a convention has been called at Chicomplied with by Chili when intelligence Although this source of national wealth has been anticipated. from the States in insurrection, have been in regard to it reached that country. and strength is again flowing with great-The report of the Secretary of War is filled by the Sceretary of the Navy .--The joint commission, under the act of er freedom than for several years before a document of great interest. It consists The school is now more full and complete the last session, for carrying into effect the insurrection occurred, there is still a than at any former period, and in every respect aptitled to the favorable considthe convention with Peru on the subject great deficiency of laborers in every field First, The military operations of the of claims, has been organized at Lima, of industry, especially in agriculture and year detailed in the report of the General eration of Congress. and is engaged in the business entrusted in our mines, as well of iron and coal as in-Chief. precious metals. While the demand for to it. During the past fiscal year the finan-Second, The organization of colored Difficulties concerning the inter-oceanic abor is thus increased here, tons of thouscial condition of the Post Office Departpersons in the war service. transit through Nicarauga, are in course ands of persons destitute of remunerative ment has been one of increasing prosperity, Third, The exchange of prisoners, fulof amicable adjustment. occupation, are thronging our foreign and I am gratified in being able to state v set forth in the letter of Gen. Hitch-In conformity with the principles set consulates and offering to emigrate to the that the actual postal revenue has nearly forth in my last annual message, I have | United States, if essential but very cheap equaled the entire expeditures, the latter Fourth. The operations under the received a representative from the United amounting to \$11,314,000,84, and the assistance can be afforded them. It is Act for Eurolling and Calling Out the States of Columbia, and have accredited former to \$11,163,789,59, leaving a deeasy to see that under the sharp discin-National Forces," detailed in the report a minister to that Republic. line of civil war, the nation is beginning ficiency of but \$150,417.25. of the Provost Marshal General. In 1860, the year immediately preced-Incidents occurring in the progress of a new life. This noble effort demands the Fifth, The organization of the Invalid ing the rebellion, the deficiency amount-ed to \$5,656, 705 49, the postal receipts our civil war have forced upon my at- aid and ought to-receive the attention Corps; and tention the uncertain state of internationand support of the government. Sixth, The operations of the several al questions touching the rights of for-Injuries unforseen by the government of that year being \$2 645,722 19, less departments of the Quartermaster Genthan those of 1863. eigners in this country, and of United and unintended, may in some cases have eral, Commissary General, Paymaster been inflicted on the subjects or citizens States citizens abroad, in regard to some The decrease in 1860 in the actual a General. Chief of Engineers, Chief of governments. These rights are at least of foreign countries, both at sea and von mount of transportation has been only a-Irdnance, and Surgeon General. It has partially defined by treaties In no inland, by persons in the service of the bout 25 per cent., but the annual expenappeared impossible to make a valuable stance, however, is it expressly stipula. United States. As this Government exditure on account of the same has been summary of this report, except such as ted that in the event of civil war a forpects redress from other powers when reduced 35 per cent. It is manifest, cold and menacing, the kindest words comwould be too extended in this place, eigner residing in this country within the similar injuries are inflicted by persons therefore that the Post Office Departand hence I content myself by asking lines of the insurgents is to be exempted in their service upon citizens of the United ment may become self sustaining in a few your careful attention to the report itself from the rule which classes him as a bellig. States, we must be prepared to do justice years, even with the restoration of the The duties devolving on the naval erent, in whose behalf the government of to foreigners. If the existing judicial shole service. branch of the service during the year, his country cannot expectany privileges or tribunals are inadequate to this purpose, The international conference of Postal immunities distinct from that character. and throughout the whole of this unhan a special court may be authorized with Delegates from the principal countries of py contest, have been discharged with power to hear and decide such claims of I regret to say, however, that such claims Europe and America, which was called fidelity and eminent success. The have been put forward, and in some inthe character referred to as have arisen at the suggestion of the Postmaster Genextensive blockade has been constantly under treaties and the public law. Constances in behalf of foreigners who have eral, met at Paris on the 11th of May increasing in efficiency as the navy has ventions for adjusting the claims by joint lived in the United States the greater last, and concluded its deliberations on expanded. Yet on so long a line, it has part of their lives. There is reason to commissions, have been proposed to some the 8th of June. The principles estabbeen so far impossible to entirely suppress believe that many persons born in for- government, but no definite answer to lished by the conference as best adapted illigit trade. From returns received at the proposition has yet been received from eign countries, who have declared their to facilitate postal intercourso between the Nacy Department, it appears that intention to become citizens, or who have | any. nations, and as the basis of future postal more than 1,000 vessels have been capbeen fully naturalized, have evaded the In the course of the session I shall promilitary duty required of them by deny- bibly have occasion to request you to proconventious, inaugurate a general system tured since the blockade was instituted of uniform international charges at reing the fact, and thereby throwing upon | vid indemnification to elaimants where and that the value of prizes already sent duced rates of postage, and cannot fail to for adjudication amounts to over \$13,000the government the burden of proof. decrees of restitution have been rendered produce beneficial results. 000. It has been found difficult, or imprachand damages awarded by Admiralty I refer you to the report of the Secre-The naval force of the United States, ricable, to obtain this proof from the and in other cases where this Governtary of the Interior, which is horewith consists, at this time, of 588 vessels, want of guides to the proper sources of ment may be acknowledged to be liable laid before you, for useful and varied incompleted and in the course of comple information. These might be supplied in principle, and where the amount of formation in relation to the public lands. tion, and of these 75 are iron clad or arby requiring clerks of courts where de- that liability has been ascertained by an Indian affairs, patents, pensions, and othmored steamers. The events of the war er matters of public concern pretaining to clarations of intention may be made, or informal arbitration. gives an increased interest and importnaturalizations effected to send periodi-The proper officers of the Treasury his department. ance to the navy which will probably excally a list of the names of the persons have deemed themselves required by the tend beyond the war itself. The quantity of land disposed of during naturalized or declaring their intention law of the United States upon the sub-The armored vessels in our Navy, comthe last and first quarter of the present to become citizens, to the Secretary of the ject to demand a tax upon the incomes fiscal year was 3,841,549 acres, of which pleted and in service, or which are un-Interoir, in whose department these names of foreign consuls in this cuontry. While der contract and approaching completion, 161,911 acres were sold for cash. One might be arranged and printed for gener- such a demand may not, in strictness, be are believed to exceed in number those milliou four hundred and fifty-six thousal information. There is also reason to in derogation of public law, or perhaps of any other power. But while these and five hundred and fourteen acres to believe that foreigners frequently be- of any existing treaty between the United may be relied upon for harbor defence come citizens of the United States for States and a foreign country, the expe- and coast service, others of greater were taken up under the Homestead law, and the residue disposed of under the the sole purpose of evading duties im diency of so far modifying the act as to strength and capacity will be necessary laws granting lands for military bounties. posed by the laws of their native coun exempt from tax the incomes of such for railroad and other purposes. It also for cruising purposes and to maintain tries, to which on becoming naturalized consuls as are not citizens of the United appears that the sale of the public lands our rightful position on the ocean. them. here, they at once repair, and though nev- States, derived from the emoluments of The change that has taken place in largely on the increase. er returning to the United States, they their office, or from property not situated It has long been a cherished opinion of naval vessels and naval warfare since the still claim the interposition of this gov- in the United States, is submitted to your introduction of steam as a motive power some of our wisest statesmen that the peocomment as citizens, Many altercations serious consideration. I make this sugfor ships of war, demands either a corple of the United States had a higher and great prejudice have heretofore gestion upon the ground that a comity and more enduring interest in the carly Of those States not included in the emanciresponding change in some of our existarisen out of this abuse It is therefore which ought to be reciprocated ex-ing Navy Yards, or the establishment of submitted to your serious consideration. | empts our consuls in all other countries new ones for the construction and neges-It might be advisable to fix a limit be- from taxation, to the extent thus indicatdirect revenue to be derived from the sale sary repair of modern naval vess-ls. No yond which no citizen of the United ed. The United States, I think, ought inconsiderable embarra-sment, delay and of them. This opinion has had a con. States residing abroad may claim the in- not to be exceptionally illiberal to interpublic injury have been experienced from trolling influence in shaping legislation terposition of his government: 'The right of suffrage has often been as-'The operations of the Treasury during ments. want of such governmental establish- | upon the subject of our National domain. I may cite as evidence of this the lib-



VOL. 63.

## CARLISLE, PA., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1863.

A. K. RHEEM, Editor & Proprietor.

pretences of naturalization, which they have disavowed when drafted into the military service. I submit the expedienbe required to perfect existing laws .--tary service or other civil obligation on the ground of alienage.

But no change on their principles or gen-In common with other Western Poweral scope is believed to be needed. ers, our relations with Japan have been Since these measures have been in including the pay of the army and navy, the perverse opposition of the hereditary have been promptly met and fully satisfied. No considerable body of troops, it ened and liberal policy of the Tycoon, is believed, were ever more amply prodesigned to bring the country into the so-

cicty of nations. It is hoped, although not with entire confidence, that these difficulties may be peacefully overcome. I ask your attention to the claim of the great war ever more cheerfully borne .----The supplemental treaty between the minister residing there for the damages sources, including loans and the balance in the Treasury at its commencement,

were \$901,125,674,86, and the aggregate Satisfactory arrangements have been made with the Emperor of Russia, which a balance on the 1st of July, 1863 of \$5, 329,014,21. Of the receipts, there were derived from customs \$69,059-642,40; from internal revenue, \$37,694. mend to your favorable consideration the 87,95; from direct tax, \$1,485,103,61 subject of an international telegraph across

from lands, \$167,617,17; from miscellineous sources, \$3,047,615,35 ; and from [ loans, \$776,782.861.57, making the agforts along the Atlantic seaboard and Gulf of Mexico. Such communications, pursements there were : For the civil service, \$23,253,922,08; for pensions and would be an economical as well as effec-Indians, \$4,216,520,79, for interest on tive aid in the diplomatic, military and public debt, \$24,729,846,51; for the War Department, \$599,298,600.83; for the

The consular system of the United Navy Department, \$53,211,105,27; for States, under the enactment of the last payment of funded and temporary debt, diction of Spain on the waters which | Congress, begins to be self-sustaining, and \$191,086,635,07, making the aggregate there is reason to hope that it may be-\$895,796,630,65, and leaving the bal debated without reaching an agreement, come entirely so with an increase of trade. ance of \$5,329,044;21 ... But the payand it is proposed in an amicable spirit which will ensue whenever petce is rement of funded and temporary debt having been made from moneys borrowed.

naval service.

Our ministers abroad have been faithfully defending American rights. In protecting commercial interests, our coneys borrowed to make them as merely suls have necessarily had to encounter innominal receipts. Their amount, \$181,the interested commercial powers in an creased labors and responsibilities growing 086,635,07, should therefore be deductout of the war. These they have, for the most part, met and discharged with | ed both from the receipts and disbursehave been heretofore adopted in regard zeal and efficiency. This acknowledg-to the imposts upon navigation in the ment justly includes those consuls who rements. This being done, there remains as actual receipts, \$720,039,093,79, and the actual disbursements, \$714,709,995,siding in Morocco, Egypt, Turkey, Japan, China and other Oriental countries, are 58, leaving the balance as already stated.

charged with complex functions and extraordinary powers. The condition of the several organized

receipts and disbursements for the remaining three quarters of the current fis-Territories is generally satisfactory, although Indian disturbances in New Mexico have not been entirely suppressed .----Treasury, to which I invite your attenvada, Idahoe, New Mexico and Arizona It is sufficient to say here that it is not are poving far richer than has been herebelieved that actual results will exhibit a tofore understood. I lay before you a state of the finances less favorable to the communication on this subject from the country than the estimates of that officer | Governor of New Mexico.

the last year have been successfully conducted. The enactment by Congress of furnished, at some suitable place upon a National Banking Law, has proved a the Atlantic seaboard, has, on repeated valuable support of the public credit; occasions, been brought to the attention | order to their being reolaimed and renderand the general legislation in relation to of Congress by the Navy Department, and is again presented in the report of the way companies of alternate sections of loans has fully answered the expectations of its favorers. Some amendments may

and also to that of establishing a yard our distant possessions. and depot for naval purposes, upon one operation, all demands on the Treasury, of the western rivers.

interior waters, and under many disadvantages, within little more than two years, exceeding in numbers the whole naval vided and more liberally and punctually force of the country at the commencepaid, and it may be added, that by no ment of the present administration -people were the bordens incident to a Satisfactary and important as have been evidence of increasing settlement upon the the performances of the heroic men of the public lands. Notwithstanding the great The receipts during the year from all navy at this interesting period, they are searcely more wonderful than the success of our mechanics and artizans in the production of war vessels, which has created | cur in the recommendation of the Secretary disbursements, \$\$95,796,630,65, leaving a new form of nival power. Our country of the Interior, suggesting a modification of has advantages superior to any other na- the act in favor of those engaged in the miltion in our resources of iron and timber,, itary and naval service of the Unit d States, with inexhaustible quantities 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 bave been developed and its power disgregate \$501,125,674,86. Of the dis- played in the construction of a navy of such magnitude, which has, at the very period of its ereation, 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 1861, to about 34,000 at the present time, has been accomplished without special legislation, or extraordi-ration of the draft; with the high bounties paid for army recruits, is beginduring the year, must be regarded as ning to affect injuriously the navy service, merely nominal payments, and the mon- and will, if not corrected, be likely to impair its efficiency by detaching scamen from their proper calling, and inducing them to enter the army. I therefore respeatfully suggest that Congress might id 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 especially interest-The actual receipts and disbursements. ed.

for the first quarter, and the estimated I commend to your consideration the suggestion of the Secretary of the Navy in regard to the policy of fostering and cal year, 1864, will be shown in detail training seamen, and also the education by the report of the Secretary of the of officers and engineers for the naval service. The Naval Academy is rendering signal service in preparing midship-

men for the highly responsible duties which, in after life, they will be required to perform. In order that the country should not be deprived of the proper

The necessity of such a Navy Yard, so | eral measures adopted in reference to | are now in the United States military ser actual settlers; the grant to the States of vice-about one-half of which number acthe overflowed lands within their limits in tually bear arms in the ranks-thus giving the double advantage of taking so much labor from the insurgent onuse and supplying the places which otherwise must be filled Sooretary, which accompanies this com- land upon the contemplated lines of their it is difficult to say that they are not as good munication. I think it my duty to in- roads, which, when completed, will so soldiers as any. No service insurrection or vite your special attention to this subject, largely multiply the facilities for reaching tendency to violence or cruelty has marked the measures of emancipation and arming

the blacks. These measures have been much This policy has received its most signal and beneficent illustration in the recent endiscussed in foreign countries, and cotemporary with such discussion the tone of pub A naval force has been created on those actment granting homesteads to actual set lic sentiment there is much improved. At tlers. Since the first day of January last, home the same measures have been fully the before mentioned quantity of one million discussed, supported, criticised and denounc-ed, and the annual elections following are four hundred and fifty six thousand five hundred and fourteen acres of land has been highly encooraging to those whose official taken up under its provisions. This fact, duty it is to bear the country through this and the amount of sales, furnish gratifying great trial. Thus we have the new reckoning. The crisis which threatened to divide the friends struggle in which the energies of the nation of the Union is past. have been engaged, and which has required Looking now to the present and future. so large a withdrawal of our citizeus from and with reference to a resumption of the national authority within the States wherein their accustomed pursuits, I cordially conthat 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 apdoubt not that Congress will cheerfully pear, as is believed, that nothing is attempted adopt such measures as will, without essenheyond what is justified by the Constitution. tially changing the general features of the True, the form of an oath is given, but no man is coerced to take it. A man is only system, secure to the greatest practicable extent its benefit to those who have left

promised a pardon in case he voluntarily takes the oath. The Constitution authorizes thoir homes in the defence of their country in this arduous prisis. the Executive to grant or withhold the par-I invite your attention to the views of the don at his own absolute discretion, and this Secretary as to the propriety of raising, by includes the power to grant on such terms appropriate legislation, a revenue from the as is fully established by judicial and other mineral lands of the United States. The muasures provided at your last session for authorities. It is also proffered that if " in any of the States named, a State Governthe removal of certain Indian tribes have ment shall be in the mode prescribed set up, been carried into effect. Sundry treaties have been negotiated, which will in due such government shall be recognized and guarantied by the United States, and that time be submitted for the constitutional acunder it the State shall, on the constitutional tion of the Senate. They contain stipula-tions for extinguishing the possessory rights conditions, he protected against invasion and lomestic violence.' of the Indians to large and valuable tracts The constitutional obligation of the U. of hand. It is hoped that the effects of these treaties will result in the establishment of States to guarantee to every State in the permanent friendly relations with such of Union a republican form of government, and to protect the State in the cases stated, these tribes as have been brought into freis explicit and full. But why tender the quent and bloody collisions with our out-ly benefits of this provision only to a State ing settlements and emigrants. Sound pol-Government set up in this particular way? cy and our imperative duty to these wards This section of the Constitution contomplates of the Government, demand our anxious and a case wherein the element within a State constant attention to their material well-befavorable to a republican form of governing, to their progress in the arts of civilizament in the Union may be too feeble for an tion, and above all to that moral training opposite and hostile element, external to which, under the blessing of Divine Proviand even within the State; and such are precisely the cases with which we are now dence, will confer upon them the elevated

and sanctifying influence, the hopes and consolations, of the Christian faith. tect a revived State government, constructed I suggested, in my last annual message, the propriety of remodelling our Indian sysem. Subsequent events have satisfied me of its necessity. The details set forth in the report of the Secretary will evince the urgent need for immediate legislative action. I commend the benevolence of the insti build only from the sound; and that test is a sufficiently liberal one which accepts as tutions established or patronized by the Govsound whoever will make a sworn recantation ernmont in this District to your generous and fostering care.

of his former unsoundness. The attention of Congress during the last But if it be proper to require as a test of admission to the political body an oath of session was engaged, to some extent, with allegiance to the Constitution of the United approposition for enlarging the water com-States, and to the Union under it, why not munications between the Mississippi river also to the laws and proclamations in regard and the northeastern seaboard, which proposition, however, fa led for the time, Since to slavery? Those laws and proclamations were enacted and put forth for the purpose then, upon a call of the greatest respecta of aiding in the suppression of the rebellion. To give them their fullest effect, there had cago upon the same subject, a summary of to be a pledge for their maintenance. In whose views is contained in a memorial admy judgment they have aide l, and will furdressed to the President and Congress, and which I now have the honor to lay before histed. ther aid, the cause for which they were enyou. That this interest is one which, ere To give up this principle would be not long, will force its own way, I do not entertain a doubt, while it is submitted entirely only to relinquish a lever of power, but would also be a cruel and astounding breach of to your wisdom as to what can be done now. Augmented interest is given to this subject | faith. I may add, at this point, that while I remain in my present position, I shall not by the actual commencement of work upon the Pacific Railroad. Under auspices so attempt to retreat, or modify the emancipaavorable to its rapid progress and completion proclamation. Nor shall I return to ion, the enlarged navigation becomes a slavery any person who is free by the terms alpable need to the great road. of the proclamation or by any act of Con-

my general views and feelings remain unchanged, and I trust that Congress will omit no fair opportunity of aiding these important steps to the great consummation. In the midst of other cares, however important, we must not lose sight of the fact that the war power is still our main reliance; to that power alone can we look yet for a time to give confidence to the people in the contested regions that the insurgent power will not again overrun them. Until that confidence shall be established, little can be done any where for what is called reconstruction ;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, n giving the greatest efficiency to those in ispensable arms, we do also honorably re cognize the gallant men, from commander to sentinel, who compose them, and to whom, more than to others, the world must stand indebted for the home of freedom disenthralled, regenerated, enlarged, and perpetuated, ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

DECEMBER 8, 1863.

NO. 50.

The following Proclamation is appended the Message:

## PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, In and by the Constitution of he United States, it is provided that the President shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offences against the United States, except in cases of impeachment; and whereas, a rebellion now exists whereby the loval State Governments of several States have, for a long time, been subverted, and many persons have committed and are now guilty of treason against the United States; and whereas, with reference to said rebellion and treason, laws have been enacted by Congress declaring forfeiture 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 extend to persons who may have participated in the existing rebellion in

any State or part thereof pardon and amnesty, with such exceptions, and at such times and on such conditions as he may deem expedient for the public welfare; and Whereas, The Congressional declaration for limited and conditional pardon accords with well established judicial exposition of the pardoning power ; and Whereas, With reference to said rebel-

lion, the President of the United States has issued several proclamations with provisions in regard to the Aberation of slaves; and Whereas. It is now desired by some persons, heretofore engaged in said rebellion, to resume their allegionce to the U. States. and to re-inaugurate loyal State Governments within and for their respective States. Therefore, I. Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do proclaim, declare, and make known to all persons who have directly, or by implication, participated in the existing rebellion, except as hereinafter excepted, that a fidl pardon is hereby grant-ed to them, and each of them, with the restoration of all rights of property except as to slaves, and in property cases when the rights of third parties shall have intervened and upon the condition that every such person shall take and subscribe an oath, and thenceforward keep and maintain said oath inviolate; and which oath shall be registered for permanent preservation, and shall be of the tenor and effect following, to wit :

"I do solemnly swear, in the presence of Almighty God, that I will henceforth faithdealing. An atten pt to guarantee and profully support, protect, and defend the Cou-stitution of the United States and the Union in whole or in preponderating part from the very element against whose hostility and of the States thereunder; and that I will, in like manner, abide by and faithfully support surd. There must be a test by which to all acts of Congress passed during the exseparate the opposing elements, so as to isting rebellion with reference to slaves, so long and so far as not repealed, modified, or held void by Congress, or by decision of the Supreme Court ; and that I will, in like man-

ner, abide by and furthfully support all proc-lamations of the President made during the existing rebellion, having reference to slaves, so long and so far as not modified or declared void by the decision of the Supreme so help me God. The persons excepted from the benefits of the foregoing provisions are all who are, or shall hav been, civil or diplomatic officers or agents of the so-called Confederate Goy. ernment ; all who have left judicial stations under the United States to aid the rebellion; all who are or shall have been military or naval officers of said Confederate Government above the rank of colonel in the army, or of lieutenant in the navy; all who left seats in the United States Corgress to aid the rebel-ion ; all who resigned their commissions in the army or navy of the United-States, and afterwards aided the rebellion ; and all who have engaged in any way in treating colored persons or white persons, in charge of such, otherwise than lawfully as prisoners of war, and which persons may be und in the United States service as sol liers, seamen, or in any other capacity. And l do further proclaim, declare, and make known, that whenever in any of the States of Arlansas, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessoe, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, S. Carolina and North Carolina, a number of persons, not less than one-tenth in number of the vote cast in such State, at the Presidential election of the year of our Lord 1860 each having taken the oath aforesaid, and not having since violated it, and being a qualified vot r by the election law of the State, existing immediately before the socalled act of secession, and excluding all others, shall establish a State Government which shall be republican, and in no wise contravening said oath, such shall be recogmzed as the true Government of the State and the State shall receive thereunder the benefits of the constitutional provision which declares that the United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a repub-

TERMS: .-. \$1,50 in Advance, or \$2 within the year.

I submit the second annual report of the gress. commissioner of the Department of Agri-

culture, asking your attention to the developments of that vital interest of the nation. When Co" gress assembled a year ago, the war had already lasted nearly twenty wonths, and there bad been many conflicts on both rebellion had been pressed back into reduced limits, yet the tone of public feeling and public interest. opinion, at home and abroad, was not satisfactory. With other signs, the popular elections, then just passed, indicated uncasiness among ourselves: while amid much that was ing from Europe were uttered in accents of

hopeless cause. Our commerce was suffering greatly by a few armed vessels, built the same quarter as would sweep our t. ade

from the sea, and raise our blockade. We had failed to elicit from European Governments anything hopeful upon this subject. The preliminary emancipation proclama tion, which was issued in September, was running its assigned period to the beginning of the new year. A month later the final proclamation came, including the announcement that colored men of suitable condition

would be received into the war service. The policy of emancipation, and of em-ploying 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 have been suppressed without resorting to it as a military measure. It was all the while decined possible that the necessity for it might come, and that if it should, the

crisis of the contest would then be presented. It came, and, as was portended, it was fol owed by dark and doubtful days. Eleven months having pass d, we are now

permitted to take another review.

The rebel borders are pressed still further back, and by the complete opening of the Mississippi river, the country dominated by the rebellion is divided into distant parts, with no practical communication between Tennessee and Arkansas have been substantially cleared of insurgent co. trol and influence, and the citizens of each, owners of slaves and advocates of slavery at the beginning of the rebellion, now declare openly for emancipation in their respective States. tolerate any restraint upon the extension of slavery into the Territories-only dispute cipation, in several of the States not includ-now as to the best mode of removing it with- ed in the emancipation proclamation, are

in their own limits.

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For these and other reasons, it is thought best that the support of these measures shall be included in the onth, and it is believed the Executive may lawfully claim it in re-

violence it is to be protected, is simply ab-

turn for pardon and restoration of forfeited rights which he has a clear constitutional land and sea, with rarying results. The power to withhold altogether, or grant upon the terms which he shall deem wisest for the It should be observed, also, that this part

of the oath is subject to the modifying and abrogating power of legislative and supreme judicial decision. The proposed acquie cence of the Nation

al Executivo in any reasonable temporary pity, that we were too blind to surrender a State arrangement for the freed people, is made with the view of possibly modifying the confusion and destitution which must, upon and furnished from foreign shores, and we were threatened with such additions from tion of labor throughout whole States. It is hoped that the already deeply afflicted people in those States may be somewhat more rea-dy 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, as to maintaining the political framework of the States on what was called reconstruction, is made in the hope that it may do good, without the danger of harm. It will save labor and avoid great confusion. But why any proclamation now upon the subject? This

be taken too soon. In some States the elements of resumption seem ready for action, but remain inactive, apparently, for want of a rallying point-a plan of action. Why shall A adopt the plan of B rather than B that of A? and if A and B should agree, how can they know but that the General Government will reject their plan ? By the proclamation, a plan is 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 objection to a premature presentation

of a plan by the National Executive consists in the danger of committals on points which could be more surely left to further developments. Care has been taken to so shape the document as to avoid embarrass ment from this source. In saying that on certain terms certain classes will be pardoned, with their rights restored, it is not said that other classes on other terms will never be included. In saying that a reconstruction will be accepted if presented in a spe-

cified way, it is not said that it will never be accepted in any other way. The movements, by State action, for eman

matters of profound gratulation ; and while Of those who were slaves at the beginning I do not repeat in detail what I have here. of the rebellion, full one hundred thousand | tofore so earnestly urged upon this subject,

lican form of government, and shall protect each of them against invasion, and on application of the Legislature, or the Execuive when the Legislature cannot be convened, against domestic violence.

And I do further proclaim, declare, and make known; that any provision which may be adopted by such State Government, in relation to the freed per ple of such State, which shall recognize a: d declare their permanent freedom, provide for their educaquestion is beset by the conflicting views tion, and which may yet be consistent, as a that the step might be delayed too long or temporary arrangement, with their present condition, aslaboring landless, and homeless class, will not be objected to by the

National Executive. And it is suggested as not improper that, in constructing a loyal State Government in any State, the name of the State, the boun-dary, the subdivisions, the Constitution, and the general code of laws as before the rebellion be maintained, subject only to the modi-fications made necessary by the conditions hereinbefore stated, and such others, if any, not contravening the said conditions, and which may be deemed expedient by those

framing the new State Government. To avoid misunderstanding, it may be proper to say that this proclamation, so far as it relates to State Governments, has no reference to the States wherein loyal State Governments have all the while been main taiued

And to the same reason it may be proper to further say that, whether members of of Congress from any State shall be admitted to their seats constitutionally rests exclusively with the respective Houses, and not to any extent with the Executive. And stillfurther, that this proclamation is intended o present to the people of the States where the national authority has been suspend. ed. and the loyal State Governments have been subverted, a mode by which the na-

CONCLUSION ON SECOND PACE.