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BY F. M. TRIMMIE

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### PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S MESSAGE.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:—After a brief interval, the Congress of the United States resumes its annual legislative labors. An all-wise and merciful Providence has abated the pestilence which visited our shores, leaving its calamitous traces upon some portions of our country. Peace, order, tranquility and civil authority have been formally declared to exist throughout the whole of the United States. In all of the States, civil authority has superseded the coercion of arms, and the people, by their voluntary action, are maintaining their Government in full activity and complete operations. The enforcement of the laws is no longer obstructed in any State by combination too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, and the animosities engendered by the war are rapidly yielding to the beneficent influences of our free institutions, and to the kindly effects of unrestricted social and commercial intercourse. An entire restoration of fraternal feeling must be the earnest wish of every patriotic heart. We will have accomplished our grandest national achievement when, forgetting the sad events of the past, and remembering only their instructive lessons, we resume our onward career, as a free, prosperous and united people. In my message of the 4th December, 1865, Congress was informed of the measures which had been instituted by the Executive with a view to the gradual restoration of the States, in which the insurrection occurred, to their relations with the General Government. Provisional Governors had been appointed, conventions called, Governors elected, and Representatives chosen to the Congress of the United States. Courts had been opened for the enforcement of laws long in abeyance; the blockade had been removed, custom-houses re-established, and the internal revenue put in force, in order that the people might contribute to the national income; postal operations had been resumed, and efforts were being made to restore them to their former condition of efficiency. The States had been asked to take part in the high function of amending the Constitution, and of their sanctioning the extinction of African slavery, as one of the legitimate results of our internece struggle. Having progressed thus far, the Executive Department found that it had accomplished nearly all that was within the scope of its Constitutional authority; one thing, however, yet remained to be done before the work of restoration could be completed, and that was the admission to Congress of loyal Senators and Representatives from the States whose people had rebelled against the lawful authority of the General Government. This question devolved upon the respective Houses, which, by the Constitution, are made the judges of the election returns and qualifications of their own members, and its consideration at once engaged the attention of Congress. In the meantime, the Executive Department, no other plan having been proposed by Congress, in its effort to perfect, as far as was practicable, the restoration of the proper relations between the citizens of the respective States, the Federal Government extended, from time to time, as the public interests seemed to require, the judicial revenue and postal systems of the country, and with the advice and consent of the Senate, the necessary officers were appointed and appropriations made by Congress for the payment of their salaries. The proposition to amend the Federal Constitution, so as to prevent the existence of slavery within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction, was ratified by the requisite number of States—On the 18th day of December, 1865, it was officially declared to have become valid as a part of the Constitution of the United States. All of the States in which the insurrection had exhibited, promptly amended their Constitutions so as to make them conform to the great change thus effected in the organic law of the land; declared null and void all ordinances and laws of secession, repudiating all pretended debts and obligations created for revolutionary purposes of the insurrection, and proceeded in good faith to the enactment of measures for the protection and ameli-

oration of the condition of the colored race. Congress, however, yet hesitated to admit any of these States to representation, and it was not until towards the close of the eighth month of the session that an exception was made in favor of Tennessee, by the admission of her Senators and Representatives. I deem it a subject of profound regret that Congress has thus far failed to admit to seats, loyal Senators and Representatives from the other States, whose inhabitants, with those of Tennessee, had engaged in the rebellion. Ten States, more than one-fourth of the whole number, remain without representation. The seats of fifty members in the House of Representatives, and of twenty members in the Senate, are yet vacant. Not by their own consent; not by a failure of election; but by the refusal of Congress to accept their credentials. Their admission, it is believed, would have accomplished much towards the removal and strengthening of our relations as one people, and removed serious cause for discontent on the part of the inhabitants of those States. It would have accorded with the great principles enunciated in the declaration of American independence—that no people ought to bear the burden of taxation, and yet be denied the right of representation. It would have been in consonance with the express provisions of the Constitution—that each State should have at least one representative, and that no State, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate. These provisions were intended to secure to every State, and to the people of every State, the right of representation in each House of Congress; and so important was it deemed by the framers of the Constitution, that the equality of the States in the Senate should be preserved, that not even by an amendment of the Constitution can any State, without its consent, be denied a voice in that branch of the National Legislature. It is true, it has been assumed that the existence of the States was terminated by the rebellious acts of their inhabitants, and that the insurrection having been suppressed, they were therefore no longer considered as sovereign territories. The legislative, executive, and judicial departments of Government have, however, with great distinctness and uniform consistency, refused to sanction an assumption so incompatible with the nature of our Republican system, and with the professed objects of the war, throughout the recent legislation of Congress. The undeniable fact makes itself apparent, that these ten political communities are nothing less than States of this Union. At the very commencement of the rebellion, each House declared, with a unanimity as remarkable as it was significant, that the war was not waged upon our part in any spirit of oppression, nor for any purpose of conquest or subjugation, nor purpose of overthrowing or interfering with the rights or establishing institutions of those States, but to defend and maintain the supremacy of the Constitution, and all laws made in pursuance thereof, and to preserve the Union with all the dignity, equality and rights of the several States unimpaired; and that as soon as those objects were accomplished, the war ought to cease. In some instances, Senators were permitted to continue their legislative functions, while in other instances, representatives were elected and admitted to their seats after their States had formally declared their right to withdraw from the Union, and were endeavoring to maintain that right by force of arms. All of the States whose people were in insurrection as States, were included in the apportionment of the direct tax of \$20,000,000 annually laid upon the United States by the Act approved August 5, 1861. Congress, by the Act of March 4, 1862, and by the apportionment of representation thereunder, also recognized their presence as States in the Union, and they have for judicial purposes, been divided into districts as States all may be divided. The same recognition appears in the recent legislation in reference to Tennessee; which evidently rests upon the fact that the functions of the State were not destroyed by the rebellion, but merely suspended; and that principle is, of course, applicable to those States which, like Tennessee, attempted to re-annex their places in the Union. The action of the Executive Department of the Government upon this subject has been equally definite and uniform, and the purpose of the war was specifically stated in the proclamation issued by my predecessor, on the 22d of September, 1862. It was then solemnly proclaimed and declared that hereafter, as heretofore, the war will be prosecuted for the object of practically restoring the Constitutional relation between the United States and each of the States, and the people thereof, in which States that relation is, or may be, suspended or disturbed. The recognition of the States by the Judicial Department of the Government has also been clear and conclusive in all proceedings affecting them as States, had in the Supreme, Cir-

cuit and District Courts. In the admission of Senators and Representatives from any and all of the States, there can be no just ground of apprehension that persons who are dishonest will be clothed with the powers of legislation, for this could not happen when the Constitution and the laws are enforced by a rigid and faithful Congress. Each House is made the judge of the election returns and qualifications of its own members and may, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member. When a Senator or Representative presents his certificate of election, he may at once be admitted or rejected; or should there be any question as to his eligibility, his credentials may be referred for investigation to the appropriate committee. If admitted to a seat, it must be upon evidence satisfactory to the House of which he thus becomes a member, that he possesses the requisite constitutional and legal qualifications. If refused admission as a member, for want of due allegiance to the Government, an returned to his constituents, they are admonished that none but persons loyal to the United States will be allowed a voice in the Legislative councils of the nation, and the political power and moral influence of Congress are thus effectively exerted in the interests of loyalty to the Government and fidelity to the Union. Upon this question, so vitally affecting the restoration of the Union and the permanency of our present form of Government, my convictions heretofore expressed have undergone no change; but, on the contrary, their correctness has been confirmed by reflection and time. If the admission of loyal members to seats in the respective Houses of Congress was wise and expedient a year ago, it is no less wise and expedient now. In this anomalous condition is right now—in the exact condition of these States, at the present time, it is lawful to exclude them from representation. I do not see that the question will be changed by the efflux of time. Ten years hence, if these States remain as they are, the right of representation will be no stronger—the right of exclusion will be no weaker. The duty of the President is to maintain the Constitution, and he shall not consent to the consideration of Congress such measures as he shall judge necessary or expedient. I know of no measure more imperatively demanded by every consideration of national interest, sound policy and equal justice, than the admission of loyal members from now unrepresented States. It would consummate the work of restoration, and exert a most salutary influence in the re-establishment of peace, harmony and fraternal feeling. It would tend greatly to renew the confidence of the American people in the vigor and stability of their institutions. It would bind us more closely together as a nation, and enable us to show to the world the inherent and cooperative powers of a Government founded upon the will of the people and established upon the principles of liberty, justice and intelligence. Our increased strength and enhanced prosperity would irrefragably demonstrate the fallacy of the arguments against free institutions, drawn from our recent national disorders, by the enemies of republican government. The admission of loyal members from the States now excluded from Congress, by allaying doubt and apprehension, would turn capital, now awaiting an opportunity for investment, into the channels of trade and industry. It would alleviate the present troubled condition of those States; and, by inducing emigration, and in the settlement of fertile regions now unoccupied, and led to an increased production of those staples which have added so greatly to the wealth of the nation and the commerce of the world. New fields of enterprise would be opened to our progressive people, and soon the devastations of war would be repaired, and all traces of our domestic differences effaced from the minds of our countrymen. In our efforts to preserve the unity of Government, which constitutes us one people, by restoring the States to the condition which they held prior to the rebellion, we should be cautious lest, having rescued our nation from perils of threatened disintegration, we resort to consolidation, and in the end absolute despotism. As a remedy for the recurrence of similar troubles, the war having terminated, and with it all occasion for the exercise of powers of doubtful constitutionality, we should hasten to bring legislation within the boundaries prescribed by the Constitution, and to return to the ancient landmarks established by our fathers for the guidance of succeeding generations. The Constitution, which, at any time, exists until changed by any explicit and authentic act of the whole people, is sacredly obligatory upon all. If, in the opinion of the people, the distribution or modification of the Constitutional powers be, in any particular wrong, let it be corrected by an amendment in the way in which the Constitution designates; but let there be no change by usurpation, for it is the customary weapon by which free Governments

are destroyed. Washington spoke these words to his countrymen, when, followed by their love and gratitude, he voluntarily retired from the cares of public life. To keep in all things within the pale of our constitutional powers, and cherish the Federal Union as the only rock of safety, were prescribed by Jefferson as rules of action to endure his countrymen to the true principles of their Constitution, and promote a union of sentiment and action equally auspicious to their happiness and safety. Jackson held that the action of the Federal Government should always be strictly confined to the sphere of its appropriate duties, and justly and forcibly urged that our Government is not to be maintained nor our Union preserved by invasions of the rights and powers of the several States. In thus attempting to make our General Government strong, we make it weak. Its true strength consists in leaving individuals and States as much as possible to themselves; in making itself felt, not in its power, but in its beneficence; not in its control, but in its protection; not in binding the States more closely to the centre, but leaving each to move unobtruded in its proper constitutional orbit. These are the teachings of men whose deeds and services have made them illustrious, and who, long since, have withdrawn from the scenes of life; have left to their country the rich legacy of their examples, their wisdom and their patriotism. Drawing fresh inspiration from their lessons, let us emulate them in love of country and respect for the Constitution and the laws.

In the performance of a duty imposed upon me by the Constitution, I have thus submitted to the Representatives of the States and of the People such information of our domestic and foreign affairs as the public interests seem to require. Our Government is now undergoing its most trying ordeal, and my earnest prayer is, that the peril may be successfully and finally passed, without impairing its original strength and symmetry. The interests of the nation are best to be promoted by the revival of fraternal relations, the complete obliteration of our past differences, and the resumption of all the pursuits of peace. Directing our efforts to the early accomplishment of these great ends, let us endeavor to preserve harmony between the coordinate Departments of the Government, that each in its proper sphere may cordially cooperate with the other in securing the maintenance of the Constitution, the preservation of the Union, and the perpetuity of our free institutions.

ANDREW JOHNSON.  
Washington, December 3, 1866.

### Negro Suffrage.

The Louisville Courier says there are a variety of reasons why negro suffrage should not be tolerated, especially in the Southern States, the most potent of which are drawn from the statistics of population by the census of 1860. It appears that the proportionate population of whites and blacks is as follows:  
Louisiana — whites 358,456; blacks, 259,373. There are forty-eight counties in the State, in thirty-two of which the blacks have a majority.  
Arkansas has fifty-five counties, in eight of which the blacks are in the majority.  
Florida has 77,747 whites, and 62,678 blacks. She has thirty-six counties, in seven of which the blacks are in the majority.  
South Carolina has 291,300 whites, and 412,326 blacks. She has thirty Districts, in twenty of which the blacks are in the majority.  
Mississippi has 358,899 whites and 435,631 blacks. She has sixty counties, in twenty of which the blacks are in the majority.  
Alabama has 526,271 whites and 437,770 blacks. She has fifty-two counties, in twenty of which the blacks are in the majority.  
With the right of suffrage, the negroes would be the rulers of large districts of the most fertile portion of the Southern States, and be able to elect a large portion of the members of Congress. And yet Northern demagogues insist that the South should accept this degrading and humiliating condition, and talk seriously of forcing it upon her. Should she accept this dishonoring and disgusting proposal, her further degradation would be impossible, for she would have touched the bottom of disgrace.  
A Montreal dispatch of the 27th says: That a meeting has been called to consider the subject of the annexation of Canada to the United States.  
Those who respect themselves will be honorable; but he who thinks lightly of himself will be held cheap by the world.

### Gleanings.

The barque Everhard, from Bremen, with 170 German immigrants arrived in Charleston on Wednesday. These immigrants intend to settle in South Carolina, being mostly connected with German families already resident here.  
A colony of Poles are about locating in the wilderness, famous as the battlefield between the contending armies of Lee, Hooker and Grant. Gen. Toehman, a Polish exile in this country, is at the head of the colony.  
Dobbs says that beauties generally die old maids. They set such a value on themselves that they don't find a purchaser till the market is closed.  
A law exists in Germany to prevent drinking on the Sabbath during Divine service. It runs thus: "Any person drinking in an ale house during service on Sunday, or other holiday, may legally depart without paying."  
The Tuskegee (Ala.) News cautions its readers against inducements recently held out to them to remove to Texas. Men of good judgment have just returned from that State, and state that the crops reported in that quarter are confined to a few farms.  
Sanford Conover, the witness charged with perjury in the plot charging Jefferson Davis with Mr. Lincoln's assassination, is yet in jail. He declares that he is innocent. He has been unsuccessful in getting bail, and has been presented by the grand jury. It is stated also that he has been indicted for perjury.  
The votes which have been thus far taken in the several annual conferences of the Southern Methodists, indicate the ratification, by a large majority of the proposed change of the name of the Church to Episcopal Methodist Church, and the proposed introduction of lay representation in the General Conferences.  
Somebody ought to tumble the editor of the Wilcox County News into the Alabama, and put a couple of bars of pig metal on him until he learns to keep cool. He is indignant at the declaration of Hall's Journal of Health that husband and wife should sleep in separate rooms, declaring that Dr. Hall can sleep how, when and where he pleases, but for himself, he intends to sleep where he can defend his wife against the rats and all other nocturnal foes as long as he has got one to defend.  
The case of a child being frightened to death is given in Wisconsin papers. The child was at play upon the doorstep of a neighbor, when a man threatened to shut it up in a dark room. This so frightened the little fellow, that he ran into his mother and fell in puerdysms on the floor. It sickened from the fright and never recovered, and when dying, said, Papa, don't let me die; I never will go on the steps again.  
The Treasury Department have discovered that counterfeiters of \$100 notes of the First National Bank of Boston, the \$100 notes of the First National Bank of Cincinnati, and the \$100 notes of the National Bank of New York City, are in circulation. The counterfeiters of the latter named notes are pronounced excellent, the engraving being first class, and the general appearance good. The only difference known to exist is in the letter "M" in the word "maintain" near the female figure on the right hand side of the face of the note, that letter being imperfect in the counterfeit issue.  
A more terrible spectacle, says the National Intelligencer, can hardly be conceived than is to be seen within a dozen rods of the Arlington mansion. A circular pit, twenty feet deep and the same in diameter, has been sunk by the side of the flower garden, cemented and divided into compartments, and down to this gloomy receptacle are cast the bones of such soldiers as perished on the field, and either were not buried at all or were so covered up as to have their bones mingled indiscriminately together. At that time we looked into this gloomy cavern, a literal Golgotha, there were piled together skulls in one division, legs in another, arms in another, and ribs in another, what were estimated as the bones of two thousand human beings.  
The Miss Julia Gregg, who went with the six hundred negro emigrants to Liberia, is a sister of General Maxey Gregg, of our State. She has for several years cherished this idea of benefiting the African race at the sacrifice of her personal comfort, and embraces this as the first eligible opportunity of carrying out her cherished scheme.  
It may be the duty of the white race to go that far in their devotion to the amelioration of the black race, but if so, we, for one, don't see it.  
Many a sweet fashioned mouth has been disfigured and made hideous by the fiery tongue within it.  
An arch young lady should be an arrow for she can bend her bow as she pleases.