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WASHINGTON.

ILLNESS OF PRESIDENT JOHNSON

Interesting Congressional Proceedings Yesterday.

Consideration in the Senate of the Resolution for Southern Provisional Governments.

Senator Doolittle's Speech in Opposition to It and in Support of the President.

General Grant One of the Numerous and Interested Auditors.

Information Called for Relative to Affairs on the Rio Grande.

Appearance of a Senator from North Carolina.

Continued Discussion in the House on the District of Columbia Negro Suffrage Bill.

Tabling of the Protective Homestead Company's Southern Emigration Scheme.

&c. &c. &c.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17, 1866.

INDISPOSITION OF THE PRESIDENT.

I regret to announce that the President is considerably indisposed this evening, although no fears are entertained of his serious illness.

SPEECH OF SENATOR DOOLITTLE ON THE RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENTS IN THE SOUTHERN STATES.

The speech of Senator Doolittle, from Wisconsin, in reply to the resolution of his colleague providing for the the establishment of provisional governments in the Southern States, was delivered to-day, and occupied about three hours and a quarter. The galleries were densely crowded, and large numbers of Southern members elect were present upon the floor—among the latter Randall Hunt, Senator elect from Louisiana, and several of the delegation from Mississippi and Tennessee. The effort is especially marked for strong and decided premises, and is the first speech of the session in this wing of the Capitol that has taken up in detail the reprobation of the radical programme, and contended for the entire legality of President Johnson's acts under his reconstruction policy. Among political circles it is the predominating matter of discussion, the radicals crying out loudly against Mr. Doolittle's assertion that, if this Congress fails to carry out the present order of things for a complete restoration of the Southern States, the next Congress will do it, and that those who continue to array themselves in hostility will be crushed. At the close of the debate the fervid announcement of the speaker that he could see no patriotic course at this juncture of national affairs diverging from the path now being pursued by the administration, and that upon that line he proposed to fight it out in support of that policy, brought down a hearty round of applause from the galleries—the first vouchsafed to any forensic effort in the Senate since the opening of the session. General Grant occupied a seat in the diplomatic gallery during the delivery of Senator Doolittle's speech.

THE NEGRO SUFFRAGE QUESTION.

Mr. Wilson, of Iowa, who, as chairman of the Judiciary Committee, holds the throttle on the debate over the negro suffrage bill, gives notice that he will move the previous question at half-past three to-morrow on the recommitment of the bill. Messrs. Darling, Hale and Van Horn, of New York, and Thayer, of Pennsylvania, spoke to-day on the subject. Sidney Clarke, of Kansas, has the floor for to-morrow. The majority on the republican side of the House are heartily sick of the bill, and believe the very worst thing that could befall them would be the necessity of voting on it.

Some of the republican members from Indiana are growing tired of the wrangle about negro suffrage, and do not hesitate to say that if applied to that State it would lose them every Congressional district excepting that of Mr. Julian.

THAD STEVENS' PROPOSITION TO REPEAL THE TEST OATH RELATING TO LAWYERS.

Thad Stevens' sudden anxiety to repeal so much of the Congressional test oath as prohibited Southern attorneys from practising in the South created much surprise at the time, and has led to much discussion since among those not fully in the secret. It seems that a small caucus of the faithful met at Mr. Chase's on Saturday evening, where the whole subject was informally discussed. Judge Chase is understood to have said that the law was clearly against the oath; that the question now before the Supreme Court involved the whole principle, and must soon be decided, and recommended the course pursued by Stevens on the following Monday as the best method for relieving him from the necessity of making a disagreeable decision, and the party from possessing a most unwieldy elephant.

ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION FOR UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGES IN MAINE.

The House has passed a bill giving additional compensation to Dallas Stone District Judges of Maine in the shape of mileage. The Judges have heretofore been paid two thousand dollars a year; but since the town of Machias has been added to the circuit the Judges who live in Portland find that sum insufficient to pay travelling expenses, wear and tear, &c., over the corduroy roads of the State. This action for the relief of Maine Judges is not to be taken as an implication that Congress is willing to relieve other ill paid Judges. The custom of the committee has been to report against any increase of judicial salaries, directly or indirectly, and it will probably be adhered to.

FINANCIAL MATTERS.

The Committee on Ways and Means are reported to be by no means harmonious concerning what is popularly termed Secretary McCulloch's bill on financial affairs. Many of them are opposed to giving him the authority to go into foreign markets for loans. It is difficult to see how this can conflict with sound policy. Our bonds will inevitably find their way abroad, and the only question to decide is whether the secretary shall negotiate them himself on the best obtainable terms, or allow them to pass through bankers and brokers as usurious.

BOUNTY MONEY TO SETTLERS IN THE SOUTHERN STATES.

The bill to incorporate a company for encouraging settlements in the Southern States was laid on the table of the House today. Its chief, perhaps only, real fault was that the House could not understand if the corporators being entirely alive to their obligation of manliness to explain it. They do deny that they expect to make a little money in a perfectly legitimate way, though they claim that all benefits of the scheme will not be for themselves. After a reasonable time for personal explanation by members the bill will be brought up again, when it will probably receive more favorable consideration.

THE POINT LOOKOUT PROPERTY.

The owners of Point Lookout, who do not succeed very well with their project to sell the Point to the government at an enormous price for the purpose of establishing a military and naval asylum, propose to do the next best thing and get all the rent they can. They have got Congress to instruct the Secretary of War to stop the sale of the government buildings. Of course so long as the buildings remain the land holders will receive rent for their possessions.

OFFICERS OF THE REGULAR AND VOLUNTEER SERVICE.

The Secretary of War, in compliance with a Senate resolution, gives information of the officers and men of the regular army, how many and where stationed, with a similar list of general officers of volunteers. It seems that there are yet in the volunteer service forty-seven major generals and one hundred and forty-one brigadier generals. Of the former three are commanding districts, seventeen commanding departments, five are on special duty, one is on leave and twenty-one are ordered to be mustered out. Of the latter twenty-three are commanding districts and departments, six are on courts martial, six are assistant commissioners in the Freedmen's Bureau, ten are on other special duty, four are on leave and one hundred and two are ordered to be mustered out. This leaves in the service twenty-six major generals and forty-nine brigadier generals. The highest in rank in the regular army are as follows:—Lieutenant General Grant, Generals Halleck, Sherman, Meade, Sheridan and Thomas. The Brigadier Generals are Irvin McDowell, William S. Rosecrans, Philip St. George Cooke, John Pope, Joseph Hooker, W. S. Hancock, John M. Scofield, O. O. Howard, A. H. Terry and J. A. Rawlins. The total number of officers and men in the regular army is 1,124 officers and 23,795 men, an aggregate of 24,919. Of the officers 100 in the cavalry are absent, 113 in the artillery and 368 in the infantry. Of the men 5,472 are recruits assigned since the last return. All the regiments, except the Seventeenth, are assigned to military departments, and as fast as recruits are received the unorganized companies are formed and put *en route* for places of service. Companies already organized are receiving recruits. About 3,000 per month are being enlisted.

THE OHIO SENATORSHIP.

Senator Sherman's private despatches from Columbus this evening announced first that on the question of postponing the election his friends polled fifty-three against the measure to thirty-six for it. On the first ballot in caucus the vote was, Sherman forty-six, Schenck twenty-eight and Bingham sixteen. On the second ballot Sherman received forty-nine votes, being three more than a majority of all the republican members present and absent.

RECEPTION AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

The White House was again thronged with visitors during the entire day, and scores were compelled to leave late in the afternoon without having secured their coveted interviews. William Marvin, Senator elect from Georgia, John Van Buren and Robert Dale Owen were among those received in the forenoon.

PERSONAL.

General Gordon Granger arrived at Willard's to-day. Twenty-one consecutive years of service has satiated his appetite for military honors, and he proposes to resign.

James A. Smith, recently confirmed United States Attorney for the Northern and Middle districts of Alabama, has called on the President and Attorney General within a few days in relation to his official duties in that State, and created a flattering impression on the minds of both.

Major K. Knox, formerly of General McPherson's staff, has been ordered to the plains in command of Fort Ellsworth, a post some four hundred miles beyond Fort Leavenworth, and will leave on Sunday evening.

Henry J. Raymond gave a small dinner party this evening to Lieutenant General Grant and a few other distinguished persons.

THE CANADIAN COMMITTEE

who have been in the city for a few days are not here in behalf of the Reciprocity treaty, but to ascertain if it be not possible to establish some friendly commercial regulations between the countries to their mutual advantage. They expect to see the President on their return from Richmond to explain the feelings and wishes of the Canadian government and people, and may propose one or more schemes for our consideration.

PREVENTION OF SMUGGLING.

It is understood that a bill to prevent smuggling will be introduced in the Senate to-morrow. The clauses have mainly been made up from suggestions of the Treasury Department, and the penalty for evasions of duties upon imported goods has been much heavier than ever in vogue before.

THE COLOMBIAN COMMISSION

met on Monday and Tuesday and disposed of some fifty more cases, Colonel Biddle, for the United States, and General Salzar, of Colombia, being present. The cases disposed of were those which were unrepresented except by ex Judge Dean, of New York, who was appointed to examine them, and who, finding no proofs, dismissed a large number. There are only about thirty cases remaining, and they are the most important ones. The cases growing out of the old Colombian bonds, represented by S. S. Cox and John Sherwood, of New York, are postponed until Monday week, when the commission will meet again. The cases of the Pacific Steamship Company and United States Steamship Company and Panama Railroad are to be argued on printed briefs and orally when the board meet again.

COST OF PUBLIC PRINTING AND BINDING.

It appears from the report of the Superintendent of Public Printing, that the net cost of the public printing and binding for the year ending September last was $1,731,563. The close of the rebellion has caused a considerable decrease in the requisitions of the Executive Department for printing, but with the large amount of deferred printing for Congress, and that which will be ordered the present session, there will be, doubtless, enough to work the whole establishment up to its full capacity for the next two years. The report shows a large saving in printing and binding over the contract system which existed previously to the establishment of the government printing bureau.

AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

The forty-ninth annual meeting of the American Colonization Society was held last evening. It was not so largely attended as the meetings have been for several years past; but a number of the old and time honored leaders were among the auditors. The report states that the balance in the treasury at the commencement of the year was $1,522 32. The receipts have been:—From donations, $5,388 27, and from special donation for the Barbados expedition, $1,504 76; from legacies, $5,736 08; from the government of the United States, being final payments for the support of the recaptured Africans landed at Liberia in 1860, $16,082 50; from invested fund realized to meet expenses of emigrants, $11,700, and from other sources, $13,775 26. The total amount for the year is $46,819 29. The disbursements for the same period were $41,734 87, of which $9,930 36 was for passage and the usual support, &c., of American emigrants, and $10,367 98 was for the Barbados expedition, leaving the cash on hand, January 1, 1866, $5,084 34. Of this latter $4,885 37 is awaiting the order of the Liberian authorities, and the balance, $198 97, is to the credit of the society. The number of emigrants to Liberia during the past twelve months was five hundred and twenty-seven, exceeding the emigration of any year since 1856. One hundred and seventy-two emigrants who were sent on by the fall expedition from Baltimore, and who were of the class known as freedmen, and who were from near Lynchburg, Virginia, arrived safely in Liberia. The prospects for the future are that the society will soon have more than ever to do, as intelligent freedmen are continually asking questions relative to their transfer to Liberia. Though the African republic, during the last four years, has been deprived of much of the aid annually furnished from this country, it has been making steady progress in material interest, usefulness and influence.

AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

The Board of Directors of the American Colonization Society at their meeting to-day re-elected John H. B. Latrobe President. All of the Vice Presidents, seventy-nine in number, were re-elected, except James Bofley, of Mississippi; Hon. Thomas Corwin, of Ohio; Daniel Turnbull, of Louisiana, and David Hunter, of Mississippi, who died during the past year. Senator J. R. Doolittle, of Wisconsin, was elected an additional Vice President. All the other officers were re-elected. A member of the Board stated that he had a consultation with General O. O. Howard, of the Freedmen's Bureau, who favored the association and expressed his willingness to aid them in their work of colonizing the negroes. He expressed a desire to know if the Society would assist in sending colored men to Florida, there to be colonized. This was opposed by some of the board, one of them saying he a reason therefor that he believed Africa was the promised land of the negro, and that he was of the opinion that they would all sooner or later be civilized and Christianized in that country.

RETURN OF REV. DR. SUNDERLAND.

The arrival of the Rev. Dr. Sunderland was the occasion of a very handsome reception at his residence in this city last evening, at the hands of his congregation. The doctor has been absent some two years in Paris as pastor of the American Presbyterian church of that metropolis. It is intended to hold a formal reception in honor of his return at his church this evening.

THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

First Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17, 1866.

CREDENTIALS OF A NORTH CAROLINA SENATOR.

The CHAIR laid before the Senate the credentials of William A. Graham, Senator elect from North Carolina; which were ordered to lie upon the table.

NINE MONTHS TROOPS SEEKING FOR BOUNTY.

Mr. SUMNER, (rep.) of Mass., offered the petition of nine months troops in the late war, asking for an allowance of twenty-five dollars bounty.

REMONSTRANCE AGAINST ARMING THE ALABAMA MILITIA.

Mr. SUMNER presented a remonstrance against the arming of the militia in Alabama, which is stated to have been done for the purpose of repressing disorders among the colored people.

The remonstrance alleges that there is no danger of such disorders. It was referred to the Special Committee of Fifteen.

THE PETITION OF NEGROES IN COLORADO AGAINST THE ADMISSION OF THAT TERRITORY AS A STATE.

Mr. TRUMBULL, (rep.) of Ill., from the Committee on the Judiciary, asked that that committee be discharged from further consideration of the petition of colored citizens of Colorado against the admission of Colorado as a State until the word "white" is stricken from its constitution.

The petition was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Territories.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AND REPORTS OF GRANT AND SCHURZ ON THE CONDITION OF THE SOUTH.

Mr. ANTHONY, (rep.) of R. I., from the Committee on Printing, reported back a resolution for the printing of one hundred thousand copies of the Message of President Johnson, and the reports of Generals Grant and Schurz on the condition of lately rebellious States, with an amendment to make it ten thousand instead of one hundred thousand.

The resolution was adopted as amended.

CEDING LANDS, ETC., AT HARPER'S FERRY TO WEST VIRGINIA.

Mr. WILLEY, (rep.) of W. Va., introduced a bill ceding to the State of West Virginia certain lands and tenements at Harper's Ferry belonging to the United States; which was referred to the Military Committee.

AFFAIRS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

Mr. CHANDLER, (rep.) of Mich., offered a resolution calling upon the President of the United States for any information he may have received from the commander of the Department of Texas in regard to affairs on the south eastern border, and if there have been any violations of neutrality on the part of the army occupying the right bank of the Rio Grande.

THE REORGANIZATION OF THE ARMY.

Mr. WILSON, (rep.) of Mass., called up the bill to increase and fix the military peace establishment of the United States.

The substitute of the Military Committee for the original bill was read. It provides that the military peace establishment of the United States shall hereafter consist of five regiments of artillery, twelve regiments of cavalry, fifty five regiments of infantry, and such other forces as shall be provided for by this act, to be known as the Army of the United States.

Section two provides that the five regiments of artillery provided for by this act shall consist of the five regiments now organized, and the First, Second, Third and Fourth regiments of artillery shall have the same organization as is now provided by law for the Fifth regiment of artillery.

Section three provides that to the six regiments of cavalry now in service there shall be added six regiments having the same organization as is now provided by law for cavalry regiments. The first and second lieutenants of which, and two-thirds of the officers above the grade of first lieutenant, shall be selected from among the officers of the volunteer cavalry who have served two years during the war, and have been distinguished for capacity and good conduct in the field, provided that four of these additional regiments may be armed and drilled as infantry at the discretion of the President.

Section four provides that there shall be fifty-five regiments of infantry, to consist of the ten regiments of ten companies each now organized; the nine remaining regiments to be distributed that each battalion, with the addition of two companies, shall constitute a regiment of ten companies; and all the grades of first and second lieutenants, and two-thirds of the vacancies in the grade above that of first lieutenant, shall be filled by selections from among officers of volunteer infantry or artillery who have served two years during the war and have been distinguished for capacity and good conduct in the field. Ten regiments, to be officered by officers of colored troops who have served two years during the war, and have been distinguished for capacity and good conduct in the field; and eight regiments, to be composed of men who have been wounded or discharged from service on account of disease contracted in the line of duty, the officers of which shall be selected from the Veteran Reserve corps, or other officers of volunteers who have been disabled in the service; provided that promotions in the colored regiments, and in the regiments of disabled men, hereby authorized, shall be confined to the regiments of the corps.

Section five provides that the volunteer officers to be selected for appointment under the provisions of this act, shall be distributed as nearly as may be among the States in proportion to the number of troops furnished during the war.

The twenty-five succeeding sections relate to the organization of regiments, and to the different departments, Medical, Quartermaster's, Commissary, etc.

The bill was read.

Mr. SHERMAN, (rep.) of Ohio, called Mr. Wilson's attention to the fourth section, which he said seemed to require that officers for colored troops should be selected from men who have served two years in colored regiments.

Mr. WILSON said such was not the meaning; it was meant only to require two years' service in the army, and during some of that time, service in colored regiments.

On motion of Mr. WILSON further consideration of this subject was postponed.

PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENTS FOR THE SOUTHERN STATES—SPEECH OF MR. DOOLITTLE.

Mr. DOOLITTLE, (rep.) of Wis., moved that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the resolution recently offered by Mr. Howe, for the establishment of provisional governments in the lately seceded States.

The motion prevailed and the resolution was read.

Mr. DOOLITTLE addressed the Senate at length, saying, in the course of his remarks:—Two radical ideas, radically false, however, brought on this civil war, which cost the nation more than half a million lives and untold millions of treasure. First, that States had a right to secede. Second, that slavery is a blessing. The surrender of these two ideas by the South is now the basis of a permanent peace. Sir, the question whether those States are still States in the Union under the constitution is no vain abstraction—no less without immediate, practical and most grave consequences. Let of no practical consequence whether, to adopt an amendment to the constitution, it requires the ratification of twenty-seven or twenty-one States! Is it of no practical importance whether eleven States, with their six millions of people, shall be taxed and governed without representation? With less than one-third of the number of people our forefathers, because the Parliament of Great Britain, in which they had no representation, passed laws to tax them, declared the independence of these States. Is it of no practical importance whether those eleven States and ten millions of people shall govern themselves under a republican form of State governments subject only to the constitution of the United States, or whether they shall be held as subject vassals, to be governed for an indefinite period by the unlimited will of Congress or by the sword? Is it of no practical importance whether the flag of our country, for which half a million have laid down their lives and which bears thirty-six stars as an emblem of an Union of thirty-six States, speaks a nation's truth or is a mere rhetorical falsehood? These and many like questions are involved in this discussion and depend upon the answer to the one first. This is therefore, in my judgment, a question of the first magnitude—a question which must be made a question which neither men nor parties can avoid or put aside. It demands and will have an answer. It is a question, too, upon which there is and there can be no compromise and no neutrality. They are States in the Union under the constitution, or they are not. We must affirm the one or the other. We must stand upon one side, supporting the Lincoln and Johnson policy of maintaining the union of the States under the constitution to be unbroken, or we must take our stand with the Senator from Massachusetts upon the other, and maintain that the Union is broken, that secession is a success and not a failure, so far, at least, as to withdraw eleven States from the Union or reduce eleven States to the territorial condition. First, I call to mind the language of President Lincoln's proclamation of December 8, 1863. In that he said:—

> I make known that whenever in any of the States of Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina and North Carolina, a number of persons not less than one tenth in number of the votes cast in such State at the Presidential election of the year of our Lord 1860—each having taken the oath afforded and not having since violated it, and being a qualified voter by the election law of the State existing immediately before the secession of said State, and being a loyal citizen of any such State—shall re-establish a State government, which shall be republican, and in no way contravening said oath, such shall be recognized as the true government of the State, and the State shall retain the benefits of the constitutional provisions which declares that the United States shall guarantee to every State of this Union a republican form of government, and shall protect each of them against invasion.

The policy thus announced was entered upon at once in the States of Louisiana, Tennessee and Arkansas. It receives the unanimous support of every member of his Cabinet. While that great man was always open to conviction, and ready to hear the suggestions of others, he became more and more settled in his convictions as to the wisdom of that policy, from the date of that proclamation down to the very day of his death. Sir, on the 11th of April last he spoke to the people of Washington. It was on the occasion of the illumination, but three days before his assassination. The great army of the rebellion had surrendered. He had himself visited Richmond, where, from the very house occupied by Jefferson Davis, he had from time to time telegraphed the gladdening news of victory upon victory to rejoicing people. He had returned from the chief seat of the rebellion to the capital of the Union, bringing with him, as the spoils of victory, not gold, nor crowns, nor jewels, but the broken chains of four millions of slaves. In that hour of triumph and that moment of supreme exaltation, he could not refrain, when invited, from appearing before the people to add to the general joy. Among other things he said in the annual Message of December, 1863, and accompanying proclamation, "I presented a plan of reconstruction, as the phrase goes, which I promised, if adopted by any State, should be acceptable to and sustained by the executive government of the nation." This plan was in advance submitted to the then Cabinet, and distinctly approved by every member of it—every part, and parcel of the plan which has since been employed or touched upon by the action of Louisiana. The Senate will remember that Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet then consisted of Mr. Seward, Secretary of State; Mr. Chase, then Secretary of the Treasury, and now Chief Justice; Mr. Stanton, Secretary of War; Mr. Welles, Secretary of the Navy; Mr. Usher, secretary of the Interior; Mr. Blair, then Postmaster General, and Mr. Bates, then Attorney General. Let us remember that each and every one of those men approved every part and parcel of that policy. Mr. Doolittle read still further from that speech, in which Mr. Lincoln gave in most forcible language the reasons which made him adhere to and cherish that policy up to the time of his death. These, he added, state the important fact that this policy was entered upon by him with the full approbation of every member of his Cabinet as to every part and parcel of that policy, I repeat, and ask the Senate and the country to hear. We have Mr. Lincoln's positive testimony that Mr. Seward approved it in general and in detail. Mr. Chase approved it, and every part and parcel of it. Mr. Stanton and Mr. Welles also, who still remain in the Cabinet, fully and cordially approved. And now, sir, I propose to show you that a higher tribunal than Congress or the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, or the President and his Cabinet, approved and sustained that policy. The loyal people of the United States, represented at Baltimore, approved it by the renomination of Mr. Lincoln for the Presidency; and, if to make the endorsement of this part of Mr. Lincoln's policy more emphatic, Mr. Johnson was nominated for the Vice Presidency—the very man of all others who had for a long time been engaged in the great work of reconstructing civil government in the State of Tennessee upon the basis of that policy. It was objected by some in that convention, as it is here, that Tennessee had no right to representation; but on motion of the distinguished ex-Senator from New York, Preston King, now no more, her delegates were admitted. One of her sons, in spite of the objection of Mr. Thaddeus Stevens, that he was from a foreign State at war with the United States and therefore an alien, was nominated for Vice President. By these nominations that policy was sustained by the convention. The election came on; that policy and the administration which proclaimed it and the convention which endorsed it, were sustained by the people of the United States. Next to the great work of crushing the military power of the rebellion the policy of reconstruction was dearer to Mr. Lincoln and more cherished by him than any other. No sooner had the burden of his soul been lifted, no sooner had he seen the surrender of the great army of the rebellion, than, in the fulness and gladness of his soul, he made haste to give to the people his views on the great theme of reconstruction. I have just read them in your hearing. The Senator from Massachusetts may denounce them as puerile and wanting in statesmanship; but there they are, and there they will remain forever—the farewell address of Lincoln to the people of the United States upon this subject of reconstruction. That Mr. Johnson, upon whom the office of President fell by the death of Mr. Lincoln, should substantially pursue the policy begun by his predecessor was, therefore, not only natural, but, by the logic of events, almost a necessity. How could he do otherwise? Suddenly, in a moment, as in the twinkling of an eye, the load is thrown from Mr. Lincoln's shoulders upon him—his great responsibility, his duty—and why not his cherished policy? He was surrounded by the same Cabinet. Who would expect them to revise any other policy? That policy had been fully entered upon, and in some States the work was really done. Mr. Johnson had himself been long engaged in that work in aiding Mr. Lincoln to realize it in Tennessee. Besides, the Convention of Baltimore had sustained it. The great Union party which [illegible] Mr. Lincoln as President and made Mr. Johnson Vice President had endorsed it and sustained it triumphantly at the election. Mr. Johnson could not abandon it without reversing the policy of Mr. Lincoln. That policy was carried by every member of the Cabinet, including, as I have stated, among other names the very distinguished names of Mr. Seward, Mr. Stanton and Mr. Welles, still members of the Cabinet, and of Mr. Chase, Chief Justice, who, just from the presence of the dying President, administered to Mr. Johnson the high oath of office. How could he recall that last speech and look upon the dead body of his predecessor—how could he look in the face of the Chief Justice as he swore him into office, and of those men in the Cabinet, all of whom had approved every part and parcel of that policy, and upon whom alone he could then rely for counsel and support in the most trying and difficult crisis through which any man was ever called to pass—how, I repeat, could he look upon all these surroundings, and then deliberately abandon the cherished policy of Mr. Lincoln's administration, trample upon the advice of the old members of his Cabinet as well as of the chief Justice himself, abandon his well known convictions of duty, falsify his own record and betray the great Union party which nominated and elected him, in the country which had happened to be President of the United States? Had he done so the all the country would have cried out against him, and with reason. In and out of Congress men might have disdained him for betraying the public confidence, and especially for betraying the party which elected him. The Cabinet would have remonstrated against it. The language speech of Mr. Lincoln, like a voice from his grave—strong, trumpet-tongued—would plead against it. And more than all, the President would, in my judgment, have been what Mr. Johnson was never known to be—false to his own convictions of duty. I put aside, therefore, as not worthy of consideration, the suggestion sometimes made that Mr. Johnson, by adhering to the policy of reconstruction, is ready to betray the Union cause or the great measures of the Union party. Having thus stated the question, and shown the ground occupied by Mr. Lincoln, and that Mr. Johnson is substantially pursuing his policy, I return to the main question, and will state, as briefly as I can, the grounds upon which I stand and the reasons I give my support to what I call the Lincoln-Johnson policy of reconstruction. Where are these eleven States, and what is their situation? And first, where are they in the Union, under the constitution or not? If they have gone out from this Union it must have been by one or more of three ways:—First, by the way of peaceful secession, by voting and resolving themselves out; or, second, by successful revolution, by fighting their way out to a successful independence; or, third, they have been put out by act of Congress. There is not, and never has been, any other way in which secession or attempt at secession has been or can be consummated. Some of those who have spoken of the South have maintained that the first way was always open to them. They asserted the right of peaceful secession. It was always met, however, it was always overpowered by the logic of Mr. Webster in his body, and resisted by the iron will of Andrew Jackson during his administration. It has often been asserted in this hall since I became a member, and as often met and refuted. In their folly and madness the people of the South appealed to arms to discuss the same question on the field of battle. They tried the second way—namely, by way of revolution, to set their way at with the sword. That for a time they made great progress in that direction no one denies. But it was decidedly unsuccessful. No man, North or South, does adhere to it, do he not? Thanks to the Almighty Being who rules in nature, the great generals were taken at last capable of appreciating and utilizing our immense forces, and Sherman and Thomas and Sheridan and the other officers and brave men under their command, when the rebellion, wrenched the sword from the hand of revolution, and then in the last tribunal known to nations, in an appeal to the God of Battles, by the test of superior strength, and in such a way as to leave doubt in any sane mind, North or South, that no State has got out of this Union by the way of peaceable secession nor by way of successful revolution. They neither have the right nor the power to do so. Mr. Doolittle said he remained to consider the only other way, the third way, which, he bravely he would call, with his disrespectful honorable friend from Massachusetts, the "bummer" of States to go out of the Union—namely, by act of Congress—the Senator having at the moment cast his eyes here, upon the death of Judge Collamer, taken occasion to announce his theory of secession, according to his own measure the honor, if honor it be, to the dismembered seceding the rebel states from the Union. Mr. Doolittle then showed the Southern States to be in the Union under the constitution, and inquired what to their true relation and what rights they have, and what duties devolved upon them, saying:—I have shown that a view of public law nothing can be more clear than that a State does not consist in the form of its government. A commonwealth may be democratic, aristocratic or despotic; it may be military, it may be republican, despotic or monarchical. It may have been any form of these forms, or a mixed one, and yet it is a State. It may change its government every year, a free state of its future. The State no more consists in the form of government than a man consists of the garment with which he is clothed. He may change that every day. He may be stripped of every garment whatever, but still the man lives, and for a State to change its form, or for the man being to be stripped of all form of government, no more destroys its existence than it is a man dead when he takes off one coat to put on another, or stripped entirely of his garments. Nor is a State destroyed by the declaration of martial law in it, nor by its being conquered by a foreign Power, occupied by insurrection and made into two or more States, or invaded does not destroy it if it escaped the invasion, or even by civil war and even be dismembered in fraternal strife does not destroy it either, unless the final issue of it shall be against it. In the course of his argument Doolittle said Congress not only empowered but required the President to perform a tenfold duty—to make war and the other to stop the war after its end is reached—in other words, to do peace; first, to draw and wield the sword; second, making peace to return it to its scabbard. First of these great duties—namely, the draw the sword and wielding it—rested mainly upon President Lincoln; the second—namely, making peace and sheathing the sword—rests mainly upon his successor, although most fortunately for him and for the whole people Mr. Lincoln had already entered upon the great work of reconstruction, of making peace, in order to be able after peace had come—(to borrow his own beautiful language), after peace had come, and come to stay—to fulfil that other great duty imposed upon him by the law of Congress—viz. to disband our immense armies and send them home—in a word, to restore a nation's peace in a union of states and people under the constitution, with their rights unimpaired, and after that great work, the end and object of all our struggle and sacrifices, was done, to sheath the national sword. While he lived Mr. Lincoln performed these duties, and performed them well. It is true there were some mistakes in the beginning; with our inexperience and impatience the wonder is there were no more. Time was necessary to accomplish the great work, to educate the public mind, to prepare the armies and to find leaders who were capable of commanding them. How could Mr. Lincoln know, unless gifted with omniscience, that in the person of a teacher of a military academy in Louisiana was to be found that Major General Sherman, who, like God's flaming minister at the head of his conquering legions, was to sweep through the heart of the rebellion? How could he know that in that quiet, unostentatious citizen of Galena was to be found the great captain of the age—Lieutenant General Grant—who knew when, like Fabius, to be the cloud, and, like Scipio, to be the thunderbolt of war? Thank Heaven, he found the great commanders at last, who, in God's own good time, brought the final and supreme victory over the rebellion. Thank God, Mr. Lincoln was permitted to live until the first great work of crushing the rebellion was almost done, and the second hardly less important work of reconstruction was already well begun. I have already called your attention to his last public speech, just before his assassination, in which, in the gladness of a heart whose expressions could not be restrained for the hope of a righteous and speedy peace, and in which with a power of logic and clearness of statement and force of illustration never surpassed in the best efforts of that great and good man, he explained and defined and enforced this policy of reconstruction. It was at such a moment of exaltation, when the prayer of his soul was answered, when the long night of blood and agony and tears was past, and the golden light of the morning of peace dawned upon his vision, he fell by the assassin's hand—his consciousness suspended in an instant. From the scene of human glory he passed to the glory on high—from the mortal to the immortal life—a martyr to the cause of his country and of liberty to all mankind. It was what the ancient world would call an apotheosis. Thus the great office of President providentially fell upon Mr. Johnson, with all its duties and all its responsibilities. When he took the Presidency there were more than a million men upon the rolls of the army, and many of the rebel armies were still in the field. Mr. Doolittle then considered the most important, and, just at this moment perhaps the most practical question—namely, what were the powers and duties imposed by law upon the President in closing the war and making peace, which, of necessity, must precede the disbanding of the army. What terms, he asked, had the President a right to demand of the States or of their people as conditions precedent to peace and the withdrawal of the army? First, and before all, and as the basis of all, unqualified submission to the constitution of the United States and all laws of Congress passed in pursuance thereof; second, the annulling of acts, laws and proceedings of the rebel States which were made or prosecuted against the United States. Third, acquiescence in the situation which the war has brought upon them, including the abolition of slavery, for and on account of which they made the war; for the sincerity of such acquiescence and as the supreme test of its good faith the adoption of the constitutional amendment by which slavery, the cause of the war, is surrendered and made impossible, and liberty made sure by being placed under the guardianship of Congress in every State and Territory. Never, the practical resumption of their political rights upon those terms as States in the Union. These are the conditions, in substance, which Mr. Lincoln three years ago announced to the people of those States as the terms of pacification, and to which he pledged the support of the government. These are the substance of the terms offered by President Johnson. Several of the States, or the people of several of the States, have accepted them, and offer now to resume all the political duties as States in this Union and practically enjoy their rights as such. Mr. Doolittle stated other considerations in support of the President's policy, including that of finance and industry. Let no man thus understand his position. With those guilty leaders, who, in the Senate, excited the people of those States to revolt, he had and could have no sympathy. They deserve none since the angels rebelled in heaven there had been, in his judgment, no such crime against God or man. From the beginning, and before the beginning, any separation or destruction of the States was impossible. Under the old confederation the Union was made perpetual, and the constitution was ordained to build a more perfect Union. To admit, therefore, either the right of States to secede or the power of Congress to expel them would be to admit into our system a principle of self destruction wholly at war with a perpetual and perfect Union. The constitution, in every part of it, and the spirit which gives it life, are against peaceable secession, and that constitution clothes the government which it creates with every human power to prevent a separation by force of arms, and those gigantic powers which had slumbered so long that they were wholly unknown to the world and hardly heard of by ourselves have been rudely brought into full play. Whatever may be said of the crime of rebellion, history will record it as one of the most persistent, self-sacrificing and tremendous struggles the world ever saw, both on the part of the rebels and on the part of the loyal people of the United States. No other people on earth could have so resisted, and no other people and no other government could have overcome such resistance. But we did overcome it. We did prevent the separation of those States from the Union by force. Every law of Congress, every act of the President, every blow we struck, every shot we fired, every drop of blood we shed was not to overthrow those States, nor to open a way for them to go out, nor to reduce them to Territories; but to keep them as States in the Union and to compel them to remain as States in the Union under the constitution. The flag of our country bears thirty-six stars as the emblem of thirty-six States. Wherever it floats over the Capitol, at the head of our armies in the storm of battle and in the hour of victory, over the sea and wave over the land, that sacred emblem, which next to the love of Heaven we love and reverence as representing the good, the great and the true, overshadows thirty-six States, and thereby proclaims to the world the fundamental national truth that there are 36 States in the Union under the constitution—that thirty-six States constitute the great republic which the world calls the United States of America. Upon that line and under that flag we began the great contest. Upon that line and under that flag hundreds of our sons and fathers and brothers have laid down their lives. Upon that line and under that flag we fought it out to victory. And now, God helping us, I will continue to fight it out on that line and under that flag to the end, whatever else may abandon it.

The Senate adjourned at four P. M. Mr. SUMNER, (dem.) of Oregon, having previously obtained the floor on the pending subject.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17, 1866.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY CALLED UPON FOR INFORMATION.

Mr. LAFLIN, (rep.) of Mass., offered a resolution which was adopted, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to inform the House with what States, if any, deposits of public moneys were made under the 15th and 16th sections of the act to regulate the deposit of public moneys, approved June 23, 1836, together with the dates and amounts of such deposits, respectively; and whether the same, or, if any, how much still remains so deposited, and with what States respectively.

SECRETARY OF WAR CALLED UPON FOR INFORMATION.

Mr. STEVENS, (rep.) of Ohio, offered a resolution, and asked immediate action on it, requesting the Secretary of War to suspend the sale of government buildings and other property at Point Lookout, Md. He explained that Point Lookout was a point of land on the Maryland side where the Potomac river flows into the Chesapeake Bay. There were three or four hundred acres, on which were buildings previous to the war, occupied in connection with that waterway place. During the war these buildings were taken for hospital purposes and the government established there a depot for prisoners. The buildings were worth only a comparatively small sum; but the government expended perhaps one hundred and fifty thousand dollars for the construction of other buildings and improvements. The Secretary of War had advertised the sale of this property and furniture to take place to-morrow. In the meantime a patriotic lady had secured the title to the real estate and proposed to present it as a donation to the National Military and Naval Asylum as a home for soldiers and sailors, provided the government will also give its property to the same asylum. The subject only came before the Committees on Military Affairs this morning, and as there came delay to further investigate the subject, the above resolution was introduced.

The resolution was then agreed to.

COLORADO WITHOUT A DELEGATE.

On motion of Mr. KASSON, (rep.) of Iowa, Mr. CHILCOTT, member elect from Colorado, was allowed the privilege of the floor until the pending case should be decided.

THE NATIONAL PROTECTIVE HOMESTEAD COMPANY.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill to incorporate the National Protective Homestead Company.

Mr. HARRIS, (rep.) of Ill., gave his reasons why the bill ought not to pass. He said it revealed what purported to be an eleemosynary, or charitable institution, with perpetuity rights, the proportionality to Senator absolute at the end of five years. It also provides that money received as charitable contributions might be invested in stocks, the title at once to rest in the corporation. The bill conferred no immediate and exclusive privilege on a small number of persons, who might convey land without limitation. He doubted the constitutional power to grant such privileges.

On motion of Mr. PIKE, (dem.) of Ohio, the bill was laid on the table by a vote of 123 yeas against 32 nays.

REPORT OUTSIDE OF MAINE.

The House passed the bill to regulate the times and places of holding