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UNIVERSAL AMNESTY. Speech of Hon. J. H. Snyper in the House of Representatives, December 15, 1870.

The House having under consideration the bill for full and complete amnesty, amnesty and oblivion of all wrongful acts, delinquencies or omissions of all persons engaged in the war of the late rebellion.

Mr. Snyper said: Mr. Speaker, this is a question which has deeply interested me. I have no prepared speech to make, yet I am unwilling to allow this discussion to close without being heard in behalf of a large and intelligent class of our countrymen.

The pending bill embodies two distinct provisions, one of amnesty and the other of pardon, and one which might be termed protection against judgments and executions. It is the first of these provisions that I desire to speak.

"All political disabilities imposed by the third section of the fourteenth article of amendments to the constitution of the United States."

The State which I in part have the honor to represent in the North had given up Louisiana to the Republic of Louisiana, believing it to be a wise and just measure.

When we look back over the reconstruction measures we find that the first of any great importance was the thirteenth amendment to the constitution of the United States.

The third article, however, was stoutly resisted. This is the point to which I desire to call attention.

Let us examine this for a moment. What class of citizens are proscribed under this article? All persons who held office prior to the war, and who afterward aided or abetted the rebellion, or sympathized with those engaged in rebellion against the government of the United States.

The disability clause was not directed against the leaders of the rebellion; the men who were guilty of treason, who persecuted loyal men, who starved our prisoners, and who were the malignant enemies of the government during the war.

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