

states, among other matters, "I cannot join in the call for a convention in Philadelphia."

The following is Speed's letter of resignation from the Cabinet:—

Attorney General's Office,
Washington, D. C., July 16, 1866.
To the President:

Sir:—I hereby resign to you the office of Attorney General of the United States. Be good enough, Sir, to accept my thanks for the kindness, consideration and confidence you have ever shown to me.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully,

JAMES SPEED.

Chicago, 18.

Secretary Seward, in his letter to Senator Doolittle, is in favor of the Philadelphia convention.

New York, 19.

Late advices from Mexico state that the Liberals have occupied Huadimingo. Oltan had been abandoned by the Liberals. Martinez attacked Urez in Sonora, on the 13th of May, but was repulsed. Morales was at the North American line, receiving arms and powder. It is stated that Coronna had received six pieces of cannon at Altala from San Francisco. A French gunboat had arrived at Tampico, to aid the naval forces there. Letters from Monterey describe affairs in that section as very gloomy. The frontier is full of Liberals. Tuscol was again invaded by the Liberals under Regules.

In the Senate, Johnson called up the bill for the relief of the sufferers by the late fire at Portland, and offered a substitute for the original bill, directing the President of the United States to tender to the Governor of Maine \$50,000, in the name of the government of the United States, for the relief of the sufferers by fire, to be used in such manner as he may deem advisable, and the substitute passed, 22 yeas against 18 nays.

Washington, 16.

The following is the President's veto of the Freedmen's Bureau bill:—
To the House of Representatives:—

A careful examination of the bill passed by the two Houses of Congress, entitled an act to continue in force and to amend an act to establish a Bureau for the relief of freedmen and refugees, and for other purposes, has convinced me that the legislation which it proposed would not be consistent with the welfare of the country, and that it falls clearly within reasons assigned in my message of the 19th of February last, returning, without my signature, a similar measure which originated in the Senate.

It is not my purpose to repeat the objections which I urged. They are all yet fresh in your recollection, and can be readily examined as a part of the records of one branch of the national legislature. Adhering to the principles set forth in that message, I now reaffirm them and the policy therein indicated. The ground upon which this kind of legislation can be justified is that of the war making power; the act, of which this bill is intended as a majority, was passed during the existence of war. By its own provisions it is to terminate, which is one year from the cessation of hostilities and the declaration of peace, it is, therefore, yet in existence, and it is likely it will continue in force as long as the freedmen may require the benefits of its provisions. It will certainly remain in operation as law until some months subsequent to the meeting of the next session of Congress when, if experience shall make evident the necessity of additional legislation, the two Houses will have ample time to mature and pass requisite measures.

In the meantime the questions arises, why should this war measure be continued beyond the period designated in the original act? and why, in time of peace, should military tribunals be created, to continue until each State shall be fully restored in its constant relations to the government, and shall be duly represented in the Congress of the United States? It was manifest, with respect to the act approved March 3, 1863, that providence and wisdom alike required that jurisdiction over all cases concerning the free enjoyment of the immunities and rights of citizenship, as well as the protection of person and property, should be conferred upon some tribunal in every State or district. When the ordinary course of judicial proceedings is no longer interrupted, the courts, both state and federal, are in full, complete and successful operation, and through them every person, regardless of race and color, is entitled to and can be heard. The protection granted to white citizens is already conferred by law upon the freedmen. Strong and stringent guards, by way of penalties and punishments, are thrown around his person and property, and it is believed that ample protection will be afforded him by the due process of law, without resort to the expedient of a military tribunal.

Now that war has been brought to a close, and the necessity no longer existing for such tribunals, which had their origin in the war, grave objections to their maintenance must present themselves to the minds of all dispassionate persons. Independently of the danger to representative Republics of conferring upon the military, in time of peace, the extraordinary powers so carefully guarded against by the patriots and statesmen of the earlier days of the Republic, so frequently the ruin of governments founded upon the same free principles, and subversive of the rights and liberty of the citizen, the question of practical economy commends itself to the consideration of the law making power. With an immense debt already burdening the income of the industrial and laboring classes, a due regard for their interests, so inseparably connected with the welfare of the country, should prompt us to rigid economy and retrenchment, and influence us to abstain from all legislation that would unnecessarily increase the public indebtedness.

Tested by this rule of sound political wisdom, I can see no reason for the establishment of the military jurisdiction conferred upon the officials of the Bureau by the 4th section of the bill. By the laws of the United States and the different states competent courts, federal or state, have been established and are now in full practical operation. By means of these civil tribunals ample redress is afforded for all private wrongs, whether to person or property of the citizens,

without denial or unnecessary delay; they are open to all, without regard to color or race. I feel well assured that it will be better to trust the rights, privileges and immunities of citizens to the tribunals that are established and presided over by competent and impartial judges, bound by fixed rules of law and evidence, and where the right of trial by jury is guaranteed and secured, than to the caprice or judgment of an officer of the Bureau who, it is possible, may be entirely ignorant of the principles that underlie the just administration of law.

There is danger too that conflict of jurisdiction will frequently arise between the civil courts and these military tribunals, each having concurrent jurisdiction over the person and cause of action. The one jurisdiction administered and controlled by civil law, the other by military law, how is the conflict to be settled, and who is to determine between the two tribunals when it arises? In my opinion it is wise to guard against such conflicts, by leaving to the courts jurisdiction of all civil rights and the redress of all violations.

The fact cannot be denied that since the cessation of hostilities many acts of violence, such perhaps as had never been witnessed in their previous history, have occurred in the States involved in the late rebellion. I believe, however, that public sentiment will sustain me in asserting that such deeds of wrong are not confined to any particular State or section, but are manifested over the entire country, demonstrating that the cause that produced them does not depend upon any particular locality, but is the result of the agitation and derangement incident to a long and bloody war.

I may urge upon your consideration the additional reason that the recent developments, in regard to the practical operations of the Bureau in many of the states, show that in many cases it is used by its agents as a means of promoting their individual advantage, and that freedmen are employed for the advancement of the personal ends of the officers, instead of their own improvement.

By the provisions of the act full protection is offered, through the District Courts of the United States, to all persons injured, and whose privileges, as thus declared, are in any way impaired, and very heavy penalties denounced against the person who willfully violates the law. I need not state that the law did not receive my approval, yet its remedies are far more preferable than those proposed in the present bill, the one being civil and the other military.

By the 6th section of the bill herewith returned, certain proceedings, by which the lands in the parishes of St. Helena and St. Luke were sold and bid in, and afterwards disposed of by tax commissioners, are confirmed and ratified. By the 7th, 9th, 10th and 11th sections, provisions are made by law for the disposal of the lands thus acquired by no particular class of citizens. While the quieting of titles is deemed important and desirable, the discrimination made in the bill seems objectionable, as does also the attempt to confer upon the commissioners judicial powers, by which citizens of the United States are to be deprived of their property in a mode contrary to that provision of the Constitution which declares that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of the law. As a general principle such legislation is unsafe, unwise, partial and unconstitutional. It may deprive persons of their property who are equally deserving objects of the nation's bounty as those whom, by this legislation, Congress seeks to benefit. The title to land thus to be portioned out to a favored class of citizens must depend upon the regularity of the tax sales under the law as it existed at the time of sale, and no subsequent legislation can give validity to the rights thus acquired, as against the original claimant. The attention of Congress is therefore invited to a more mature consideration of the measures proposed in these sections of the bill.

In conclusion, I again urge upon Congress the danger of class legislation, so well calculated to keep the public mind in a state of uncertain expectation, disquiet and restlessness, and to encourage interested hopes and fears that the national government will continue to furnish, to classes of citizens in the several states, means for their support and maintenance, regardless as to whether they pursue a life of indolence or of labor, and regardless, also, of the constitutional limitation of the national authority in times of peace and tranquility.

The bill is herewith returned to the House of Representatives, in which it originated, for its final action.

(Signed)

ANDREW JOHNSON.

Washington, 20.

The Senate has passed a bill granting the right to all citizens of the United States and all who have declared their intention to become citizens, to enter and explore unoccupied lands, and prescribing the manner in which they may obtain and retain said lands.

The House passed Bingham's resolution declaring Tennessee restored to her proper practical relations in the Union; yeas 125, nays 12. The House rejected Steven's resolution authorizing the presiding officers of both Houses to convene Congress at any time during the recess; yeas 48 nays 75.

Rosseau has forwarded his resignation, as a member of Congress, to the Governor of Kentucky.

The President has nominated Henry Stanberry for Attorney General.

Chicago, 21.

Governor Crawford, of Kansas, has appointed Maj. E. J. Ross United States Senator, Vice James Lane deceased. Ross is Editor of the *Lawrence Tribune*.

Another twenty mile section of the Pacific railroad has been completed, making 145 miles.

Parties from the plains represent the Indians massing for war, and say that as soon as corn is ripe nearly every tribe on the plains will start on the war path.

The President has removed Edmond's, commissioner of the General Land Office, and appointed Joseph Wilson to the vacancy.

Washington, 21.

The Senate, after the House debate, passed the resolution admitting Tennessee, amended to read as follows:—Whereas, in the year 1861, the government of the state of Tennessee was

seized upon and taken possession of by persons in hostility to the United States, and the inhabitants of said state, in pursuance of an act of Congress, were declared to be in a state of insurrection against the United States; and whereas said state government can only be restored to its former relations in the Union by the consent of the law making power of the United States; and whereas the people of the United States in said state did, on the 22d of February, 1865, by a large popular vote adopt and ratify a constitution and government republican in form, and not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of the United States, whereby slavery is abolished, and the ordinances and laws of secession and the debts contracted under the same were declared void; and whereas the state government has ratified the amendment to the constitution of the United States abolishing slavery, and also the amendment by the 39th Congress; and whereas the body of the people of Tennessee have, by a proper spirit of obedience, shown to the satisfaction of the Congress of the United States a return of the said state to allegiance to the government of the United States, therefore, be it resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, that the state of Tennessee shall be restored to her former proper practical relation to the Union, and be again entitled to be represented by Senators and Representatives in Congress. Messrs Buckalew, Brown, McDougal and Sumner alone voted in the negative. The resolution now returns to the House, and will be concurred in immediately.

The House heard Rosseau in explanation of his conduct, after which the Speaker pronounced a reprimand, and Rosseau tendered his resignation.

THE REFORM QUESTION IN ENGLAND.—"A Costermonger," writes, in the *London Star*, this travesty of the arguments urged by the opponents of the Reform Bill:

If men always 'd their dinners,

How would charity survive?

If they wasn't wicked sinners,

How'd the bench o' bishops thrive?

If they wasn't sometimes vicious,

Where would law an' justice be?

Lord! if all should turn ambitious,

What 'ud come to you and me?

Some was eatin', some was drinkin',

When the fall o' Pompey came;

"Some was sittin' down a thinkin',

Each had got his little game;

So, till this world busts to atoms,

There'll be grades in ev'ry state.

Lords and beadies givin' rations

To casyels at the work'us gate."

*A City scalded to death with hot cinders.—See "Works of a Tory Nobleman."

CENSUS OF FRANCE.—The eleventh census of France is in progress. The results are looked for with much interest, owing to the fact that since 1861, the date of the last census, the country has been in an eminently prosperous condition. Of all the European nations, France shows the slowest rate of increase in population. The 27,000,000 of 1861 had only increased by 9,000,000 in 1861. During the same period Great Britain increased from 10,000,000 to 23,000,000.

NEWS ITEMS.

THE Sandwich Island treasury has a large surplus, the chief cause being the high price realized for sugar, the leading staple.

THE sugar cane in Louisiana is in fine condition, and it is estimated that the crop will yield 50,000 hogsheads.

JOHN H. HEYL, a German, of Boston, has invented a new method of lighting the street lamps by electricity, by means of which every lamp in the city can be lighted simultaneously or singly, at the pleasure of the operator.

THE track of the Central Pacific Railroad is now laid to Alta, a distance of 70 miles from Sacramento, and at an elevation of 3635 feet above the sea, leaving only 35 miles distance to be overcome to the summit of the Sierras. —[*Reese River Reveille*.]

REPORTS from the West, and particularly from Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, indicate great loss of sheep by storms. This was owing to the fact that the shearing had just taken place, and the sheep died from the effects of the cold.

THE President has approved the bills to provide for the revision and consolidation of the statutes of the United States, making further provisions for the establishment of an armory and arsenal of construction, deposit and repair, on Rock Island, Ill., and to establish a Land Office in the Territory of Idaho.

THE Red River ox brigade, which is composed of over 1,000 carts, loaded with more than \$100,000 worth of furs, is on the way to St. Paul.

NEAR Mt. Ararat, in Asia, is the seat of the Armenian Patriarch. Here have been preserved from ancient times, some 3,000 Armenian manuscripts, which have hitherto been inaccessible to scholars, but are now freely thrown open for public use.

STONE RIVER cemetery consists of sixteen acres of ground, located on what is known as "Stone River battle field." The number of soldiers buried, who were killed and died of their wounds during the different battles near Murfreesboro, number 7,000. There are about 150 more to be interred.

PROFESSOR AGASSIZ says the general impression in regard to the climate of that region, which he had been informed was unhealthy, but also as to its fertility. He found the valley of the Amazon uncommonly fertile and its climate very healthy. It is his opinion that it will one day become the mart of the world, supporting in comfort twenty millions of inhabitants.

A FEARFUL hail storm passed over Friendsville, East Tennessee, June 18th. A correspondent of the *N. Y. Tribune* says that hail of the size of hen's eggs fell for about 15 minutes. The damage done was immense. The fields of wheat were cut down, corn was completely destroyed, garden vegetables were beaten into the earth, fruit was knocked off the trees, fowls were killed, and a great number of window panes were broken in. The destructive path of the storm was about two miles wide. Twenty-four hours after the storm had passed loads of hail stones could be gathered in many places.

THE June report of the Agricultural Department gave a comparison between the amount of raw cotton imported from the United States into Great Britain during four months of last year and the four corresponding months of the present year. It exceeds the quantity imported from India by almost 100 per cent, and almost exactly equals the totals from all other localities. It is equivalent to 500,726 bales of 400 pounds each. The report says 500,000 of bales in four months and \$20,000,000 are respectable figures in the trade with one foreign nation even for the palmiest days of cotton shipping from the ports of the United States. The report also shows that Great Britain buys this season ten times as much wheat from Russia as from us, and from France nearly six times as much. Only a little more than four per cent of her seven millions of hundredweights are brought from the United States. —[*N. Y. Tribune*.]

ALLOYS of iron and manganese promise to be very useful for some purposes. Some are harder than tempered steel, will receive a very high polish, and melt at a red heat. They are of a color between steel and silver, and do not oxidize in the air and hardly in water. A mixture of oxide of manganese, charcoal dust enough to combine with the oxygen present in the manganese, and iron in small grains, as fillings, placed in a crucible covered with charcoal dust and salt, and heated to a white heat for a few hours, will produce the alloy. Alloys of copper and manganese resemble bronze, but are much more durable.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing from Grenada, Miss., says there are more instances of outrage, bitterness and lawlessness in that State than in all the others combined that have been visited by General Steedman on his present tour. An officer of the Bureau was recently called out of his house and shot through the head by two persons whom the authorities are unable to discover. The head-quarters at Meridian were broken open and the officers fired at. A reign of terror is established at Grenada by the guerillas of the war, whose supposed leader is a brother of Gen. Forrest, of the rebel service.

THE *London Globe* says that the impossibility of rendering a strong box altogether safe against theft by means of skeleton-keys, has led a locksmith in Frankfurt-on-the-Main to hit upon the ingenious idea of constructing a strong box without any keyhole at all, and which even the owner himself cannot open. Inside is a clock-work, the hand of which the owner places at the hour and minute when he again wants to have access to the box. The clock-work begins to move as soon as the lid is shut, and opens the lock from the inside at the moment which the hand indicates. Time, dependent upon the owner, is the key to the lock—a key which can neither be stolen from or imitated.