NEW ORLEANS DAILY CRESCENT.

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VOLUME XIV. TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 10, 1861. NUMBER 238.

Military Notices.

HEADQUARTERS CRESCENT REGIMENT, New Orleans, Dec. 9, 1861.

SPECIAL ORDER No. 8.—THE COMMISSioned Officers of the Crescent Regiment will meet at Armory Hall on TUESDAY, the 10th instant, at 5 o'clock, for the purpose of electing a Major in place of A. W. Bosworth, resigned.

II—The Officers' and Sergeants' drill will be at 5½ o'clock.

By order of MARSHALL J. SMITH, Colonel.
RICHD. S. VENABLES, Adjutant. 6d 1t.

HEADQUARTERS SECRET ORDER, Corner New Levee and Natchez streets, New Orleans, Dec. 10, 1861.

SUMTER GREYS, ATTENTION.—IN ORdience to orders from Brigade Headquarters, the members of Company B are hereby ordered to meet at their Armory on TUESDAY, this instant, at 6 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of electing officers of said Company. The polls will be kept open for one hour.

Members of Company A are notified to be punctual at drill, Roll call at 6½ o'clock precisely.

By order of D. MAUPAY, Captain.
H. J. BERRE, O. S. 6d 1t

ASHONY CRESCENT RIFLES, COMPANY D, No. 52 St. Charles street, Dec. 10, 1861.

CRESCENT RIFLES, COMPANY D. Members are hereby notified that the regular Company drill of this Tuesday evening is postponed till TO-MORROW, Wednesday evening, at 6 o'clock.

By order of A. F. HAYNES, Captain.
W. G. CLAIBORNE, Jr., O. S. 6d 1t

HEADQUARTERS CONFEDERATE GUARDS, CO. B, New Orleans, Dec. 10, 1861.

CONFEDERATE GUARDS, CO. B.—Attention! Your Armory THIS EVENING, Tuesday, at 5½ o'clock, for General Drill.

By order D. E. MOUTRY, First Sergeant. 6d 1t

HEADQUARTERS, Charles street.

CLAY GUARD.—COMPANY DRILLS EVERY Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6½ o'clock.

Sound drills every evening.

Monthly business meeting first Thursday evening of each month, at 6½ o'clock. Fines for non-attendance strictly enforced.

By order of K. S. DERICKSON, Captain.
JOHN E. MINGE, Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS PANOLA GUARDS, New Orleans, Nov. 20, 1861.

PANOLA GUARDS, ATTENTION!—ORder No. 3.—You are hereby ordered to attend Company drills every Monday evening, at 5 o'clock, and Battalion drill every Thursday, at 3 o'clock P. M.

Members are required to be punctual. Those missing three consecutive drills, will be expelled from the Company. Days for Squad drills posted at the armory.

By order of J. VIENNE, Captain.
J. K. BAILEY, O. S. 5d 2t

HEADQUARTERS RUGGLES GUARD, Monumental Institution, New Orleans, Nov. 26, 1861.

ATTENTION, RUGGLES GUARD.—YOU are hereby ordered to attend Company drills every Monday and Friday, punctually at 6 o'clock P. M. Sq ad drills—First Squad, every Tuesday and Thursday. Second Squad, every Wednesday, commencing at 4 o'clock P. M. Fines for non-attendance will be rigidly enforced.

By order of GEO. W. HELME, Captain.
A. R. LUWCHE, acting O. S. 5d 1t

HEADQUARTERS MILES ARTILLERY, CO. A, Merchants' Press Yard, No. 5.

THIS COMPANY HAVING BEEN mustered into service, will take a few more good men, of such application be made immediately. Apply at corner Front Levee and Market street. Uniforms, etc, furnished. 5d 1t

HEADQUARTERS MAGNOLIA GUARD, Armory Hall, 87 Camp street, Nov. 29, 1861.

ATTENTION—OFFICERS AND MEMBERS ARE hereby notified that drill every MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY.

Punctual attendance is requested. Fines for non-attendance will be rigidly enforced.

By order of R. M. MONTGOMERY, Captain.
M. J. GRANT, O. S.

LINTON LIGHT INFANTRY.—THE MEMbers of this Company are hereby notified to attend the regular drills at No. 19, Perdido street, on MONDAYS and FRIDAYS, at 5½ o'clock P. M.

By order of P. GRANDPRE, Captain.
J. S. JONES, O. S. 6d 1t

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH COMPANY LOUISIANA VOLUNTEER AUXILIARY, New Orleans, Nov. 12, 1861.

ORDER No. 29.—ORDER No. 27, ISSUED by these Headquarters, under date of Oct. 22, 1861, in relation to drills, is hereby discontinued.

The drills of the company, from this date, will be as follows—Battery Drills every Tuesday and Friday, at 4 P. M. Island 24 Detachments every Monday, at 4½ P. M. 3d and 4th Detachments every Wednesday, at 4½ P. M. 5th and 6th Detachments every Saturday, at 4½ P. M. Company drill, infantry exercise, every Friday, at 4½ P. M. All members, active and honorary, and non-fighting honorary, will conform to this order.

Fines for non-attendance at these drills will be rigidly enforced.

By order W. IRVING HODGSON, Captain.
J. W. DEMOURIE, O. S. 6d 1t

HEADQUARTERS CRESCENT RIFLES, Corner Natchez and Camp streets.

CRESCENT BLUES—THE DRILLS OF COMpany A from this date will be as follows:

I.—Company Drills, MONDAYS and WEDNESDAYS, at 5 o'clock P. M., in citizens' dress.

II.—Battalion Drills on FRIDAYS, at 3½ o'clock, P. M., in full uniform.

Monthly business meetings first Wednesday in each month, at 6 o'clock P. M. Order No. 147, issued by the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, will be strictly enforced.

By order of JOHN KNIGHT, Captain.
6t 1t

HEADQUARTER WASHINGTON GUARD, Armory Hall, 87 Camp street, New Orleans, Nov. 2, 1861.

ORDER No. 3.—DRILLS OF THIS COMPANY will commence on and after this date, viz:

1st Squad, Mondays and Wednesdays, at 4 o'clock P. M.
2d Squad, Tuesdays at 6 o'clock P. M., and Fridays, at 4 o'clock P. M.
3d Squad, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, at 4 o'clock P. M., and Tuesdays at 6 o'clock P. M.

Business drills every Thursday, at 5½ o'clock P. M.

Company meeting every Saturday at 6½ o'clock P. M.

A. W. BOSWORTH, Captain.
GEO. O. BRAKES, O. S. 5d 2t

HEADQUARTERS ORLEANS BOWITZERS, New Orleans, Oct. 12, 1861.

THE DRILLS OF THIS COMPANY will be as follows:

Squads 1 and 2 MONDAYS, at 4½ P. M.
" 2 and 3, WEDNESDAYS, at 4½ P. M.
" 3, FRIDAYS, "
" 3, SATURDAYS, "

Company drills, TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS, at 5 o'clock.

By order of S. J. McPHERSON, Captain.
WALTER S. CRAWFORD, O. S. 5d 1t

HEADQUARTERS 1ST BRIGADE 1ST DIVISION, LOUISIANA VOLUNTEERS, New Orleans, Oct. 19, 1861.

ORDER No. 77.—IN OBEDIENCE TO ORders from Division Headquarters, the Commanders of Regiments and unattached Companies will at once furnish a complete roll of their Regiments and Companies to the Brigade Inspector, giving name and residence of each member.

II. They will also report all persons refusing to comply with Orders No. 147 from the Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

III. Prompt compliance with this order is expected without further notice.

By order of L. A. CHARBONNET, Colonel Commanding.
J. F. CALDWELL, Major and Brigade Inspector. 6t 1t

ATTENTION, VOLUNTEERS!—A FEW more active and able bodied MEN will be received on the HONFORD GUARDS. A fine opportunity is offered to those wishing to go into immediate active service.

Rendezvous and uniforms furnished.

Apply at the Armory, 81 CUSTOMHOUSE STREET, up stairs. 5d 1t

HEADQUARTERS GERTNERAL GUARDS, Company B, New Orleans, Oct. 2, 1861.

ATTENTION!—YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERed to attend Squad Drills on TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS and SATURDAYS, from 5 to 7 o'clock P. M.

Company Drills on THURSDAYS, at 5 o'clock P. M.

Strict obedience to order No. 147, issued by His Excellency Governor T. O. Moore, Commander-in-Chief, will be strictly enforced.

Members not reporting at once for duty will be promptly reported to Headquarters.

By order W. F. HODGKINS, Captain.
J. KITTRECK, O. S. 6d 1t

HEADQUARTERS GERSONS CITY GUARDS, Company B, No. 82 Camp street, Oct. 9, 1861.

COMPANY DRILLS OF THIS CORPS will take place every MONDAY and SPECIAL EVENINGS, at 5 o'clock. Squad Drills every TUESDAY and THURSDAY EVENINGS, at 5 o'clock. Punctual attendance is expected. Fines for non-attendance will be rigidly enforced, and members absenting themselves habitually will be reported to Militia Headquarters.

By order GEO. SOULE, Captain.
CHARLES GUILLET, First Sergeant. 5e 3t

HEADQUARTERS LOUISIANA STATE GUARD, CO. C, New Orleans, Nov. 7, 1861.

THE DRILLS OF THIS COMPANY FROM this date, will be as follows:

Company drill in full uniform, every Monday and Thursday evenings, at 4½ o'clock.

Squad Drills.—First Squad every Tuesday evening, at 4½ o'clock. Second Squad every Friday evening at 4½ o'clock.

By order of EDW. PILSBURY, Captain.
ISAIAH GREEN, O. S. 6t 1t

P. FIEROBE, FRENCH AND ZOUAVE TAILOR, No. 83 Conti street, between Bourbon and Dauphin.

Formerly Army Tailor in Algeria, France. Military Uniforms, and Clothing for Gentlemen and Children made to order in the best style, and in the shortest notice, on the most reasonable terms. 2d 3m

SOUTHERN SHOE MANUFACTURING COMPANY,

Depot, No. 24 St. Charles street.

FACTORY, Nos. 19 AND 21 ST. FERDINAND STREET.

Are now manufacturing a superior quality of Pump, Well and Double-Soled Oak-Tanned RUSSET SHOES, to which they invite the attention of those having to purchase the article. These Shoes are branded on the bottom "Southern Shoe Factory, New Orleans," and can be obtained only at the Depot of the Company.

GEO. H. ROZET, Sec'y. 4t 1y

WALL PAPER.....WALL PAPER.

J. J. EVERS, 64 Chartres street.

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in French and American PAPER HANGINGS, Borders, Cornices, Oaks and Marbles, in every variety.

☞ Particular attention paid to all work in his line. 6t 1y

H. P. ASKEW. | G. P. SMOOTE. | J. P. AUSTIN.

ASKEW, SMOOTE & AUSTIN—

ATTORNEYS AT LAW,

Magnolia, Columbia Co., Ark.

—References—

Henderson, Terry & Co., | C. Yale Jr., & Co.,
A. T. Hawthorn, | W. H. Smith. 6d 2t

P. McGUIGIN & CO.,

SAILMAKERS,

No. 247 Julia street, New Orleans.

Awnings, Tents, Tarpaulins and Flags made at the shortest notice.

A large supply of Canvas always on hand of the very best brands. m20 1y

Particular Notices.

NEW ORLEANS CITY RAILROAD COMPANY, New Orleans, December 6, 1861.

☞ The City Railroad Company having no direct claim on the tickets issued by them for the purchasers of the Company only, have become a circulating medium in the community, and are liable to speculation and abuse, have resolved that tickets issued by them will only be taken in payment of fare on the cars, and will not be redeemed in any other way; and further, that no other tickets than those issued by the Carrollton Railroad Company, the City Railroad Company, and the Omnibus proprietors, will be received by the drivers in payment of fares.

WM. P. SINNOTT, Secretary.
67 1ot

LOUISIANA STATE BANK, New Orleans, December 6, 1861.

☞ The Stockholders are hereby notified that the Wet Tax on the capital stock of this Bank will be paid by the Corporation, and that they are, therefore, individually exempted from payment of the same.

H. BERNARD, Cashier.
67 1t

☞ Pontchartrain Railroad Company.—Notice to Stockholders.—At a meeting held this day, the Board of Directors declared a semi-annual dividend of four per cent, on the capital stock out of the net earnings of the Road, payable to the stockholders or their legal representatives on and after the 15th instant.

ALFRED BOURGES, Secretary.
New Orleans, Dec. 5, 1861. 6t 221

NEW ORLEANS CITY RAILROAD COMPANY, New Orleans, December 1, 1861.

☞ Agreeably to the Charter, the first annual election for twelve Directors of this Company, to serve for the ensuing twelve months, will be held at this office, on the third Monday of December, 16th instant, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M.

WM. P. SINNOTT, Secretary.
65 1t

☞ Confederate Leather Manufacturing Company.—At a meeting of the stockholders, held on the 28th of November, they elected the following Board of Directors—

William Henderson,
Harmon Boone,
Wm. H. Leonard,
David Taylor,
E. Farrar.

And at a meeting of Directors, held on the 2d instant, the following officers were elected by the Board—

Wm. Henderson, President.
Mack Walker, Secretary and Treasurer.
John Ian D. Knox, Superintendent.

New Orleans, Dec. 4, 1861. 65 1m

NEW ORLEANS GAS LIGHT COMPANY, New Orleans, Dec. 2, 1861.

☞ An election for six Directors of this Company to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the office, 16 Common street, on MONDAY, 6th January next, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M.

65 1ot N. O. J. TISDALE, Treasurer.

SOUTHERN BANK, New Orleans, Nov. 30, 1861.

☞ An election for six Directors of this Institution, to serve the ensuing year, will be held at its Banking House, on the 16th of December, 1861, from 11 o'clock M. to 1 o'clock P. M.

THOS. LAYTON, Cashier.
639 16t

BANK OF AMERICA, New Orleans, Nov. 18, 1861.

☞ The annual election for Thirteen Directors of this Bank, to serve during the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, the 17th December, at 1 P. M., and 2 P. M., on WEDNESDAY, the 18th December next.

A. M. FORTIER, Cashier.
e23td

NEW ORLEANS AND BAYOU SARA MAIL CO., November 19, 1861.

☞ The Stockholders of the New Orleans and Bayou Sara Mail Company are requested to meet at the office of the Company, on SATURDAY, 21st of December, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M., to vote on certain proposed amendments to the Charter of the Company.

EUGENE LANOUE, President.
A. J. POWELL, Sec'y. n20td

LOUISIANA STATE BANK, New Orleans, Oct. 1, 1861.

☞ In compliance with the recommendation of His Excellency, the Governor of the State, this Bank will not hereafter be closed daily, at 2 o'clock P. M.

L. BERNARD, Cashier.
91 1t

BANK OF NEW ORLEANS, New Orleans, Sept. 16, 1861.

☞ In conformity with the request of the Governor, this Bank will hereafter be closed daily, at 2 o'clock P. M.

MORTIMER BELLY, Cashier.
91 1t

BANK OF NEW ORLEANS, New Orleans, Sept. 16, 1861.

☞ In conformity with the recommendation of His Excellency, Gov. Moore, this Bank will receive Treasury special deposits, and the notes of the local banks and the Confederate States, in payment of debts due this Bank, at the counter and received in payment of all debts due to the Bank. Parties having paper for collection in this Bank are hereby notified to whether the same be payable in specie or Treasury Notes, to receive the above currency; and, henceforth, no paper will be received for collection unless the parties agree to the above.

By order of the Board.
MORTIMER BELLY, Cashier.
sep19 1t

LOUISIANA STATE BANK, New Orleans, Sept. 16, 1861.

☞ This Bank, in conformity with the recommendation of the Governor, has suspended specie payment on all its liabilities. Hereafter, Confederate Treasury Notes will be accepted at their current rate, on deposit. Parties having paper for collection in this Bank are hereby notified that unless they consent to receive Treasury Notes of the Confederate States, or local bank notes, in payment of the money, to withdraw the same, and no paper shall hereafter be received on collection where the owners require other than Treasury Notes or local bank notes in payment of the money.

By order: (Signed) L. BERNARD, Cashier.
sep17 1t

STAR MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 15 Carondelet street, New Orleans, Aug. 21, 1861.

☞ This Company will continue to insure against the loss or damage by fire, and the perils of the seas and rivers, at the current rates of premium.

DIRECTORS:

P. A. Girard, firm of P. A. Girard & Co.
A. Wurt, firm of Jas. Wurt & Co.
G. W. Logan, firm of Logan, Sonnet & Claiborne.
A. F. Kidd, firm of Kidd & McAnsney.
F. Lelong, firm of Memery, Lelong & Co.
S. Bugbacher, firm of Rodick & Bugbacher.
Lloyd R. Osborne, firm of Osborne, Benton & Withers.
W. Quantell, firm of Wm. Fagan & Co.
W. C. C. Claiborne.
Chas. A. Castillo, firm of W. A. Gordon & Castillo.
J. de Fuentes, firm of S. Ory & Co.

Further your attention to the correspondence between Her Britannic Majesty's Minister accredited to this Government, and the Secretary of State, relative to the detention of the British ship Perthshire, in June last, by the United States steamer Massachusetts, for a supposed attempt to run the blockade. As this detention was occasioned by an obvious misapprehension of the facts, and as justice requires that we should commit no belligerent act not founded in strict right as sanctioned by public law, I recommend that an appropriation be made to satisfy the reasonable demand of the owner of the vessel for her detention.

I repeat the recommendation of my predecessor, in his annual message to Congress in December last, in regard to the disposition of the surplus which will probably remain after satisfying the claims of American citizens against China, pursuant to the award of the commissioners, under the act of the 3d March, 1859. If, however, it should not be deemed advisable to carry that recommendation into effect, I would suggest that authority be given for investing the principal over the surplus referred to in good securities, with a view to the satisfaction of such other just claims of our citizens against China as are now pending or may hereafter in the course of our trade with that Empire.

By the act of the 5th of August last, Congress authorized the President to instruct the commanders of suitable vessels to defend themselves against and to capture pirates. This authority has been exercised in a single instance only.

For the more effectual protection of our extensive and valuable commerce in the eastern seas especially, it seems that it would be advisable to authorize the commanders of sailing vessels to recapture any prizes which pirates may make of United States vessels and their cargoes, and the commercial courts, established by law in the eastern countries, to adjudicate the cases, in the event that this should not be objected to by the legal authorities.

If any good reason exists why we should persist longer in withholding our recognition of the independence and sovereignty of Hayti and Liberia, I am unable to discover it. Unwilling, however, to inaugurate a new policy in this respect without the approbation of Congress, I submit for your consideration the expediency of an appropriation for maintaining a charge d'affaires near each of those States. It does not admit of doubt that important commercial advantages might be secured by favorable treaties with them.

The operations of the Treasury during the period which has elapsed since you adjournment have been conducted with signal success. The patriotism of the people has placed at the disposal of the Government the large means demanded by the public exigencies. Much of the national loan has been taken by citizens of the industrial classes, whose confidence in their country's faith and zeal for their country's deliverance from the present peril, have induced them to contribute to the support of the Government the whole of their limited acquisitions. This fact imposes peculiar obligations to economy in disbursement and energy in action. The revenue from all sources, including loans for the financial year ending on the 30th of June, 1861, was $36,835,600 17, and the expenditures for the same period, including payment on account of the public debt, were $34,578,031 34, leaving a balance in the Treasury on the 1st of July, of $2,257,015 80 for the first quarter of the financial year, ending 30th September, 1861. The receipts from all sources including the balance from July 1st, are $102,836,948 29, and the expenses $98,239,713 03, leaving a balance on the 1st of October, 1861, of $4,232,775 18. Estimates for the remaining three-quarters of the year, and for the financial year of 1863, together with his views of the ways and means for meeting the demands contemplated by them, will be submitted to Congress by the Secretary of the Treasury. It is gratifying to know the expenses made necessary by the rebellion are not beyond the resources of the loyal people, and to believe that the same patriotism which has thus far sustained the Government will continue to sustain it till peace and union shall again bless the land.

I respectfully refer to the report of the Secretary of War for information respecting the numerical strength of the army, and for recommendations having in view an increase of its efficiency, and the well-being of the various branches of the service entrusted to his care. It is gratifying to know that the patriotism of the people is equal to the occasion, and that the number of troops tendered greatly exceeds the force which Congress authorized me to call into the field. I refer with pleasure to those portions of his report which make allusion to the creditable degree of discipline already attained by our troops, and to the excellent sanitary condition of the entire army. The recommendation by the Secretary, for an organization of the militia upon uniform basis, is an object of vital importance to the future safety of the country, and is commended to the serious attention of Congress. A large addition to the regular army, in connection with the defection that has so considerably diminished the number of its officers, gives peculiar importance to his recommendation for increasing the corps of cadets to the greatest capacity of the military academy.

By mere omission, I presume, Congress has failed to provide chaplains for the hospitals occupied by volunteers. The subject was brought to my notice, and I was induced to draw up the form of a letter, one copy of which was properly addressed to each of the persons and at the dates respectively named and stated in a schedule containing also the form of the letter, marked "A," and herewith transmitted. These gentlemen, I understand, entered upon the duties designated at the times respectively stated in the schedule, and have labored faithfully ever since. I therefore recommend that they be compensated at the same rate as chaplains in the army. I further suggest that general provision be made for chaplains to serve at hospitals as well as with regiments.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy presents in detail the operations of that branch of the service, and the activity and energy which have characterized its administration and the result of measures to increase its efficiency and power. Such has been the additions by construction and purchase that it may almost be said a navy has been created and brought into service since our difficulties commenced. Besides blockading our extensive coast, squadrons larger than ever before assembled under our flag have been put afloat, and performed deeds which have increased our naval renown. I would invite special attention to the recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy for a more perfect organization of the navy by introducing additional grades in the service. The present organization is defective and unsatisfactory, and the suggestions submitted by the department will, it is believed, if adopted, obviate the difficulties alluded to, promote harmony and increase the efficiency of the navy.

There are three vacancies on the bench of the Supreme Court, two by the decease of Justices Daniel and McLean, and one by the resignation of Justice Campbell. I have so far forbore making nominations to fill these vacancies, for reasons which I will now state. Two of the outgoing Judges resided within the States now overrun by revolt, so that if successors were appointed in the same localities, they could not serve upon their circuits, and many of the most competent there probably would not take the personal hazard of accepting to serve even here upon the Supreme Bench. I have been unwilling to throw all the appointments northward, thus disabling myself from doing justice to the South on the return of peace, although I may remark, that to transfer to the South one vote which has heretofore been in the South, would not, with reference to territory and population, be unjust. During the long and brilliant career of Judge McLean, his circuit grew into an empire, altogether too large for any one Judge to give the Courts therein more than a nominal attendance, rising in population from 147,000 in 1831 to 5,151,105 in 1860. Besides, the country has generally outgrown our present judicial system. If uniformity was at all the intention, the system requires that all the States shall be accommodated with Circuit Courts, attended by Supreme Judges, while in fact Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Florida, Texas, California and Oregon have never had any such Courts. Nor can this be well remedied without a change in the system, because the adding of Justices to the Supreme Court would create a Court altogether too dangerous for a judicial body of any sort, and the evil of it be one that will increase as new States come into the Union. Circuit Courts are useful, or they are not useful. If useful, no State should be denied them; if not useful, no State should have them. Let them be provided for all or abolished as to all. Three modifications occur to me here, which I think would be an improvement upon our present system. Let the Supreme Court be of convenient number in every event; then, first, let the whole country be divided into circuits of convenient size, the Supreme Judges to serve in a number of them corresponding to the number of independent Circuit Judges be provided for all the rest; or, secondly, the Supreme Judges be relieved from circuit duties, and Circuit Judges be provided for all the circuits; or, thirdly, dispense with Circuit Courts altogether, leaving the judicial functions wholly to the District Courts and an independent Supreme Court.

I respectfully recommend to the consideration of Congress the present condition of the statute laws, with the hope that Congress will be able to find an easy remedy for the many inconveniences and evils which constantly embarrass those engaged in the practical administration of them.

Since the organization of government, Congress has enacted some five thousand acts and joint resolutions, which fill more than six thousand closely printed pages, and are scattered through many volumes. Many of these acts have been drawn in haste and without sufficient caution, so that their provisions are often obscure in themselves, or in conflict with each other, or at least so doubtful as to render it very difficult for even the best informed persons to ascertain precisely what the statute law really is. It seems to me very important that the statute law should be made as plain and intelligible as possible, and be reduced to as small a compass as may consist with the fullness and precision of the will of the Legislature and the perspicuity of its language. These will done would, likely, greatly facilitate the labors of those whose duty it is to assist in the administration of the laws, and would bring a lasting benefit to the people by placing before them, in a more accessible and intelligible form, the laws which so deeply concern their interest and their duties.

I am informed by some, whose opinions I respect, that the acts of Congress now in force, and of permanent and general nature, might be revised and rewritten, so as to be embraced in one volume, or at least volumes of ordinary and convenient size, and I respectfully recommend to Congress to consider the subject, to devise such a plan as to their wisdom shall seem most proper for the attainment of the end proposed.

One of the unfavorable consequences of the present insurrection is the entire suppression in many places of all ordinary means of administering civil justice by the officers and in the forms of existing law. This is the case, in whole or in part, in all the insurgent States, and as our armies advance upon and take possession of parts of those States, the practical evil becomes more apparent. There are no courts or officers to whom the citizens of other States may apply for the enforcement of their lawful claims against citizens of the insurgent States, and there is a vast amount of debt constantly such claims. Some have estimated it as high as $200,000,000, due in large part from insurgents in open rebellion, to loyal citizens, who are even now making great sacrifices in the discharge of their patriotic duty to support the Government. Under these circumstances I have been urgently solicited to establish, by military power, courts to administer justice in such cases. I have thus far declined to do it, not because I had any doubt that the end proposed—the collection of debt—was just and right in itself, but because I have been unwilling to go beyond the pressure of necessity in the unusual exercise of power; but the powers of Congress, I suppose, are equal to the emergency and adequate to a relief from the whole matter to Congress, with the hope that a plan may be devised for the administration of justice in all such parts of the insurgent States and Territories as may be under control of the Government, whether by a voluntary return to allegiance and order, or by the power of our arms. This, however, not to be a permanent institution, but a temporary substitute, and to cease as soon as the ordinary courts can be reestablished in peace.

It is important that some more convenient means should be provided, if possible, for the adjustment of claims against the Government, especially in view of their increased number by reason of the war. It is as much the duty of the Government to render prompt justice against itself, in favor of citizens, as it is to administer the same between private individuals. The investigation and adjustment of all claims of this nature belongs to the judicial department. Besides, it is apparent that the attention of Congress will be more than usually engaged for some time to come with the great national questions. It was intended by the organization of the court of claims mainly to remove this branch of business from the halls of Congress, but while the court has proved to be an effective and valuable means of investigation, it, in a great degree, fails to effect the object of its creation for want of power to make its judgments final. Fully aware of the delicacy, not to say the danger of such a project, I commend to your careful consideration whether this power of making judgments final may not be properly given to the court, reserving the right of appeal on questions of law to the Supreme Court, with such other provisions as experience may have shown to be necessary.

Your attention is also invited to the report of the Postmaster General, the following being a summary statement of the condition of that Department:

The revenue from all sources during the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1861, including the annual permanent appropriation of $700,000 for the transportation of mail matter, was $9,049,206 49, being about 5 per cent. less than the revenue of 1860. The expenditures were $13,606,509 11, showing a decrease of more than 8 per cent. as compared with those of the previous year, of over $3,557,462 71. The gross revenue for the year ending June 30, 1862, is estimated at an increase of four per cent. on that of 1861, making $8,682,000, to which should be added the earnings of the department for carrying free matter, viz: $9,182,000. The total expenditures of 1862 are estimated at $12,528,000, leaving an estimated deficiency of $3,846,000 to be supplied from the Treasury, in addition to the permanent appropriation.

The present insurrection shows, I think, that the extension of the District across the Potomac river at the time of establishing the Capital here, was eminently wise, and consequently, that the relinquishment of that portion which lies in the State of Virginia was unwise and dangerous. I submit for your consideration the expediency of regarding that as a portion of the District, and the restoration of the original boundaries thereof, through negotiations with the State of Virginia.

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The relations of the Government with the Indian tribes have been disturbed by the insurrection, especially in the Northern Superintendency and in New Mexico. The Indian country south of Kansas is in possession of the insurgents from Texas and Arkansas. The agents of the United States appointed since the 4th of March for this Superintendency have been unable to reach their posts, while the agent of the Cherokees informs us that a large portion of that time have espoused the insurrectionary cause, and aimed to exercise the power of agents by virtue of commissions from the insurrectionists. It has been stated in the public press that a portion of these Indians have been organized as a military force, and are attached to the army of the insurrection. Although the Government has no official information upon the subject, letters have been written to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs by several prominent chiefs, giving assurance of their loyalty to the United States, and expressing the wish for the presence of Federal troops to protect them. It is believed that, on the repossession of the country by the Federal forces, the Indians will readily cease the hostile demonstrations, and resume their former relations to the Government.

Agriculture, confessedly the largest interest of the nation, has not a department or a bureau, but a clerkship only assigned to it in the Government. While it is fortunate that this great interest is so independent in its nature as not to have demanded and absorbed much legislation, I respectfully ask Congress to consider whether something more cannot be given voluntarily with general advantage. Annual reports exhibiting the condition of our agriculture, commerce and manufactures, would present a fund of information of great practical value to the country. While I do not venture to mature details, I venture the opinion that an agricultural and statistical bureau might profitably be organized.

The execution of the laws for the suppression of the African slave trade has been confined to the Department of the Interior. It is a subject of congratulation that the efforts which have been made for the suppression of this execrable traffic have recently been attended with unusual success. Five vessels being fitted out for the slave trade have been seized and condemned. Two masters engaged in the trade, and one person equipping the vessel as a slaver, have been convicted and subjected to the penalty of fine and imprisonment; and one captain and mate, taking up a cargo of Africans on board his vessel, has been convicted of the highest grade of offense under our laws—the punishment of which is death.

The Territories of Colorado, Dacotah and Nevada, created by the last Congress, have been organized, and civil administration has been inaugurated therein, under auspices especially gratifying, when it is considered that the attempt at treason was found existing in some of these new countries when the Federal officers arrived there. The abundant natural resources of these Territories, with the security and protection afforded by organized government, will doubtless invite to them a larger immigration when peace shall restore the business of the country to its accustomed channels. I submit the resolutions of the Legislature of Colorado, which evince the patriotic spirit of the people of the Territory. So far, the authority of the United States has been upheld in all the Territories, as it is hoped it will be in the future. I commend their interests and defense to the enlightened care of Congress and the country.

I recommend to the favorable consideration of Congress the interests of the District of Columbia. The insurrection has been the cause of much suffering and sacrifice to the inhabitants, and as they have no representative in Congress, that body should not overlook their just claims upon the Government.

At your late session a joint resolution was adopted authorizing the President to take measures for facilitating a proper representation of the industrial interests of the States at the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations, to be holden at London in the year 1862. I regret to have been unable to give personal attention to this subject, a subject at once so interesting in itself, and so extensively and intricately connected with the material prosperity of the world.

Through the Secretaries of State and Interior, a plan or system has been devised and partly measured, which will be laid before you, under and by virtue of the act of Congress, entitled "An act to confiscate property used for insurrectionary purposes," approved August 6, 1861. Legal claims of certain persons to the labor and service of certain other persons have become forfeited, and numbers of the latter thus liberated are left helpless and dependent on the United States, and must be provided for in some way. Besides this, it is not impossible that some of the States will pass similar enactments for their own benefit respectively, and by the operation of which persons of the same class will be thrown upon them for disposal. In such cases, I recommend that Congress provide for accepting such persons from such States according to some mode of valuation in lieu, *pro tanto*, of direct taxes, or upon some other plan to be agreed on with such States respectively; that such persons, on such acceptance by the General Government, be at once deemed free, and that, in any event, steps be taken for colonizing, with their consent, or the one first mentioned, if the other shall not be brought into expedience, in some place or places in a climate congenial to them.

It might be well to consider, too, whether the free colored people already in the United States could not, so far as individuals may desire, be included in such colonization. To carry out the plan of colonization may involve the acquiring of territory, but not to be a permanent institution, but a temporary substitute, and to cease as soon as the ordinary courts can be reestablished in peace.

It is important that some more convenient means should be provided, if possible, for the adjustment of claims against the Government, especially in view of their increased number by reason of the war. It is as much the duty of the Government to render prompt justice against itself, in favor of citizens, as it is to administer the same between private individuals. The investigation and adjustment of all claims of this nature belongs to the judicial department. Besides, it is apparent that the attention of Congress will be more than usually engaged for some time to come with the great national questions. It was intended by the organization of the court of claims mainly to remove this branch of business from the halls of Congress, but while the court has proved to be an effective and valuable means of investigation, it, in a great degree, fails to effect the object of its creation for want of power to make its judgments final. Fully aware of the delicacy, not to say the danger of such a project, I commend to your careful consideration whether this power of making judgments final may not be properly given to the court, reserving the right of appeal on questions of law to the Supreme Court, with such other provisions as experience may have shown to be necessary.

I ask attention to the report of the Postmaster General, the following being a summary statement of the condition of that Department:

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