

The Constitution invests the President with authority to decide whether the removal should be made in any given case; the act of Congress declares in the substance, that he shall only remove such as he supposes to be unworthy of their trust. The Constitution makes him sole judge in the premises; but the statutes take away his jurisdiction transfers it to the Senate, and leaves him nothing but the odious and sometimes impracticable duty of becoming a prosecutor. The prosecution is to be conducted before a tribunal whose members are not, like him, responsible to the whole people, but to separate constituent bodies, and who may hear his accusation with great disfavor. The Senate is absolutely without any known standard of decision applicable to such a case. Its judgement cannot be anticipated, for it is not governed by any rule. The law does not define what shall be deemed good cause for removal. It is impossible even to conjecture what may or may not be so considered by the Senate. The nature of the subject forbids clear proof. If the charge be in incapacity what evidence will support it? Fidelity to the Constitution may be understood in many different ways, and by violent party men, in violent party times, unfaithfulness to the Constitution may even come to be considered meritorious. If the officer be accused of dishonesty, how shall it be made out? Will it be inferred from acts unconnected with public duty, from private history, or from general reputation? Or must the President await the commission of an actual misdemeanor in office? Shall he, in the meantime, risk the character and interest of the Nation in the hands of men to whom he cannot give his confidence? Must he forbear his complaint until the mischief is done and cannot be prevented? If his zeal in the public service should impel him to anticipate the overt act, must he move at the peril of being tried himself for the offence of slandering his subordinate? In the present circumstances of the country, some one must be held responsible for official delinquency of every kind. It is extremely difficult to say where that responsibility should be thrown, if it be not left where it has been placed by the Constitution. But all just men will admit that the President ought to be entirely relieved from such a responsibility, if he cannot meet it by reason of restrictions placed by law upon his action.

The unrestricted power of removal from office is a very great one to be trusted even to a Magistrate chosen by the general suffrage of the whole people and accountable directly to them for his acts. It is undoubtedly liable to abuse and at some periods of our history perhaps has been abused. If it be thought desirable and Constitutional that it should be so limited to make the President common informer against other public agents, he should at least be permitted to act in that capacity before some independent tribunal of party politics, ready to investigate the merit of every case, furnished with the means of taking evidence, and bound to decide according to established rules. This would guarantee the safety of the officer when he acts in good faith, and at the same time secure the rights of the other party. I speak of course with all proper respect for the present Senate, but it does not seem to me that any legislative body can be so constituted as to be fit for these functions.

It is not the theory of this Government that public offices are the property of those who hold them. They are given generally as a trust for the public benefit, sometimes for a fixed period sometimes during good behavior but generally they are liable to be terminated at the pleasure of the appointing power, which represents the collective majority and speaks the will of the people. The forced retention in office of a single dishonest person may work great injury to the public interests. The danger to the public service comes not from the power to remove, but from the power to appoint. Therefore it was that the framers of the Constitution left the power of removal unrestricted, while they gave the Senate a right to reject all appointments which in its opinion, were not fit to be made. A little reflection on the subject will probably satisfy all who have the good of this country at heart that our best course is to take the Constitution for our guide, walk in the path marked out by the founders of the Republic, and obey the rules made sacred by the observance of our predecessors.

The present condition of our finances and circulating medium is one to which your early consideration is invited. The proportion which the currency of any country should bear to the whole value of the annual produce circulated by its means is a question upon which political economists have not agreed. Nor can it be controlled by legislation, but must be left to the irrevocable laws which everywhere regulate commerce and trade. The circulating medium will ever irresistibly flow to those points where it is in greatest demand. The law of demand and supply is as unerring as that which regulates the tides of the ocean; and indeed currency like the tides, has its ebbs and flows throughout the commercial world.

At the beginning of the rebellion the bank-note circulation of the country amounted to not much more than two hundred millions of dollars; now the circulation of National Bank notes and those known as "legal tenders" is nearly one hundred millions. While it is urged by some that this amount should be increased, others contend that a decided reduction is absolutely essential to the best interests of the country. In view of these diverse

opinions, it may be well to ascertain the real value of our paper currency, when compared with the metallic or convertible currency. For this purpose, let us inquire how much gold and silver could be purchased by the seven hundred millions of paper money now in circulation? Probably not more than half the amount of the latter—showing that when our paper currency is compared with gold and silver, its commercial value is compressed into three hundred and fifty millions. This striking fact makes it the obvious duty of the Government, as early as may be consistent with the principles of sound political economy, to take such measures as will enable the holder of its notes and those of National Banks to convert them without loss, into specie or its equivalent. A reduction of our paper circulating medium need not necessarily follow. This, however, will depend on the law of demand and supply, though it should be borne in mind that by making legal tender and bank notes convertible into coin or its equivalent, their present specie value in the hands of their holders would be enhanced one hundred per cent.

Legislation for the accomplishment of a result so desirable is demanded by the highest public considerations. The Constitution contemplates that the circulating medium of the country shall be uniform in quality and value. At the time of the formation of that instrument, the country had just emerged from the War of the Revolution, and was suffering from the effect of a redundant and worthless paper currency. The sages of that period were anxious to protect their posterity from the evils which they themselves had experienced. Hence, in providing a circulating medium, they conferred upon Congress the power to coin money and regulate the value thereof at the same time prohibiting the States from making anything but gold and silver a tender in payment of debts.

The anomalous condition of our currency is in striking contrast with that which was originally designed. Our circulation now embraces, first, notes of the National Banks, which are made receivable for all dues to the Government, excluding impost, and by all its creditors, excepting in payment of interest upon its bonds and the securities themselves; second, legal tender notes, issued by the United States, and which the law requires shall be received as well in payment of all debts between citizens of all Government dues, excepting impost; and, third, gold and silver coin. By the operation of our present system of finance, however, the metallic currency, when collected, is reserved for only one class of Government creditors, who, holding its bonds, semi-annually receive their interest in coin from the National Treasury. They are thus made to occupy an invidious position, which may be used to strengthen the arguments of those who would bring into disrepute the obligations of the nation. In the payment of all its debts the pledged faith of the Government should be inviolably maintained. But while it acts with fidelity towards the bondholder who loaned his money that the integrity of the Union might be preserved, it should at the same time observe good faith with the great masses of the people, who, having rescued the Union from the perils of rebellion, now bear the burdens of taxation, and the Government may be able to fulfill its engagements. There is no reason which will be accepted as satisfactory by the people, why those who defend us on the land and protect us on the sea; the pensioner on the gratitude of the nation, bearing the scars and wounds received while in its service; the public servants in the various Departments of the Government; the farmer who supplies the army and the sailors of the navy; the artisan who toils in the nation's workshops; or the mechanics and laborers who build its edifices and construct its fleets and vessels of war—should, in payment of their just and hard earned dues, receive depreciated paper, while another class of their countrymen, no more deserving, are paid in coin of gold and silver. Equal and exact justice requires that all the creditors of the Government should be paid in a currency possessing a uniform value. This can only be accomplished by the restoration of the currency to the standard established by the Constitution; and by this means we would remove a discrimination which may, if it has not already done so, create a prejudice which may become deep rooted and wide spread, and imperil the national credit.

The facility of making our currency correspond with the constitutional standard may be seen by reference to a few facts derived from our commercial statistics. The production of precious metals in the United States from 1849 to 1857, inclusive, amounted to \$579,000,000; from 1858 to 1860, inclusive, to \$137,500,000; and from 1861 to 1867, inclusive, to \$457,500,000—making the grand aggregate of products since 1849, \$1,174,000,000. The amount of specie coined from 1849 to 1857, inclusive, was \$439,000,000; from 1858 to 1860, inclusive, \$125,000,000; and from 1861 to 1867, inclusive, \$310,000,000—making the total coinage since 1849, \$874,000,000. From 1849 to 1857, inclusive, the net exports of specie amounted to \$271,000,000; from 1858 to 1860, inclusive, to \$148,000,000; and from 1861 to 1867, inclusive, \$322,000,000—making the aggregate of net exports since 1849, \$741,000,000. These figures show an excess of product over net exports of \$433,000,000. There are in the Treasury \$111,000,000 in coin, something more than \$10,000,000 in circulation on the Pacific Coast, and a few millions in the National and other Banks—in all about \$160,000,000. This, however, taking into

account the specie in the country prior to 1849, leaves more than three hundred millions of dollars which have not been accounted for by exportation, and therefore may yet remain in the country.

These are important facts, and show how completely the inferior currency will supersede the better, forcing it from circulation among the masses, and causing it to be exported as a mere article of trade, to add to the money capital of foreign lands. They show the necessity of retiring our paper money, that the return of gold and silver to the avenues of trade may be invited, and a demand created which will cause the retention at home of at least so much of the productions of our rich and inexhaustible gold bearing fields as may be sufficient for purposes of circulation. It is unreasonable to expect a return to a sound currency so long as the Government, by continuing to issue irredeemable notes, fills the channels of circulation with depreciated paper. Notwithstanding a coinage by our mints, since 1849, of eight hundred and seventy-four millions of dollars, the people are now strangers to the currency which was designed for their use and benefit, and specimens of the precious metals bearing the national device are seldom seen, except when produced to gratify the interest excited by their novelty. If depreciated paper is to be continued as the permanent currency of the country, and all our coin is to become a mere article of trade, and speculation, to the enhancement in price of all that is indispensable to the comfort of the people, it would be wise economy to abolish our mints, thus saving the nation the care and expense incident to such establishments, and let all our precious metals be exported in bullion. The time has come, however, when the Government and National Banks should be required to take the most efficient steps and make all necessary arrangements for the resumption of specie payments at the earliest practicable period. Specie payments having been once resumed by the Government and Banks, all notes or bills of paper issued by either of a less denomination than twenty dollars should by law be excluded from circulation, so that the people may have the benefit and convenience of a gold and silver currency which in all their business transactions will be uniform in value at home and abroad.

"Every man of property, of industry, every man who desires to preserve what he honestly possesses, or to obtain what he can honestly earn, has a direct interest in maintaining a safe circulating medium—such a medium as shall be real and substantial, not liable to vibrate with opinions, not subject to be blown up or blown down, but to be stable and secure. A disordered currency is one of the greatest political evils. It undermines the virtue, necessary to the support of the social system, and encourages propensities destructive of its happiness; it is against industry, frugality, and economy, and it fosters the evil spirit of extravagance and speculation." It has been asserted by one of our profound and most gifted statesmen, that "of all the contrivances for cheating the laboring classes of mankind, none has been more effectual than that which deludes them with paper money. This is the most effectual of inventions to fertilize the rich man's fields by the sweat of the poor man's brow. Ordinary tyranny, oppression, excessive taxation—these bear lightly on the happiness of the mass of the community compared with a fraudulent currency, and the robberies committed by depreciated paper. Our own history has recorded for our instruction enough, and more than enough of the demoralizing tendency, the injustice, and the intolerable oppression on the virtuous and well disposed, of a degraded paper currency, authorized by law or in any way countenanced by Government." It is one of the most successful devices, in times of peace or war, expansions or revisions, to accomplish the transfer of all the precious metals from the great mass of the people into the hands of the few, where they are hoarded in secret places or deposited in strong boxes under bolts and lars, while the people are left to endure all the inconvenience, sacrifice, and demoralization resulting from the use of a depreciated and worthless paper money.

The condition of our finances and the operations of our revenue system are set forth and fully explained in the able and instructive report of the Secretary of the Treasury. On the 30th of June, 1866, the public debt amounted to \$2,789,425,879; on the 30th of June last it was \$2,692,199,215, showing a reduction during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1867, of \$97,226,664. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1867, the receipts were \$346,729,129, and the expenditures \$346,729,129, leaving an available surplus of \$143,904,880. It is estimated that the receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1868, will be \$417,161,928, and that the expenditures will reach the sum of \$393,269,226, leaving in the Treasury a surplus of \$23,892,702. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1869, it is estimated that the receipts will amount to \$381,000,000, and that the expenditures will be \$372,000,000, showing an excess of \$9,000,000 in favor of the Government.

The attention of Congress is earnestly invited to the necessity of a thorough revision of our revenue system. Our internal revenue laws and impost system should be so adjusted as to bear most heavily on articles of luxury, leaving the necessities of life as free from taxation as may be consistent with the real wants of the Government, economically administered. Taxation would not then fall unduly on the man of moderate means; and while none would be entirely exempt from assessment, all, in proportion to their pecuniary abilities, would contribute toward

the support of the State. A modification of the internal revenue system, by a large reduction in the number of articles now subject to tax, would be followed by results equally advantageous to the citizen of the Government.

It would render the execution of the law less expensive and more certain, remove obstructions to industry, lessen the temptations to evade the law, diminish the violations and frauds perpetrated upon its provisions, make its operations less inquisitorial, and greatly reduce in numbers the army of tax-gatherers created by the system, who "take from the mouth of honest labor the bread it has earned." Retrenchment, reform, and economy, should be carried into every branch of the public service that the expenditure of the Government may be reduced and the people relieved from taxation; and a sound currency should be restored, and the public faith in regard to the national debt sacredly observed. The accomplishments of these important results, together with the restoration of the Union of the States upon the principles of the Constitution, would inspire confidence at home and abroad in the stability of our institutions, and bring to the nation prosperity, peace and good will.

The report of the Secretary of War *ad interim* exhibits the operations of the army and of the several Bureaus of the War Department. The aggregate strength of our military force, on the 30th of September last, was 56,315, the total estimate for military appropriations is \$77,124,707, including a deficiency in last year's appropriation of \$13,000,000. The payment at the Treasury on account of the service of the War Department from January 1, to October 29, 1867—a period of ten months—amounted to \$109,807,000. The expenses of the military establishment, as well as the numbers of the army, are now three times as great as they have ever been in time of peace; while the discretionary power is vested in the Executive to add millions to this expenditure by an increase of the army to the maximum strength allowed by the law.

The menacing attitude of some of the warlike bands of Indians inhabiting the district of country between the Arkansas and Platte rivers, and portions of Dakota Territory, required the presence of a large military force in that region. Instigated by real or imaginary grievances, the Indians occasionally committed acts of barbarous violence upon emigrants and our frontier settlements; but a general Indian war has been providentially averted. The Commissioners under the act of 29th July, 1867, were invested with full power to adjust existing difficulties, negotiate treaties with the disaffected bands, and select for their reservations remote from the travelled routes between the Mississippi and the Pacific. They entered without delay upon the execution of their trust, but have not yet made any official report of their proceedings. It is of vital importance that our distant Territories should be exempt from Indian outbreaks, and that the construction of the Pacific Railroad, an object of national importance, should not be interrupted by hostile tribes. These objects, as well as the material interests and the moral and intellectual improvement of the Indians, can be most effectually secured by concentrating them upon portions of country set apart for their exclusive use, and located at points remote from our highways and encroaching white settlements.

Since the commencement of the second session of the Thirty-ninth Congress, five hundred and ten miles of road have been constructed on the main line and branches of the Pacific Railway. The line from Omaha is rapidly approaching the Eastern base of the Rocky Mountains, whilst the terminus of the last section of constructed road in California, accepted by the Government on the 24th day of October last, was but eleven miles distant from the summit of the Sierra Nevada. The remarkable energy evinced by the Companies offers the strongest assurance that the completion of the road from Sacramento to Omaha will not be long deferred.

During the last fiscal year seven million forty-one thousand one hundred and fourteen acres of public land were disposed of, and the cash receipts from sales and fees exceeded one-half million dollars the sum realized from those sources during the preceding year. The amount paid to pensioners, including expenses of disbursements, was \$18,610,965, and thirty-six thousand four hundred and eighty-two names were added to the rolls. The entire number of pensioners on the 30th of June last was one hundred and fifty-five thousand four hundred and seventy-four. Eleven thousand six hundred and fifty-five patents and designs were issued during the year ending Sept. 30, 1867, and at that date the balance in the Treasury to the credit of the Patent fund was \$286,607.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy states that we have seven squadrons actively and judiciously employed, under efficient and able commanders; in protecting the persons and property of American citizens, in maintaining the flag and power of the Government, and promoting the commerce and business interests of our countrymen in every part of the world. Of the two hundred and thirty-eight vessels composing the present navy of the United States fifty-six carrying five hundred and seven guns, are in actual service. During the year the number of vessels in commission has been reduced twelve, and there are thirteen less on station-day than there were at the date of 1866. A large number of vessels were commenced and in the course of construction when the war terminated, and although Congress had made the necessary appropriations for their completion, the Department has since suspended work upon them or limited the slow completion of the steam vessels, so as to meet the contracts for machinery made with private establishments. The total expenditures of the Navy Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1867, were \$31,054,011. No appropriations have been made or received since the close of the war for the construction

and repair of vessels, for steam machinery for the mail service, for \$19,978,000. The Army, &c., the balance under these several heads having been more than sufficient for current expenditures. It should also be stated to the credit of the Department that, besides the surplus appropriated for the above objects for the last two years, the Secretary of the Navy, on the 30th of September last, in accordance with the act of May 1, 1820, re-authorized the Secretary of the Treasury to carry to the surplus fund the sum of sixty-five millions of dollars, being the amount received from the sales of vessels and other war property, and the remnants of the former appropriation.

The report of the Postmaster General shows the business of the Postoffice Department and the condition of the postal service in a very favorable light, and the attention of Congress is called to its present recommendations. The receipts of the Department for the year ending June 30, 1867, including all special appropriations for sea and land service and for free mail matter, were \$19,378,000. The expenditures for all purposes were \$19,235,483, leaving an unexpended balance in favor of the Department of \$142,517, which can be applied towards the expenses of the Department for the year ending June 30, 1868, was \$256,040. The increase of revenues from the sale of stamps and postage stamps was \$283,464. The increase of expenditures in 1867 over those of the previous year was owing chiefly to the extension of the land and ocean mail service. During the past year new postal conventions have been ratified and exchanged with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Switzerland, the North German Union, Italy, and the Colon Government at Hong Kong, reducing very largely the rates of ocean and land postages to and from within these countries.

The report of the Acting Commissioner of Agriculture, presented to Congress, contains wants and progress of an interest eminently worthy of the fostering care of Congress, and exhibits a large measure of useful results achieved during the year under review. The re-establishment of peace at home and the resumption of extended trade, travel and commerce abroad, have served to increase the number and variety of questions in the department of foreign trade. The late war, however, has seriously disturbed our relations with other States. The Republic of Mexico, having been re-elected from a previous condition, is earnestly engaged in efforts to re-establish her constitutional system of government. A good understanding continues to exist between our Government and the Republics of Hayti and San Domingo, and a similar understanding with the Central and South American States remains unchanged. The tender, made in conformity with a resolution of Congress, of the good offices of the Government, with a view to an amicable adjustment of the claims of Brazil and her allies, on one side and Paraguay on the other, and between Chili and her allies, on one side, and Spain on the other, though kindly received, has not as yet been fully accepted by the belligerent States. The war in the Valley of the Parana is still vigorously maintained. On the other hand, actual hostilities between the Pacific States and Spain have been more than suspended. It is our duty on any proper occasion that may occur, to renew the conciliatory recommendations which have been already made. Brazil, well enlightened as to the comparative advantages of peace, has opened the great channels of the Amazon and its tributaries to universal commerce. One thing more seems needful to assure a rapid and cheering progress in South America. I refer to the peaceful relations which our States and Nations cannot, in this age, well expect material prosperity or social advancement.

The Exposition Universelle Industrielle at Paris has passed, and we have fully realized the high expectations of the French Government. If due allowance be made for the recent political demerit of industry here, the part which the United States has taken in this exhibition of invention and art may be regarded with very high satisfaction. During the Exposition, a conference was held by delegates from the several nations, the United States being one of the number. The object was to discuss and social intercourse resulting from diverse standards of money value were fully discussed; and plans were developed for establishing a uniform standard of coinage for the coinage of gold. These conferences are expected to be renewed with the attendance of many foreign States not hitherto represented. A report of these interesting proceedings will be submitted to Congress, which will no doubt justly appreciate the great object, and be ready to adopt any measure which may tend to facilitate its ultimate accomplishment. On the twenty-fifth of February, 1862, Congress declared by law that the Treasury notes without interest, authorized by that act, should be legal tenders in the payment of all debts, public and private, in the United States. An annual remittance of \$30,000, less stipulated expenses, accrues to claimants under the convention made with Spain in 1834. These remittances, since the passage of the act, have been paid in such manner as to leave no doubt that the Government ought to require payment in coin. The subject may be deemed worthy of your attention. No arrangements have yet been reached for the settlement of our claims for British depredations upon the commerce of the United States. I have felt it my duty to decline a proposition of arbitration made by Her Majesty's Government, inasmuch as it has not been accompanied by reservations and limitations with the rights, interests and honor of our country. It is not to be apprehended that Great Britain will persist in a course of policy which is so manifestly unjust, and which involves the sacred principle of non-interference in our own revolutionary war and harbors in the West India Islands were used by our enemy to the great injury and embarrassment of the United States. The same experience in our second war with Great Britain. The same European policy for a long time excluded us even from trade with the West Indies, while we were peaceable with all nations. During our recent war the rebels and their practical and blockade trading allies found facilities in some ports for work which they too successfully accomplished, of injuring our commerce and the property of our citizens now engaged in rebuilding. We labored especially under this disadvantage when European steam vessels employed by our enemies found friendly shelter, protection and supplies in the West India ports, while our own naval operations were carried on from our own distant shores. There was then a universal feeling of the want of an advanced naval policy between the Atlantic and the Pacific. The duty of obtaining such an outpost peacefully and lawfully, while neither was daring nor menacing injury to the other States, earnestly engaged the attention of the Executive Department, and the close of the war and it has not been long since that time. A not entirely dissimilar naval war revealed itself during the same period on the Pacific coast, and the requisite fleet should there was fortunately secured by our late treaty with the Emperor of Russia, and it now seems imperative that the obvious necessities of the Atlantic coast should not be less carefully provided for, for a good and convenient port and harbor capable of easy defence will supply that want with the possession of such a station by the United States. Neither we nor any other American nation have any interest in any territory or province on any trans-Atlantic enemy. I agree with our early statesmen, that the West Indies naturally gravitate to, and may be expected to gravitate to, a republic by the continental States, including our own. I agree with them also that it is wise to

leave the question of such absorption to the process of natural political gravitation. The island of St. Thomas and St. John's, which constitute a portion of the group called Virgin Islands, seemed to offer us advantages immediately desirable, while their acquisition could be secured in harmony with the principles which I have alluded to. A treaty has, therefore, been concluded with the King of Denmark for the cession of those islands, and will be submitted to the Senate for consideration. It will hardly be necessary to call the attention of Congress to the subject of providing for the payment to Russia the sum stipulated in the treaty for the cession of Alaska possessions, it having been formerly delivered to our Commissioner. The territory remains for the present in charge of a military force, awaiting such civil organization as shall be directed by Congress.

The annexation of many small German States to Prussia, and the recognition of that country under a new and liberal Constitution, have induced me to renew the effort to obtain a just and prompt settlement of a long vexed question concerning the claims of foreign States for military service from their subjects naturalized in the United States. In connection with this subject the attention of Congress is respectfully called to a singular and embarrassing conflict of laws. The Executive Department of this Government has hitherto uniformly held, as it now holds, that naturalization in conformity with the Constitution and laws of the United States strikes the recipient from his native allegiance. The Courts of Great Britain hold that allegiance to the British crown is indefeasible, and is not absolved by our laws of naturalization, and British judges cite courts and law authorities of the United States in support of that theory against the position held by the Executive authority of the United States. This conflict perplexes the public mind concerning rights of naturalized citizens and impairs national authority abroad. I called attention to this subject in my last annual message, and now again respectfully appeal to Congress to declare the national will unmistakably upon this important question.

Ause of our laws by clandestine prosecutions of the African slave trade from America, or by American citizens, has altogether ceased, and under existing circumstances no apprehension of its renewal in this part of the world are established. Under the circumstances, it becomes a question whether we shall not propose to Her Majesty's Government a suspension or discontinuance of stipulations for maintaining a naval force for the suppression of that trade. (Signed) ANDREW JOHNSON, WASHINGTON, Dec. 3, 1867.

The Wagnersburg Republican. WAGNERSBURG, PENNA. Wednesday, Dec. 11, '67. THE MESSAGE.

We give the President a fair hearing this week, notwithstanding the great length of the paper seems purposely to forbid country newspapers from publishing it. What good can grow out of the Executive's wordiness transcends our imagination. It is not our purpose, even had we the space, to travel over his old stamping ground of error and sophistry. On many points, the most important that of Reconstruction, he refuses to be guided by truth. His statements are at war with stubborn facts, and he should have learned ere this that the great mass of the people so declare. When the men who fought the war determine squarely to surrender the Government to beaten traitors then his position on restoration will be analogous to his assertion. They are not likely soon to make such concession and the quibbling dotard should know that it is past his power, he has yet the trifling, to use a mistaken action on entirely different questions in behalf of his Southern allies with effect. He indulges in a pleasing bit of braggadocio at the expense of the impeachers which may draw upon him the fire of a few blusters. The message is before you, however, and we invite its perusal both that you may see its glaring discrepancies and glean the few grains of wisdom concerning financial affairs and other topics.

THE GRANT MOVEMENT.

Our captious neighbor, thinks because Thad. Stevens declared we should "throw conscience to the devil," in dealing with Southern rebels that every Republican is bound to agree with him. So in regard to the past action of Congress. However much we may deplore a harsh course toward the unrepentant States and the methods taken to bring them back safely into the Union fold, and it may be to a great or less degree felt by all Republicans, we have the one idea in view—a restoration that shall secure permanent peace, on the basis of impartial rights and justice to all men. In the main the policy of the Democratic party and of the Executive has opposed this whilst that of Congress has been its only support. Congress represents the people upon this question. With this leading sentiment for a watchword the people have nominated Grant for the next Presidency. His testimony before the impeachment committee may be garbled and quoted and lauded, by Democratic journals to destroy the public faith in a worthy servant to no effect. He has spoken in word stronger even than in deed for the right. We commend the following truths, spoken by Gen'l. Sickles, the other night in New York, to the consideration of those who think "his (Grant's) policy is as far as possible from the one proposed by Congress and the Radical party proper." Speaking of the Congressional plan of reconstruction he said:

"You have seen under what embarrasment and difficulties, resulting from many sources, that plan of reconstruction has been conducted, but you have seen this; also; that while it has encountered the almost irresistible power, patronage and influence of the Executive, it has never for a moment lacked the steady, loyal, faithful support of the General-in-Chief of the

Armies. [Cheers.] I assing any reference to myself, except to take this occasion to express my appreciation and gratitude for the support so steadily given to me while in command in the Carolinas, amid all the trying difficulties of that position, let me for illustration of what I have just said, point you to the manly, soldier-like, true friendship and devotion to duty, manifested in the struggle made by the gallant Sheridan. [Loud cheering and waving of hats and handkerchiefs.] There was Sheridan sent to New Orleans with a handful of men to control all the turbulent elements of Louisiana and Texas; to restore order out of anarchy; to bring an unwilling people to a sense of allegiance to our flag and Constitution and laws; to extend the hand of protection to the helpless negro, whom we have emancipated and whom we had called a freedmen, but to whom we had given no means to protect this freedom by his franchise; obliged to shelter from persecution and tyranny and outrage the loyal whites; compelled to afford security to Northern capitalists who went down there in the confidence that an American citizen presumes he may always feel that wherever he goes, at least within our territory, the hand of power, whether civil or military, will always be exerted and held over him to protect him from outrage. Sheridan went out to perform this difficult, delicate and responsible task. He was arraigned and dismissed—for what? Simply for executing the laws of the land passed by the Congress of the United States, the representatives of the people. [Applause.] Did Grant stand upon any more question of military etiquette? Did he wrap himself up in that reserve and silence which those who would like to provoke distrust tell is his shield and his own security? No! Not content with remonstrances, not content with official appeal, he sat down instantly at his desk, and penned in words that will not die, in language doing equal honor to his intellect as the sentiments do to his heart—the penman that glorious remonstrance to the Executive, appealing to him to do justice to the sense of duty and the well meant efforts of a faithful soldier who had done the State some service, and to forbear, at least in that case, from striking down an officer for obeying and executing the laws of the land. [Cheers.] And here, my friends you see in this narrative which I do not mean to make tedious to you that I point out to you in every instance where his sense of duty would permit that the General-in-Chief of the army has been as frankly outspoken and unreserved as it was possible or proper or becoming for an officer in his position to be. [Cheers.] No man is in doubt as to the sentiments of Gen. Grant upon the great question now before the country unless that man wants to be. [Applause.] An ignorance upon a matter so plain and so easily ascertained and understood would I think, exclude any such man from the exercise of the ballot if we had an educational qualification. [Laughter.]

Nor need our neighbor, "remind conservative Republicans who are so anxious for the nomination of Grant that no National Convention embodying the opposition to Democracy, can convene in which the Radicals will not predominate and have the power to dictate the candidate and the platform." We adopt the language of the State Guard on this point. It is very evident, says that paper, that the people will not allow any of the broken down political hacks who are always ready for prominence, to ride into favor in company with Gen. Grant. Popular demonstration for the hero of the War is not indiscriminate approval or acceptance of all the demagogues who are now coniving to hang to Grant's spurs as he rides into high honors. We have always taken it, that the movement in favor of Grant is a people's and not a politician's movement. The people want to make Grant President that they may thereby be able to get rid of some of the politicians who for years have been feeding and fattening on the vitals of Government. On this account, we advise the political hacks who now calculate to make a point by vociferating for Grant, to stand aside and let the soldiers whom Grant led to victory make Grant President.

This is timely warning to "stand you under" or be "squashed." Will you heed it Democrats?

New York spoke for Gen. Grant, on the 4th inst., in a gathering which is not often seen in the Metropolis. It is represented to have been most enthusiastic meeting ever held in that city, and represents all the great mechanical, mercantile, financial and professional classes. Popular preference in favor of Grant, says the State Guard, is about as hard to withstand as was Grant's fighting against treason.

MAYOR HOFFMAN, (Democrat) was re-elected Mayor of New York City, last week over Fernando Wood, (Democrat) and Jas. B. Darling, (Republican) by 30,000 majority.

IMPEACHMENT in the House was lost by 108 Nays to 57 Ayes. Mr. Lawrence voted Nay. GEN. STEADMAN has been stricken by apoplexy, and is now lying dangerously ill at Washington. COURT.—The December term of our Court commences on Monday next.