# Vermont Watchman & State Journal.

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## Thirty-Seventh Congress--1st Session.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Jan. 8.

SENATE

Mr Powell of Kentucky presented a resolution from the legislature of Kentucky, for the repeal of the law allowing the judges of the U. S. Court to hold terms of the Court at Covington, Paducah and Louisville; referred. Also, a resolution from the legislature of Kentucky, favoring the construction of a railroad connecting Kentucky with East Tennessee, making a connection with the loyal men of East Tennessee and Western North Carolina; referred.

Also, a resolution of the legislature denouncing the rebellion and pledging the State to support the government and protect it against any departure from the obligations of the Constitution in regard to loyal institutions, protesting against the arming of slaves in the rebel states, and expressing appreciation of the President's modification of Fremont's proclamation; also, assuming the State's apportion of the direct tax.

Some emancipation petitions were presented.

Mr Hale of N. H. reported the House bill for the construction of 20 mail clad steam gun boats, with an amendment authorizing the President to have the work done instead of the secretary of the navy. Giving as a reason the course of the secretary relative to purchases in New York. He said the naval committee proposing the amendment, intended to cast censure on the secretary of the navy for his course in those purchases.

HOUSE

A bill was passed extending the provisions of the law of July, authorizing the soldiers to send letters through the mails without prepayment, to sailors and marines.

A resolution was adopted that the Judiciary Committee be instructed to send for persons, &c., as to the telegraphic monopoly of the press dispatches.

On motion of Mr Hickman of Ky., the Secretary of War is requested to inform the House whether it is proper to compensate for the transportation of troops and munitions of war those companies which have received public lands.

Mr Grover of Pennsylvania reported a bill appropriating $75,000 to carry into effect the act passed providing for the exhibition of American products at the World's Fair.

Mr. Vallandigham of Ohio, ineffectually moved to adjourn in honor of the Battle of New Orleans.

A bill was introduced providing for the mileage department in the New York Army Office. Referred.

A resolution was adopted requesting the Secretary of the Treasury to furnish the same detail of the Coining Bureau, along as far as practicable the lines under which said department is arranged.

A resolution was adopted instructing the Committee on Ways and Means to consider the expediency of reporting a bill authorizing the use of Annapolis harbor as a port of entry for the raising of $100,000 instead of $50,000 duty by direct taxation.

Also, a resolution to inquire into the expediency of telegraph and stamp duties and a tax on dry goods cotton, tobacco, and all malt and distilled liquors.

A resolution was passed requesting the President to communicate what steps had been taken for the systematic exchange of prisoners.

A resolution was adopted instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire into the truth of the charge that the Chief Judge for the East and Middle Tennessee district has acted in a similar partisan under the rebels.

A resolution was adopted instructing the Committee on Ways and Means to inquire into the expediency of placing the public lands for public debt.

A bill for conciliation was introduced, and referred to the judiciary committee.

A resolution was adopted instructing the judiciary committee to inquire as to the constitutional power of making treasury notes payable on demand a legal tender.

A resolution was adopted instructing the committee on ways and means to inquire into the expediency of taxation as follows:

One cent per mile on all railroad passenger travel; one eighth per cent. on all transfer of stocks and notes discounted and bills of exchange; and five dollars tax for on all sales conducted at any court of record.

A resolution was adopted instructing the committee on roads to inquire into the expediency of completing the Branch Pacific Railroad from Halleck to Springfield, in order to facilitate military operations.

Mr Blair offered a preamble setting forth the action of Free-State Government in the Trent affair, concluding with a joint resolution declaring that the people of the United States are not insensible to the kindness which animated the British Government in its prompt and wise interposition, and for respecting the principles of international law and the neutral rights which have been held by both France and the United States.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Jan. 9.

SENATE.

Mr Collamer reported back the bill providing dead letters to be returned to the writers instead of being destroyed, the consideration of which was postponed till to-morrow.

Mr Trumbull, from the Judiciary Committee, reported in favor of expelling Waldo P. Johnson, Senator from Missouri.

Mr Wilson reported a bill organizing a signal department in the army, also a bill authorizing the staff of officers of the army; also increasing the clerical force in the Adjutant General's office.

Mr Sherman, from the other committee on expenditures, &c., in the departments, reported a bill; also one regulating the commissary department of the army.

Mr Cowan presented a petition from the Homeopathic Surgeons and Physicians employed in the army to also all so Jewish Chaplains.

Mr Hale presented petitions from the citizens of Pennsylvania that whereas great frauds are perpetrated on the Treasury by the employment of Mr Chandler in Secretary Welles's office, therefore we pray a statute be enacted to prevent the appointment of such persons.

Mr Hale also introduced a bill to prevent frauds on the Treasury, which provides for not less than five years hard labor or any person assuming government money fraudulently — If an officer of the government he shall be discharged and punished and rest after ineligible to any office. Referred.

The War Department sent in the report of the Sanitary Commission.

The House resolution relative to duties on bonded sugar, coffee, etc., was taken up and passed—23 against 13.

The Trent affair was then taken up Mr Sumner addressed the Senate.

After Mr Sumner had concluded Mr Hale of N. H. moved to take up the bill providing for 20 mortar-clad gunboats, the question being on the substituting "President" for "Secretary of Navy." Mr Hale opposed the amendment. He said the Secretary of the Navy was specially hostile to the measure.

Mr Dixon of Conn. thought this was not the proper mode of proceeding. The officer was supposed to be at least honorable, and this would be a gross injustice toward the Secretary of the Navy.

Mr Sherman of Ohio favored the amendment. The action of the Secretary of the Navy could not be doubted.

Mr Harlan of Wisconsin said it was not for the Senate to pass a resolution on exparte testimony taken by a committee of the other House. He wished to know if any responsible had been asked of the Secretary.

Mr Hale said a Senator called on the President, and it was so understood the facts were admitted.

Mr Wilson of Mass. said it was a question whether the Secretary of the Navy was to be entrusted with a large amount of money. He was unwilling to do it after what had passed. He did not believe Secretary Welles such bad man, or in this emergency of the country, he would not have permitted the Treasury to be robbed for the purpose of enriching family connections. He cared not with the man who was or whom he employed.

Mr Doolittle said he was informed that the Secretary of the Navy employed Mr Morgan in the first place to break off fraudulent contracts and to prevent imposition, and he understood that his employment saves $300,000. It was not with the consent of the Secretary of the Navy that the money was taken from the Treasury. He understood that these facts were in the report of the Committee of the other House.

Mr Hale asked if the Secretary of the Navy did not want the money to go out of the Treasury, why, when he was informed of the matter, did he not stop it instead of letting it go on.

Mr Doolittle said he had advised the naval committee call on the Secretary of the Navy for an explanation.

Mr. Hale said when he wanted advice he would call for it.

Mr. Wilson of Mass., by consent introduced a resolution that the Secretary of the Navy be requested to inform the Senate the facts in regard to the employment of Geo. B. Morgan to purchase vessels, and the amount of compensation paid him; which was agreed to. Adj.

HOUSE.

Bills were introduced for the payment of interest in certain cases on claims against the Government, to protect loyal trade on the Government, and to establish an arsenal at Springfield, Illinois. All were appropriately referred.

The House then proceeded to consider the bill abolishing the franking privilege.

Mr Colfax of Indiana said that a bill for this purpose had several times passed the Senate but never before had received the sanction of the Post Office Committee. Only one member of the committee dissented. If passed, it would save millions annually to the government. Other reforms were intended. Among them is one to collect postage on the tons of printed matter now carried by express companies.

Messrs. Edwards of N. H., Roscoe Conkling and Pomeroy of N. Y., continued the debate.

The latter offered a resolution to recommit the bill to the post office committee with instructions to report a new bill embracing the following principles: 1st. Abolishing the transmission of all printed and written matter free of postage excepting that ordered printed by Congress; and 2d. Such matter shall be stamped "Public Documents," and on being franked shall pass through the mails free.

Messrs Wright of Penn. and Kellogg of Ill. opposed the bill.

Mr Colfax did not reply to the objections urged against the pending measure.

Mr Hickman of Penn. opposed the abolition of the franking privilege.

Mr Wright moved to table the whole subject; negatived, 51 against 78.

WASHINGTON, Friday, Jan. 10.

SENATE

The usual emancipatory petition were presented.

A resolution was adopted requesting the Secretary of State to report a list of all the Consuls

The report of the Judiciary Committee that Waldo P. Johnson be expelled from the Senate, was taken up

Mr. Bayard of Delaware said the evidence satisfied that Johnson had gone over to the rebels, and he would have no hesitation in voting for his expulsion.

On motion of Mr Wilson of Mass., the bill for the organization of the sutlers' department of the army was taken up and passed

Mr. Powell of Ky., offered a resolution that Whereas, A resolution was passed on the 12th of July, 1861, asking the Secretary of War to inform the Senate what contracts had been made by his department since the 4th of March, what the price paid, and what payments had been made to the troops called out by the proclamation of the President, and by what authority and by what law, etc. As the Secretary had not answered this, he now be directed to answer it.

It was laid over on motion of Mr Wilson.

The bill relating to the appointment of sutlers and their definite duties was taken up.

Mr Lane of Kansas moved to substitute for the whole bill as follows: "From and after the 1st of Feb., 1862, the position of regiments and brigade sutlers shall be abolished in the regular and volunteer forces of the United States." He said the sutler system was a nuisance and an actual injury to the service.

Mr. Wilson of Mass said when he first moved on the matter it was intended to abolish a system like that in the navy. He found great difficulty in that, and had, after consulting with officers, drawn up the bill with great care. He thought it would do great good. He had never been so abused in his life, and threatened a slander suit.

Mr Lane asked if it was thought possible by any penalty we could exclude spirituous liquors. The only way to do it was to abolish sutlers.

Mr Wilson said Mr Seymour, with the consent of the secretary of war, was appointed brigade sutler of the Sickles brigade, and the sutler's pay was $2,200 per year, and he does not furnish a cent. No such office is known to law. Another sutler was appointed inside the brigade. Another one was appointed sutler to 7th regiments, making $73,000 per year, by letting the whole thing.

Mr Carlisle of Va. moved to recommit the bill with instructions to abolish sutlers and furnish a tobacco ration.

Adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of War, in which he says he has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the resolution adopted on the 6th inst., to the effect that the answer of the Department to the resolution passed on the 23 day of December was not responsive and called upon to the House, and requesting a further answer. The Secretary has given a state that inquiries have been taken to ascertain who is responsible for the disastrous movement at Hall's Bluff, but that is not compatible with the public interest to speak known those as known to the present time.

On motion of Mr. Washburne the communication was referred to the joint committee on the conduct of the war.

On motion of Mr. Davis of Mass., the committee on military affairs was instructed to inquire whether legislation is necessary to procure a decent burial place for those who have died in the Alexandria hospital and its vicinity.

A resolution was adopted calling for the number of paymasters in the army, how many are necessary, &c.

After some appropriation bills were taken up.

Mr Stevens of Mass offered an amendment, appropriating $100,000 for primary treasury notes.

Mr. Davis of Mass. hoped he would not press the appropriation, until we could ascertain the price and proof of the commissioner's contract. The American Bank Note Company had already received $300,000.

Mr Stevens said Mr. Davis had not shown that any officer of the treasury was concerned in the contract, but that Assistant Secretary Harrington had to a case who came in the measure for printing the notes. He advocated the amendment.

Mr Wade rose to pay a compliment to Mr. Chase for his ability, and said the American Bank Note Co. was the most conspicuous swindling concern he knew that Another Bank Note Company was prohibited from competition.

Mr Bingham of Ohio agreed with Mr Davis that the people are not willing to pay heavy war taxes unless the treasury was protected from plunder.

Mr Richardson of Ill. was unwilling to vote the sum proposed without knowing what it is required for. The officers of the treasury so much afraid of treason as those endeavoring to overthrow the government, and they should be sent to Fort Warren.

Further debate ensued.

Mr Stevens' amendment was disagreed to, and the clause appropriating $100,000 for engraving and printing the treasury notes was stricken out.

The committee rose, and amendments agreed to therein were reported to the House.

Mr Stevens asked the year and nays on the amendment striking out the appropriation, saying if the question was determined in the affirmative self-respect would compel the Secretary of the treasury to resign.

Mr Sedgwick of New York said if the House should concur in striking out the appropriation it would be on the ground that there has been fraudulent contracts between the Secy of the Treasury and the engravers. The result must be that the Secretary of the Treasury must rest under the imputation. He begged the House to pause, and consider the evidence before they pronounced judgment. He quoted from the report of the investigating committee to show the sufficiency of the testimony on which it was sought to convict a high officer of the government of fraud.

Mr Thomas of Massachusetts reminded Mr Lodge with that no gentleman who had spoken had charged the slightest imputation on the secretary, or attempted to distinguish between the innocent and the guilty.

Mr Sedgwick again spoke in the peculiar terms as before, and without further proceedings the House adjourned till Monday.

## FINANCIAL PLANS OF CONGRESS.

The bill matured by the committee on Ways and Means authorizing the issue of demand treasury notes provides that the President be authorized to issue on the credit of the United States $100,000,000 of them, not bearing interest, payable generally without specifying any place or time of payment, and of such denomination as he may deem expedient not less than $5 each, and such notes and all other Treasury notes payable on demand and not bearing interest that have been heretofore authorized to be issued, shall be receivable for all debts and demands due to the United States and for all salaries, dues, debts, and demands, owing by the United States to individuals, corporations and associations within the United States and shall also be lawful money and legal tender in payment of all debts, public and private, and shall be exchangeable in sums not less than $100 at any time at their par value at the U. S. Treasury and at the offices of the assistant treasurers, in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, St. Louis, and at the depository in Cincinnati, for any of the six per cent. twenty years coupon bonds, which the Secretary of the Treasury is now, or may hereafter be authorized to issue, and such Treasury notes shall be received the same as coin at their par value in payment of any bonds that may be hereafter negotiated by the Secretary of the Treasury, and such Treasury notes may be issued from time to time, as the exigencies of the public service may require. There shall be printed on the back of the Treasury note which may be issued under the provisions of this act, the following words:—"The within note is a legal tender in payment of all debts, public and private, and is exchangeable for the coupons, or registered bonds of the United States, bearing six per cent interest."

## CAN'T WE AGREE UPON THIS?

The following from the N. Y. Observer, one of the oldest and most conservative religious papers of the country, indicates a unanimity of purpose in putting down the rebellion most grateful to the patriotic heart:

"The army has nothing to do with the relations of master and slave. It is to treat all honest and loyal men alike. It is not to catch fugitive negroes, nor to send them to those who claim to be their owners, nor enquire if a colored man is a slave or a freeman, nor to meddle with the institutions of the state in any way. The army is to know no distinction except that of enemies and friends. It will employ white men and black men in its service, when they can be so employed, and use them in the most efficient manner to crush out the rebellion. If the entrance of our army into South Carolina is the occasion of the exodus of the entire colored population, it is no part of the duty of the army to arrest the flight or help it. Whoever stands in the way of the re-establishment of the government over the whole Union must get out of the way or be crushed. The relation of one class of the community to another is not to be regarded as an obstacle in the progress of our armies, but all men, whatever may be their condition under the laws of the state are to be treated as friends or enemies of the Union. We would welcome the colored men of the South to the protection of the flag which the white men of the South have deserted and defied. * * In the revolted States, the armies of the Union go to enforce submission to righteous government and wholesome law, by putting down rebellion, taking away arms and powder from the enemies of the Union, and whoever will join in the assertion of this right, and the enforcement of this power, is a friend, whether his skin is white or black."

A petition to Congress for emancipation as a war policy has been signed in New York by Wm. C. Bryant, Wm. Curtis Noyes, Edgar Ketchum, Wm. Goodell, Oliver Johnson, and George B. Cheever


Watchman & State Journal.

BY E. P. WALTON.

MONTPELIER, JANUARY 10, 1862.


## THE SLAVERY QUESTION.

No question that is to be considered by Congress at its present session is surrounded with more perplexities, and its decision attended with more momentous results than the question "what shall we do with the slaves." It is beset with complications on all sides. Their immediate and unconditional emancipation is met with the question of the constitutionality of such a measure. Its expediency is not without objection in the minds of very many who are at heart opposed to it as a principle, but who are disposed to tolerate it in practice. The effect of such a measure also would be attended with doubtful results among the loyal men (and there are hosts of them) in the South. The loyal men of the North (and there are very few others among us) are not agreed upon it.—There are those in favor of unconditional emancipation, and who can see no way of settling the present rebellion but by striking a deadly blow at slavery, which they conceive to be the immediate and sole cause of it. Others, and among them some of the leading members of Republican party, and men who can be accused of not the least sympathy with slavery, think such an act neither right in itself nor expedient in practice, but that it would delay the final solution of our difficulties. Those last are often accused by the former of lukewarmness in their love for the Union, and that they prefer its destruction rather than that slavery should be disturbed in the security it has heretofore enjoyed; and the accusation is retaliated by the latter that those who favor immediate emancipation prefer that the Union should be broken up rather than slavery should not be abolished.

Amid these contending opinions among the people the only thing for truly loyal men to do is to "stand by the Country," sustain the President, sustain and encourage our military leaders, and leave all quarreling and bickering as to this or that policy to be decided by Congress, and hold that body accountable for the good or bad results of their action. But let Congress act at once. Let them establish some uniform principle respecting slaves that shall govern our military commanders wherever the federal army shall make its way, and let them ignore alike "emancipation leagues" and pro-slavery cabals. Let them address themselves to the work of *suppressing the rebellion*, and if, in the progress of this work, slavery is overthrown, the responsibility must rest upon those who have incited the rebellion and not upon the Government or the people of the North.

The New York *Tribune* has been one of the foremost of the influential journals of the North in urging the Administration to resort to the emancipation of slaves as a war measure. But with all its anti-slavery antecedents, and its desire to see slavery abolished, it announces in a recent issue its determination to "Stand by the Country." It says:

"We wish those at the head of our National affairs, whether acting in a legislative or executive, civil or military capacity, would all see as we do, for we think the war origin that he should end a sham, and triumphant result inevitably certain. We shall from time to time, as we have hitherto done, present facts and arguments in support of our convictions. But, even though we should be convinced on a different course and with views widely different from mine, we shall still need determinedly stand by our country, and give our best efforts to uphold the hands of her rulers. We do not see how the Union and Slavery can both be upheld; but we are sure that willing to be divided short distract not the cause of the President because of the saving the Union by means other than those which seem to us best adapted—or, if we please, about adopted, to serve that end. And, whether our views shall be accepted or rejected, we shall still stand on the Country.

"We want a clear war, and believe this may be made one by a proper policy and the most determined energy. We want to see the treason of the rebels challenged to battle at all points, and their forces driven back from the Union. We would much prefer to see the rebellion overthrown by a sweeping stroke of land and less than by a dearth of cannon and sword. Judging from their conduct in the past, we apprehend that the Slaveholding Oligarchs would not regard it as unbearable in the counsels of the nation, and the direction of the war, being established. But, though our ideas of the true mode of conducting this contest should be rejected at every point, we shall still stand by the Country, and triumph or fall with those who rally around the flag of the Union.

"In these our urgent need of rallying and differing this spirit! If it be true that even officers of the regular Army have proved to be traitors, let the fact be proclaimed with other views and in a different tone from their own, it is our high time they were admonished that the army is not the informing brain but the avenging arm of the Republic, and that it should depart itself accordingly! But in a crisis like this, we are all morally bound to stand by the country and her flag, regardless of our personal wishes and preferences. In the days of Philip Sidney, we read all go down, Sidney. But it cannot, it will not, if we all resolve, at whatever sacrifice of individual preferences, to rally around our constitutional rulers and stand by our country to the last."

The New York *Evening Post* has also advocated the emancipation policy with great vigor. But in an article urging immediate action by our armies, it says:

"Finally, the slavery question will be best solved by the advance of the troops. Wherever the armies move slavery is disorganized. No proclamation of the president or act of Congress could have one half the effect in loosing the bonds of the negroes that a grand battle on their own soil would have. Every boom of the cannon would break some fetters; every gleam of a sword flash hope and confidence into some hearts. When at Port Royal the poor captives saw their masters fling like sheep before the approaching Yankees, the moral superiority of the dominant class was broken forever. So it will be everywhere that our arms are successful. We may talk for years of the evils of slavery, we may denounce its abuses, and the characters of those who uphold it, we may legislate against its continuance in every way in our power, yet with all our talk and legislation we shall not do so much to uproot it effectually as by a single grand battle fought in the presence of the slaves, and winning victory for the flag of freedom. The rebels themselves are aware of this, and have done everything that they could to confine the war to the extreme northern limits of the border states. They know that whatever policy the government may adopt in regard to slavery, and whatever the prostitutes of the regular generals, the presence of an occupying army is in itself an act of emancipation, against which they have no resource."

The Springfield (Mass.) *Republican* indorses the above as a "sensible view," and adds:

"Nothing seems clearer to us than that the most effective thing we can do against slavery is to fight the rebels vigorously at every point. 'Crush out the rebellion, and let slavery take care of itself if it can'—that is the true policy for success in the war, and it is the true anti-slavery policy. All beyond this will be mere talk—words, with no deeds to give them effect. If we could but see the armies advancing victoriously, and Congress foregoing its fruitless explorations and devoting itself to procuring 'the sinews of war,' we should feel sure that all danger of foreign complications would be obviated, that the rebellion would be speedily subdued, and that whatever of slavery might remain, it would be dead henceforth as a political power, and mortally wounded as an institution. Let us all 'stand by the country'—prosecute the war earnestly, but constitutionally and honorably, and leave all questions as to the future status of slavery to be settled after the government has re-established its power over the entire country. Singleness of aim and unity of purpose will do the work."

But Congress, although seeming tardy in its action, has at last shown some fruits of its long delay, and on Thursday the Military Committee, to whom were referred all the petitions and resolutions in relation to the emancipation of the slaves of rebels, reported a bill, in which it is understood that the Committee are agreed as to the principles, but not fully on the details. The Committee is composed of Blair of Missouri, Buffington of Massachusetts, Olin of New York, Wright of Pennsylvania, Richardson of Illinois, Dunn of Indiana, Allen of Ohio, Marston of New Hampshire, and Jackson of Kentucky. The leading features of the bill are as follows:

*First*—The apportionment of the National tax among the rebel States.

*Second*—The charge of each rebel State's portion precedes on the loss and land of citizens of said States, according to the valuation thereof under the last census.

*Third*—The Proclamation of the President on the 25th of February next, to all citizens of the rebel states, to pay the taxes charged on their lands.

*Fourth*—The lands of all who fail to pay, after sixty days, shall be liable to be seized, and the title thereof vest in the United States.

*Fifth*—The President to appoint three Commissioners for each rebel State, to take charge of lands whose title is thus vested in Government, and rent or sell the same as the President may direct, but persons claiming to be loyal, who shall, in two years, furnish proof of loyalty, shall receive each from Government title to their lands.

*Sixth*—These Commissioners to receive a salary of $3,000 each, and to have two clerks each, at a salary of $1,000. They shall take upon duty whenever any County or district of the rebel States is declared by Federal authority by the commanding General.

*Seventh*—Persons held in bondage in rebel States to be taken after June next, in default of other payments of the National Direct Tax. Equal rules to have been for reclamation.

*Eighth*—The proceeds of leases or sales of rebel property to be paid into the National Treasury.

*Ninth*—The slaves of rebel masters, taken by our armies, or brought into our lines, or coming in voluntarily, shall be plundered, and the rights of rebel owners divested by a summary examination of Commissioners, and certificates of freedom issued.

*Tenth*—These emancipated persons shall be hired to employers (leaving Government lands, or employed by Government in public works, or bound to agricultural service, mechanics for a term of five years, of all over twenty-one, and until twenty-five years of age of all under twenty-one, receiving reasonable wages for their services, which wages shall be determined, in the last resort, by a board of arbitrators, and the employer shall be bound to furnish food, clothing and lodging, and to see that the employed are properly treated.

*Eleventh*—If any state shall commence its slaves, they shall be taken charge of by the Colonel Commanding in the same manner as slaves taken from rebels. And this express whether by compulsory shall be deported out of the country and provided for as slaves emancipated under the last act.

*Twelfth*—The proceeds of the sales of the lands and other property of rebels, and the wages of emancipated and hired persons, shall create a National fund, which shall be put the control of president, now homes for the employed persons and transportation, from time to time, such persons as may desire to be transported out of the country, and shall be used for such purpose as the President may deem best adapted—or, if we please, about adopted, to serve that end. And, whether our views shall be accepted or rejected, we shall still stand on the Country.

"We want a clear war, and believe this may be made one by a proper policy and the most determined energy. We want to see the treason of the rebels challenged to battle at all points, and their forces driven back from the Union. We would much prefer to see the rebellion overthrown by a sweeping stroke of land and less than by a dearth of cannon and sword. Judging from their conduct in the past, we apprehend that the Slaveholding Oligarchs would not regard it as unbearable in the counsels of the nation, and the direction of the war, being established. But, though our ideas of the true mode of conducting this contest should be rejected at every point, we shall still stand by the Country, and triumph or fall with those who rally around the flag of the Union.

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*Fifth*—The President to appoint three Commissioners for each rebel State, to take charge of lands whose title is thus vested in Government, and rent or sell the same as the President may direct, but persons claiming to be loyal, who shall, in two years, furnish proof of loyalty, shall receive each from Government title to their lands.

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*Eighth*—The proceeds of leases or sales of rebel property to be paid into the National Treasury.

*Ninth*—The slaves of rebel masters, taken by our armies, or brought into our lines, or coming in voluntarily, shall be plundered, and the rights of rebel owners divested by a summary examination of Commissioners, and certificates of freedom issued.

*Tenth*—These emancipated persons shall be hired to employers (leaving Government lands, or employed by Government in public works, or bound to agricultural service, mechanics for a term of five years, of all over twenty-one, and until twenty-five years of age of all under twenty-one, receiving reasonable wages for their services, which wages shall be determined, in the last resort, by a board of arbitrators, and the employer shall be bound to furnish food, clothing and lodging, and to see that the employed are properly treated.

*Eleventh*—If any state shall commence its slaves, they shall be taken charge of by the Colonel Commanding in the same manner as slaves taken from rebels. And this express whether by compulsory shall be deported out of the country and provided for as slaves emancipated under the last act.

*Twelfth*—The proceeds of the sales of the lands and other property of rebels, and the wages of emancipated and hired persons, shall create a National fund, which shall be put the control of president, now homes for the employed persons and transportation, from time to time, such persons as may desire to be transported out of the country, and shall be used for such purpose as the President may deem best adapted—or, if we please, about adopted, to serve that end. And, whether our views shall be accepted or rejected, we shall still stand on the Country.

"We want a clear war, and believe this may be made one by a proper policy and the most determined energy. We want to see the treason of the rebels challenged to battle at all points, and their forces driven back from the Union. We would much prefer to see the rebellion overthrown by a sweeping stroke of land and less than by a dearth of cannon and sword. Judging from their conduct in the past, we apprehend that the Slaveholding Oligarchs would not regard it as unbearable in the counsels of the nation, and the direction of the war, being established. But, though our ideas of the true mode of conducting this contest should be rejected at every point, we shall still stand by the Country, and triumph or fall with those who rally around the flag of the Union.

"In these our urgent need of rallying and differing this spirit! If it be true that even officers of the regular Army have proved to be traitors, let the fact be proclaimed with other views and in a different tone from their own, it is our high time they were admonished that the army is not the informing brain but the avenging arm of the Republic, and that it should depart itself accordingly! But in a crisis like this, we are all morally bound to stand by the country and her flag, regardless of our personal wishes and preferences. In the days of Philip Sidney, we read all go down, Sidney. But it cannot, it will not, if we all resolve, at whatever sacrifice of individual preferences, to rally around our constitutional rulers and stand by our country to the last."

The New York *Evening Post* has also advocated the emancipation policy with great vigor. But in an article urging immediate action by our armies, it says:

"Finally, the slavery question will be best solved by the advance of the troops. Wherever the armies move slavery is disorganized. No proclamation of the president or act of Congress could have one half the effect in loosing the bonds of the negroes that a grand battle on their own soil would have. Every boom of the cannon would break some fetters; every gleam of a sword flash hope and confidence into some hearts. When at Port Royal the poor captives saw their masters fling like sheep before the approaching Yankees, the moral superiority of the dominant class was broken forever. So it will be everywhere that our arms are successful. We may talk for years of the evils of slavery, we may denounce its abuses, and the characters of those who uphold it, we may legislate against its continuance in every way in our power, yet with all our talk and legislation we shall not do so much to uproot it effectually as by a single grand battle fought in the presence of the slaves, and winning victory for the flag of freedom. The rebels themselves are aware of this, and have done everything that they could to confine the war to the extreme northern limits of the border states. They know that whatever policy the government may adopt in regard to slavery, and whatever the prostitutes of the regular generals, the presence of an occupying army is in itself an act of emancipation, against which they have no resource."

The Springfield (Mass.) *Republican* indorses the above as a "sensible view," and adds:

"Nothing seems clearer to us than that the most effective thing we can do against slavery is to fight the rebels vigorously at every point. 'Crush out the rebellion, and let slavery take care of itself if it can'—that is the true policy for success in the war, and it is the true anti-slavery policy. All beyond this will be mere talk—words, with no deeds to give them effect. If we could but see the armies advancing victoriously, and Congress foregoing its fruitless explorations and devoting itself to procuring "the sinews of war," we should feel sure that all danger of foreign complications would be obviated, that the rebellion would be speedily subdued, and that whatever of slavery might remain, it would be dead henceforth as a political power, and mortally wounded as an institution. Let us all "stand by the country"—prosecute the war earnestly, but constitutionally and honorably, and leave all questions as to the future status of slavery to be settled after the government has re-established its power over the entire country. Singleness of aim and unity of purpose will do the work."

But Congress, although seeming tardy in its action, has at last shown some fruits of its long delay, and on Thursday the Military Committee, to whom were referred all the petitions and resolutions in relation to the emancipation of the slaves of rebels, reported a bill, in which it is understood that the Committee are agreed as to the principles, but not fully on the details. The Committee is composed of Blair of Missouri, Buffington of Massachusetts, Olin of New York, Wright of Pennsylvania, Richardson of Illinois, Dunn of Indiana, Allen of Ohio, Marston of New Hampshire, and Jackson of Kentucky. The leading features of the bill are as follows:

*First*—The apportionment of the National tax among the rebel States.

*Second*—The charge of each rebel State's portion precedes on the loss and land of citizens of said States, according to the valuation thereof under the last census.

*Third*—The Proclamation of the President on the 25th of February next, to all citizens of the rebel states, to pay the taxes charged on their lands.

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## A FORAGING EXPEDITION.

The telegraph on Tuesday informed us that Gen. Smith's division of the army of the Potomac went out on Tuesday toward Fairfax Court House on a foraging expedition. The following full account of the expedition, furnished by the correspondent of the New York *Herald*, who accompanied the expedition, will be read with interest. General Brooks' brigade, it will be remembered, embraces the five Vermont regiments:

This has been an active and exciting day for the troops attached to General Smith's division. At nine seven, a block this morning a foraging expedition set out in the direction of Peacock Hill. The expedition consisted of the first brigade, General Hancock; the second brigade, General Brooks; the third brigade, General Brannan; Captain Matt's battery, one twelve pounder how