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"REPUBLICAN AT ALL TIMES, AND UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES."

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PROSPECTUS OF The Louisianian.

In the endeavor to establish another Republican journal in New Orleans, the proprietors of the LOUISIANIAN, propose to fill a necessity which has been long, and sometimes painfully—felt to exist. In the transition state of our people, in their struggling efforts to attain that position in the Body Politic, which we conceive to be their due, it is regarded that much information, guidance, encouragement, counsel and reproof have been lost, in consequence of the lack of a medium, through which these deficiencies might be supplied. We shall strive to make the LOUISIANIAN a *desideratum* in these respects.

POLICY.

As our motto indicates, the LOUISIANIAN shall be "*Republican at all times and under all circumstances*" We shall advocate the security and enjoyment of broad civil liberty, the absolute equality of all men before the law, and an impartial distribution of honor and patronage to all who merit them.

Desirous of allaying animosities, of obliterating the memory of the bitter past, of promoting harmony and union among all classes and between all interests, we shall advocate the removal of all political disabilities, foster kindness and forbearance, where malignity and resentment reigned, and seek for fairness and justice where wrong and oppression prevailed. Thus united in our aims and objects, we shall conserve our best interests, elevate our noble State, to an enviable position among her sister States, by the development of her illimitable resources, and secure the full benefits of the mighty changes in the history and condition of the people and the Country.

Believing that there can be no true liberty without the supremacy of law, we shall urge a strict and undiscriminating administration of justice.

TAXATION.

We shall support the doctrine of an equitable division of taxation among all classes, a faithful collection of the revenues, economy in the expenditures, conformably with the exigencies of the State or Country and the discharge of every legitimate obligation.

EDUCATION.

We shall sustain the carrying out of the provisions of the act establishing our common school system, and urge as a paramount duty the education of our youth, as vitally connected with their own enlightenment, and the security and stability of a Republican Government.

FINAL.

By a generous, manly, independent, and judicious conduct, we shall strive to rescue our paper, from an ephemeral, and temporary existence, and establish it upon a basis, that if we cannot "command," we shall at all events "deserve" success.

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POETRY.

TO-MORROW.

BY ABBY SAGE RICHARDSON.

Out on the beach a maiden sits;
With absent eyes and parted lips
She watches the waves lap idly up,
And marks the track of the white-winged ships;
Half awake and half in dream
She notes the gulls sail screaming by,
Feels the wind blow her yellow hair,
And counts the clouds in the changeful sky.

A ship in her dreams sails fair and fast,
Nearing and nearing the port at home,
Crowding all sail as she cuts the waves,
Leaving behind her white swirls of foam.
She sees on the deck her lover stand,
Dreaming like her of the tender hour
When he shall clasp and hold her his own.
Heart of his heart, of his life the flower.
She muses thus till the sun goes down,
Till sky and waves have in twilight kissed,
And a cloudy moon shines overhead,
Like an opal set in a ring of mist.

"To-morry," she murmurs, with quickened pulse,
Rising to leave the wave-washed strand,
"Another day of waiting and hope
Before his vessel shall greet the land.
Fly, dim night, through the trackless sky,
Hasten, O sun, to your morning place;
The glad dawn bring that will rise on me,
When I shall look in my lover's face."

Over the sea the storm-clouds hangs,
Wrapping his vessel in black eclipse.
Round and round fly the screeching gulls,
Deeper and deeper the strong prow dips.
No eye sees how the bark goes down;
No ear lists to the good ship's knell.
Soft on her pillow the maiden sleeps,
While her lover's lips waft their last farewell.

Morning dawns with rosiest glow,
Tinging the waters with coral and gold,
Nor in sea nor sky is a whisper heard
Of the secret the white-topped billows hold.
Day after day the maiden will wait,
Month grow to year ere her watching be o'er
Nor a lover who never will come to land,
For a ship which never will touch the shore.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

WASHINGTON, December 4.—The President's third annual message to Congress reads as follows:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In addressing my third annual message to the law making branch of the government, it is gratifying to be able to state that during the past year success has generally attended the effort to execute all laws found upon the statute books. The policy has been not to inquire into the wisdom of the laws already enacted, but to learn their spirit and intent and to enforce them accordingly. The past year has, under a wise Providence, been one of general prosperity to the nation. It has, however, been attended with more than usual chastisements in the loss of life and property by storm and fire. These disasters have served to call forth the best elements of human nature in our country, and to develop a friendship for us on the part of foreign nations, which goes far toward alleviating the distresses occasioned by these calamities. The benevolent who have so generously shared their means with the victims of these misfortunes will reap their reward in the consciousness of having performed a noble act, and in proving the grateful thanks of men, women and children whose sufferings they have relieved.

The relations of the United States with foreign powers continue to be friendly.

The year has been an eventful one. In witnessing two great nations, speaking one language and having one lineage, settling by peaceful arbitration disputes of long standing, and liable at any time to bring these nations into bloody and costly conflict, an example has been set which, if successful in its final issue, may be followed by other civilized nations, and finally be the means of returning to productive industry millions of men now maintained to settle the disputes of nations by the bayonet and the broadside. I transmit herewith a copy of the treaty alluded to, which has been concluded since the adjournment of Congress, with her Britannic majesty and a copy of the protocols of the conferences of the commissioners by whom it was negotiated. This treaty provides methods for adjusting the questions pending between the two nations. Various questions are to be adjusted by arbitration. I recommend Congress at an early day to make the necessary provision for the tribunal at Geneva, and for the several commissions on the part of the United States called for by the treaty. His majesty the King of Italy, the President of the Swiss Confederation, and his majesty the Emperor of Brazil have each consented, on the joint request of the two powers, to name an arbitrator for the tribunal at Geneva. I have caused my thanks to be suitably expressed for the readiness with which the joint request has been complied with by the appointment of gentlemen of eminence and learning to these important positions. His majesty the Emperor of Germany has been pleased to comply with the joint request of the two governments, and has consented to act as the arbitrator of the disputed water boundary between the United States and Great Britain. The contracting parties in the treaty have undertaken to regard as between themselves certain principles of public law for which the United States have contended from the commencement of their history. They have also agreed to bring these principles to the knowledge of the old maritime powers, and to invite them to accede to them. Negotiations are going on as to the form of the note by which the invitation is to be extended to the other powers.

I recommend the legislation necessary on the part of the United States to bring into operation the articles of the treaty relating to the fisheries, and to the other matters touching the relations of the United States toward British North American possessions, to become operative so soon as the proper legislation shall be had on the part of Great Britain and its possessions. It is much to be desired that this legislation may become operative before the fishermen of the United States begin to make their arrangements for the coming season. I have addressed a communication, of which a copy is to be transmitted herewith, to the governors of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin, urging upon the governments of those States respectively the necessary action on their part to carry into effect the object of the article of the treaty which contemplates the use of the canals on either side connected with the navigation of the lakes and rivers forming the boundary on terms of equality by the inhabitants of both countries. It is hoped that the importance of the object, and the benefits to flow therefrom, will secure the speedy approval and legislative sanction of the States concerned.

I renew the recommendation for an appropriation for determining the true position of the forty-ninth parallel of latitude, where it forms the boundary between the United States and the British North American possessions, between the Lake of the Woods and the summit of the Rocky Mountains. The early action of Congress on this recommendation would put it in the power of the War Department to place a force in the field during the next summer.

The resumption of diplomatic relations between France and Germany have enabled me to give directions for the withdrawal of the protection extended to Germans in France by the diplomatic and consular representatives of the United States in that country. It is just to add that the delicate duty of this protection has been performed by the minister and the consul general at Paris, and the various consuls in France under the supervision of the latter, with great kindness, as well as with prudence and tact. This course has received the commendation of the German government, and has wounded no susceptibility of the French

The government of the emperor of Germany continues to manifest a friendly feeling toward the United States, and a desire to harmonize with the moderate and just policy which this government maintains in its relations with Asiatic powers, as well as with the South American republics. I have given assurances that the friendly feelings of that government are fully shared by the United States. The ratifications of the consular and naturalization conventions with the Austro Hungarian empire have been exchanged. I have been officially informed of the annexation of the States of the Church to the kingdom of Italy, and the removal of the capital of that kingdom to Rome. In conformity with the established policy of the United States I have recognized this change. The ratifications of the new treaty of commerce between the United States and Italy have been exchanged. The two powers have agreed in this treaty that private property at sea shall be exempt from capture in case of war between the two powers. The United States have spared no opportunity of incorporating this rule into the obligation of nations. The Forty-first Congress, at its third session, made an appropriation for the organization of a mixed commission for adjudicating upon the claims of citizens of the United States against Spain, growing out of the insurrection in Cuba. That commission has since been organized I transmit herewith the correspondence relating to its formation and its jurisdiction. It is to be hoped that this commission will afford the claimants a complete remedy for their injuries. It has been made the agreeable duty of the United States to preside over a conference at Washington between the plenipotentiaries of Spain and the allied South American republics, which has resulted in an armistice with the reasonable assurance of a permanent peace. The intimate friendly relations which have so long existed between the United States and Russia continue undisturbed. The visit of the third son of the emperor is a proof that there is no desire on the part of his government to diminish the cordiality of those relations. The hospitable reception which has been given to the grand duke is a proof that, on our side, we share the wishes of that government. The inexcusable course of the Russian minister at Washington rendered it necessary to ask his recall, and to decline to longer to receive that functionary as a diplomatic representative. It was impossible with self respect, or with a just regard to the dignity of the country, to permit Mr. Catacazy to continue to hold intercourse with this government, after his personal abuse of government officials, and during his persistent interference through various means with the relations between the United States and other powers. In accordance with my wishes, this government has been relieved of further intercourse with Mr. Catacazy, and the management of the affairs of the imperial legation has passed into the hands of a gentleman entirely unobjectionable.

With Japan we continue to maintain intimate relations. The cabinet of the mikado has, since the close of the last session of Congress, selected citizens of the United States to serve in offices of importance in several departments of government. I have reason to think that this selection is due to an appreciation of the disinterestedness of the policy which the United States have pursued toward Japan. It is our desire to continue to maintain this disinterested and just policy with China, as well as Japan.

The correspondence transmitted herewith shows that there is no disposition on the part of this government to swerve from its established course. Prompted by a desire to put an end to the barbarous treatment of our shipwrecked sailors on the Corean coast, I instructed our minister at Pekin to endeavor to conclude a convention with Corea, for securing the safety and humane treatment of such mariners. Admiral Rodgers was instructed to accompany him with a sufficient force to protect him in case of need. A small surveying party sent out, on reaching the coast, was treacherously attacked at a disadvantage. Ample opportunity was given for explanation and apology for the insult. Neither came. A force was then landed. After an arduous march over a rugged and difficult country, the forts from which the outrages had been committed were reduced by a gallant assault and were destroyed. Having thus punished the criminals, and having vindicated the honor of the flag, the expedition returned, finding it impracticable, under the circumstances, to conclude the desired convention

I respectfully refer to the correspondence relating thereto herewith submitted, and leave the subject for such action as Congress may see fit to take. The republic of Mexico has not yet repealed the very objectionable laws establishing what is known as the "free zone," on the frontier of the United States. It is hoped that this may yet be done, and also that more stringent measures may be taken by that republic for restraining lawless persons on its frontiers. I hope that Mexico, by its own action, will soon relieve this government of the difficulties experienced from these causes.

Our relations with the various republics of Central and South America continue, with one exception, to be cordial and friendly. I recommend some action by Congress regarding the overdue installments under award of the Venezuelan claims commission of 1866. The internal dissensions of this government present no justification for the absence of effort to meet their solemn treaty obligations. The ratification of an extradition treaty with Nicaragua has been exchanged.

It is a subject for congratulation that the great empire of Brazil has taken the initiatory steps toward the abolition of slavery. Our relations with that empire, always cordial, will naturally be made more so by this act. It is not too much to hope that the government of Brazil may hereafter find it for its interest, as well as intrinsically right, to advance toward entire emancipation more rapidly than the present act contemplates. The true prosperity and greatness of a nation is to be found in the elevation and education of its laborers. It is a subject for regret that the reforms in this direction, which were voluntarily promised by the statesmen of Spain, have not been carried out in its West India colonies. The laws and regulations for the apparent abolition of slavery in Cuba and Porto Rico leave most of the laborers in bondage, with no hope of release until their lives become a burden to their employers.

I desire to direct your attention to the fact that citizens of the United States, or persons claiming to be citizens, of the United States are large holders in foreign lands of this species of property forbidden by the fundamental laws of their alleged country. I recommend to Congress to provide by stringent legislation a suitable remedy against the holding, owning or dealing in slaves, or of being interested in slave property in foreign lands, either as owners, hirers or mortgagers by citizens of

It is to be regretted that the disturbed condition of the Island of Cuba continues to be a source of annoyance and anxiety. The existence of a protracted struggle in such close proximity to our own territory, without apparent prospect of an early termination, can not be other than an object of concern to a people, who, while abstaining from interference in the affairs of other powers, naturally desire to see every country in the undisturbed enjoyment of peace, liberty and the blessings of free institutions. Our naval commanders in Cuban waters have been instructed, in case it should become necessary, to spare no effort to protect the lives and property of bona fide American citizens, and to maintain the dignity of the flag.

It is hoped that all pending questions with Spain, growing out of the affairs in Cuba, may be adjusted in the spirit of peace and conciliation which has hitherto guided the two powers in their treatment of such questions.

To give importance and to add to the efficiency of our diplomatic relations with Japan and China, and to further aid in retaining the good opinion of those peoples, and to secure to the United States its share of the commerce destined to flow between those nations and the balance of the commercial world, I earnestly recommend that an appropriation be made to support at least four American youths in each of those countries to serve as a part of the official family of our minister there. Our representatives would not even then be placed upon an equality with the representatives of Great Britain, and of some other powers. As now situated, our representatives in Japan and China have to depend for interpreters and translators upon natives of those countries, who know our language imperfectly, or procure for the occasion the services of employes in foreign business houses, or the interpreters to other foreign ministers.

I would also recommend liberal measures for the purpose of supporting the American lines of steamers now plying between San Francisco and Japan and China and the Australian line, almost our only remaining line of ocean steamers, and of increasing their services.

The national debt has been reduced to the extent of eighty-six millions fifty-seven thousand one hundred and twenty-six dollars and eighty cents during the year, and by the negotiation of national bonds at a lower rate of interest. The interest on the public debt has been so far diminished that now the sum to be raised for the interest account is nearly seventeen million dollars less than on the first of March, 1869. It was highly desirable that this rapid diminution should take place, both to strengthen the credit of the country and to convince its citizens of their entire ability to meet every dollar of liability without bankrupting them, but in view of the accomplishment of these desirable ends of the rapid development of the resources of the country, its increasing ability to meet large demands, and the amount already paid, it is not desirable that the present resources of the country should continue to be taxed in order to continue this rapid payment. I therefore recommend a modification of both the tariff and internal tax laws. I recommend that all taxes from internal sources be abolished, except those collected from spiritous, vinous and malt liquors, tobacco in its various forms, and from stamps. In readjusting the tariff I suggest that a careful estimate be made of the amount of surplus revenue collected under the present laws after providing for the current expenses of the government, the interest account and a sinking fund, and that this surplus be reduced in such a manner as to afford the greatest relief to the greatest number. There are many articles not produced at home, but which enter largely into general consumption through articles which are manufactured at home, such as medicines compounded, etc., from which very little revenue is derived, but which enter into general use. All such articles I recommend to be placed on the free list

Should a further reduction prove advisable, I would then recommend that it be made upon those articles which can best bear it without disturbing home production or reducing the wages of American labor. I have not entered into figures, because to do so would be to repeat what will be laid before you in the report of the Secretary of the Treasury.

The present laws for collecting the revenue pay collectors of customs small salaries, but provide for moieties. Shares in all seizures which at principal ports of entry particularly raise the compensation of those officials to a large sum. It has always seemed to me as if this system must at times work perniciously It holds out an inducement to dishonest men, should such get possession of those offices, to be lax in their scrutiny of goods entered, to enable them finally to make large seizures. Your attention is respectfully invited to this subject.

Continued fluctuations in the value of gold, as compared with the national currency, has a most damaging effect upon the increase and development of the country, in keeping up prices of all articles necessary in every day life. It fosters a spirit of gambling, prejudicial alike to national morals and the national finances. If the question can be met as to how to give a fixed value to our currency, that value constantly and uniformly approaching par with specie, a very desirable object will be gained.

For the operations of the army in the past year, the expense of maintaining it, the estimates for the ensuing year, and for continuing seacoast and other improvements conducted under the supervision of the War Department, I refer you to the accompanying report of the Secretary of War. I call your attention to the provisions of the act of Congress, approved March 3, 1869, which discontinues promotions in the staff corps of the army until provided for by law. I recommend that the number of officers in each grade in the staff corps be fixed, and that whenever the number in any one grade falls below the number so fixed that the vacancy may be filled by promotion from the grade below. I also recommend that when the office of chief of a corps becomes vacant, the place may be filled by selection from the corps in which the vacancy exists.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy shows an improvement in the number and efficiency of the naval force, without material increase in the expense of supporting it. This is due to the policy which has been adopted and is being extended as fast as our material will admit, of using smaller vessels as cruisers on the several stations. By this means we have been enabled to occupy at once a larger extent of cruising ground, to visit more frequently the ports where the presence of our flag is desirable, and generally to discharge more efficiently the appropriate duties of the navy in time of peace, without exceeding the number of men or the expenditure authorized by law.

During the past year the navy has, in addition to its regular services, supplied the men and officers for the vessels of the coast survey, and has completed the surveys authorized by Congress of the isthmus of Darien and Tehauntepec, and under like authority has sent out an expedition completely furnished and equipped to explore the unknown ocean of the north. The suggestions of the report as to the necessity for increasing and improving the material of the navy, and the plan recommended for reducing the personnel of the service to a peace standard by the gradual abolition of certain grades of officers, the reduction of others, and the employment of some in the service of the commercial marine, are well considered, and deserve the thoughtful attention of Congress. I also recommend that all promotions in the navy above the rank of captain be by selection, instead of by seniority. This course will secure in the higher grades greater efficiency, and hold out an incentive to young officers to improve themselves in the knowledge of their profession. The present cost of maintaining the navy, its cost compared with that of the preceding year, and the estimates for the ensuing year, are contained in the accompanying report of the Secretary of the Navy.

The enlarged receipts of the Post office Department, as shown by the accompanying report of the Postmaster General, exhibit a gratifying increase in that branch of the public service. It is the index of the growth of education and of the prosperity of the people—two elements highly conducive to the vigor and stability of republics with a vast territory like ours, much of it sparsely populated, but all requiring the services of the mail. It is not at present to be expected that this department can be made self-sustaining, but a gradual approach to this end from year to year is confidently relied on, and the day is not far distant when the Postoffice Department of the government will prove a much greater blessing to the whole people than it is now. The suggestions of the Postmaster General for improvements in the department presided over by him are earnestly recommended to your special attention; especially do I recommend favorable consideration of the plan for uniting the telegraphic system of the United States with the postal system. It is believed that by such a course the cost of telegraphing could be much reduced, and the service as well, if not better, rendered. It would secure the further advantage of extending the telegraph through portions of the country where private enterprise will not construct it. Commerce, trade, and, above all, the efforts to bring a people widely separated into a community of interest, are always benefited by a rapid intercommunication. Education, the grand work of Republican institutions, is encouraged by increasing the facilities to gather speedy news from all parts of the country. The desire to reap the benefit of such improvements will stimulate education. I refer you to the report of the Postmaster General for full details of the operations of last year, and for comparative statements of the result with former years.

There has been imposed upon the executive branch of the government the execution of the act of Congress approved April 20, 1871, and commonly known as the Ku-Klux law, in a portion of the State of South Carolina. The necessity of the course pursued will be demonstrated by the report of the committee to investigate Southern outrages. Under the provisions of the above act I issued a proclamation calling the attention of the people of the United States to the same, and declaring my reluctance to exercise any of the extraordinary powers thereby conferred upon me, except in case of imperative necessity, but making known my purpose to exercise such powers whenever it should become necessary to do so, for the purpose of securing all citizens of the United States the peaceful enjoyment of the rights guaranteed to them by the constitution and the laws. After the passage of this law information was received from time to time that combinations of the character referred to in this law existed, and were powerful in many parts of the Southern States, particularly in certain counties in the State of South Carolina.

Careful investigation was made, and it was ascertained that in nine counties of that State such combinations were active and powerful, embracing a sufficient portion of citizens to control the local authority, and having, among other things, the object of depriving the emancipated class of the substantial benefits of freedom, and of preventing the free political action of those citizens who did not sympathize with their own views. Among their operations were frequent scourgings and occasional assassinations, generally perpetrated at night by disguised persons, their victims in almost all cases being citizens of different political sentiments from their own, or freed persons who had shown a disposition to claim equal rights with other citizens. Thousands of unoffensive and well disposed citizens were the sufferers by this lawless violence. Thereupon, on the twelfth of October, 1871, a proclamation was issued, in terms of the law, calling upon the members of those combinations to disperse within five days, and to deliver to the marshal or military officers of the United States all arms, ammunition, uniforms, disguises, and other means and implements used by them for carrying out their unlawful purposes. This warning not having been heeded, on the seventeenth of October another proclamation was issued suspending the writ of habeas corpus in nine counties in that State. Direction was given that within the counties so designated persons supposed, upon creditable information, to be members of such unlawful combinations should be arrested by the military forces of the United States and delivered to the marshal, to be dealt with according to law.

In two of said counties—York and Spartansburg—many arrests have been made. At the last account the number of persons thus arrested was one hundred and sixty-eight. Several hundred, whose criminality was ascertained to be of an inferior degree, were released for the present. These have generally made confessions of their guilt. Great caution has been exercised in making these arrests, and notwithstanding the large number, it is believed that no innocent person is now in custody. The prisoners will be held for regular trial in the judicial tribunals of the United States. As soon as it appeared that the authorities of the United States were about to take vigorous measures to enforce the law, many persons absconded, and there is good reason for supposing that all of such persons have violated the law. A full report of what has been done under this law, will be submitted to Congress by the Attorney General.

In Utah there still remains a remnant of barbarism, repugnant to civilization, to decency, and to the laws of the United States. Territorial officers, however, have been found who are willing to perform their duty in a spirit of equity and with a due sense of sustaining the majesty of the law. Neither polygamy nor any other violation of existing statutes will be permitted within the territory of the United States. It is not with the religion of the self-styled "Saints" that we are now dealing, but with their practices. They will be protected in the worship of God according to the dictates of their own consciences, but they will not be permitted to violate the laws under the cloak of religion. It may be advisable for Congress to consider what, in the execution of the laws against polygamy, is to be the status of plural wives and their offspring. The propriety of Congress passing an enabling act, authorizing the Territorial Legislature of Utah to legitimize all children born prior to a time fixed in the act, might be justified by its humanity to these ignorant children. This is a suggestion only, and not a recommendation.

The policy pursued toward the Indians has resulted favorably, so far as can be judged from the limited time during which it has been in operation. Through the exertions of the various societies of Christians to whom has been intrusted the execution of the policy, and the board of commissioners authorized by the law of April 10, 1869, many tribes of Indians have been induced to settle upon reservations, to cultivate the soil, to perform productive labor of various kinds, and to partially accept civilization. They are being cared for in such a way, it is hoped, as to induce those still pursuing their old habits of life to embrace the only opportunity which is left them to avoid extermination.

I recommend liberal appropriations to carry out the Indian peace policy, not only because it is humane, Christianlike and economical, but because it is right. I recommend to your favorable consideration, also, the policy of granting a territorial government to the Indians in the Indian Territory west of Arkansas and Missouri, and south of Kansas. In doing so every right guaranteed to the Indian by treaty should be secured. Such a course might in time be the means of collecting most of the Indians now between the Missouri and the Pacific and south of the British possessions into one Territory or one State.

The Secretary of the Interior has treated upon this subject at length, and I commend to you his suggestions.

I renew my recommendation that the public lands be regarded as a heritage to our children, to be disposed of only in so quired for occupation, and to actual settlers. Those already granted have been in great part disposed of in such a way as to secure access to the balance by the hardy settler who may wish to avail himself of them; but caution should ever be exercised in attaining so desirable an object. Educational interests may well be served by the grant of the proceeds of the sale of public lands to settlers. I do not wish to be understood as recommending in the least degree a curtailment of what is being done by the general government for the encouragement of education.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior, submitted with this, will give you all the information collected and prepared for publication in regard to the census taken during the year 1870—the operations of the Bureau of Education for the year, the Patent Office, the Pension Office, the Land Office, and the Indian Bureau. The report of the Commissioner of Agriculture gives the operations of this department for the year. As agriculture is the groundwork of our prosperity, too much importance can not be attached to the labors of this department. It is in the hands of an able head, with able assistants, all zealously devoted to introducing into the agricultural productions of the nation useful products adapted to any of the various climates and soils of our vast territory, and to giving all useful information as to the method of cultivation of the plants, cereals and other products adapted to particular localities. Quietly but surely the Agricultural Bureau is working a great national good, and if duly supported, the more widely its influence will be extended, and the less dependent we shall be upon the products of foreign countries.

The subject of compensation to the heads of bureaus and officials holding positions of responsibility, and requiring ability and character to fill properly, is one to which your attention is invited; but the officials receive a compensation equal to the respectable support of a family, while their duties are such as to involve millions of interest. In private life, services demand compensation equal to the services rendered. A wise economy would dictate the same rule in the government service. I have not given the estimates for the support of government for the ensuing year, nor the comparative statement between the expenditures for the year just passed and the one just preceding, because all these figures are contained in the accompanying reports or in those presented directly to Congress. These estimates have my approval.

More than six years have now elapsed since the last hostile gun was fired between the armies then arrayed against each other; one for the perpetuation, the other for the destruction of the Union. It may well be considered whether it is not now time that the disabilities imposed by the fourteenth amendment should be removed. That amendment does not exclude the ballot, but only imposes the disability to hold office upon certain classes. When the purity of the ballot is secure, majorities are sure to elect officers reflecting the views of the majority. I do not see the advantage or propriety of excluding men from office merely because they were, before the rebellion, of standing and character sufficient to be elected to positions requiring them to take oath to support the constitution, and admitting to eligibility those entertaining precisely the same views, but of less standing in their communities. It may be said that the former violated an oath, while the latter did not. The latter did not have it in their power to do so. If they had taken that oath, it can not be doubted that they would have broken it, as did the former class.

If there are any great criminals distinguished above all others for the part they took in opposition to the government, they might, in the judgment of Congress, be excluded from such an amnesty. This subject is submitted for your careful consideration. The condition of the Southern States is, unhappily, not such as all true patriotic citizens would like to see. Local ostracism for opinion's sake, personal violence or threats toward persons entertaining political views opposed to those entertained by the majority of the old citizens, prevents emigration and the flow of much needed capital into the States lately in rebellion. It will be a happy condition of the country when the old citizens of these States will take an interest in public affairs, promulgate ideas honestly entertained, vote for men registering their views, and tolerate the same freedom of expression and ballot in those entertaining different political convictions.

Under the provisions of the act of Congress, approved February 21, 1871, a territorial government was organized in the District of Columbia. Its results have thus far fully realized the expectations of its advocates. Under the direction of the territorial officers a system of improvements has been inaugurated, by means of which Washington is rapidly becoming a city worthy of the nation's capital. The citizens of the district have voluntarily taxed themselves to a large amount for the purpose of contributing to the advancement of the seat of government. I recommend liberal appropriations on the part of Congress in order that the government may bear its just share of the expense of carrying out a judicious system of improvements.

By the great fire in Chicago the most important of the government buildings in that city were consumed. Those burned had already become inadequate to the wants of the government in that growing city, and, looking to the near future, were totally inadequate. I recommend, therefore, that an appropriation be made immediately to purchase the remainder of the square on which the burned buildings stood, provided it can be purchased at a fair valuation, and provided that the Legislature of Illinois will pass a law authorizing its condemnation for government purposes, and, also, appropriating as much money as can be expended toward the erection of new buildings during this fiscal year.

The number of immigrants ignorant of our laws, habits, etc., coming into our country annually has become so great, and impositions practiced upon them so numerous and flagrant that I suggest Congressional action for their protection. It seems to me a fair subject of legislation by Congress. I can not now state as fully as I desire the nature of the complaints by immigrants of the treatment they receive, but will endeavor to do so during the session of Congress, particularly if the subject should receive your attention. It has has been the aim of the administration to enforce honesty and efficiency in all public offices. Every public servant who has violated the trust placed in him has been proceeded against with all the rigor of the law. If bad men have secured places, it has been the fault of the system established by custom for making appointments, or the fault of those who recommend for government positions persons not sufficiently well known to be personally responsible, or who have letters indorsing the characters of office seekers without proper sense of the grave responsibility which such a course devolves upon them. A civil service reform which can correct these abuses is much desired in mercantile pursuits. The business man who gives a letter of recommendation to a friend to enable him to obtain credit from a stranger is regarded as morally responsible for the integrity of his friend, and his ability to meet his obligations A reformation law which would enforce this principle against all indorsers of persons for public place would insure great caution in making recommendations.

A salutary lesson has been taught the careless and dishonest public servant in the great number of prosecutions and convictions of the last two years. It is gratifying to notice the favorable change which is taking place throughout the country in bringing to punishment those who have proven recreant to the trusts confided to them, and in elevating to public office none but those who possess the confidence of the honest and the virtuous, who it will always be found comprise the majority of the community in which they live. In my message to Congress one year ago, I urgently recommended a reform in the civil service of the country, in conformity with that recom-

[CONCLUDED ON FOURTH PAGE.]

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