THE

AMERICAN

ANNUAL CYCLOPAEDIA

AND

REGISTER OF IMPORTANT EVENTS

OF THE YEAR

1869.

EMBRACING POLITICAL, CIVIL, MILITARY, AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS; PUBLIC DOCUMENTS; BIOGRAPHY, STATISTICS, COMMERCE, FINANCE, LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AGRICULTURE, AND MECHANICAL INDUSTRY.

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1870.
in the Beni and Chiquitos provinces. On the higher lands are found the llama, the sheep, goat, and the alpaca. The mineral wealth of Bolivia is fabulous. Besides silver, there are found gold, lead, tin, copper, iron, coal, and fossil salts. The gold washings of the headwaters of the affluents of the Madeira are celebrated, and from the single silver mountain of Potosí nearly enough silver has been taken to pay our national debt.

The foreign trade passes through the Peruvian port of Arica. The foreign European trade imports amounts to about $8,000,000 annually. This is offset in exports of Peruvian bark, guano, copper, etc. The balance of trade against the country is paid for by a part of her silver product, which is about $2,500,000 annually.

Bolivia made, in March, 1867, a treaty of limits, commerce, and navigation with Brazil. This was, late in 1868, ratified by both nations, and the treaty was officially notified to the countries, that it will open the way to steam communication, via the Amazon, with the world. On the other hand, discontent with it still prevails.

There is an internal trade in Bolivia amounting to about $60,000,000 annually.

The revolution prevailing in 1867 was ended in the beginning of 1868, by the revolutionary leaders emigrating to the Argentine Republic. President Melgarejo caused his first cousin, Colonel Lozada, one of the bravest officers in the army, to be shot for having attempted to raise a counter-revolution. The despotic act excited great indignation; but Melgarejo had the army perfectly under his control. The general dissatisfaction with President Melgarejo continued, however, and the President proclaimed himself, in February, 1869, again dictator of the republic. His Cabinet approved unanimously of this step. In May he issued a decree reversing the constitution, and ordered elections for Congressmen and Senators. The people received this return of their constitutional rights with enthusiasm. He continued, however, to exercise full control.

The Government, recognized, in June, the belligerent rights of Cuba by the following decree:

To His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Provisional Government of Cuba:

Sirs: I have the honor to transmit herewith to your Excellency a copy of the decree by which Bolivia recognizes the belligerent rights of the Cuban patriots and the legitimacy of the Provisional Government which they have organized. The cause espoused by General Cepeda is thoroughly American, seeking for independence and the destruction of Spanish despotism. God and right sustain its justice, and the prayers of the Continent are offered for its success.

I have the honor, etc.

Mariano DONATO MUÑOZ.

LA PAlZ, June 10, 1869.

Mariano Melgarejo, Provisional President of Bolivia, decrees:

1. That the Government of Bolivia recognizes the Cuban patriots as the belligerents, and the legitimacy of the government organized by them.

2. Bolivia sends her heart-felt sympathy to the noble upholders of such a sacred cause, and to General Cepeda, as a first homage to his American spirit and heroic efforts for the liberty and independence of his country.

A new revolutionary movement against Melgarejo was begun at the close of October, by General Morales, consul of Bolivia at Callao, who a few years since attempted the overthrow of President Belzu. He appeared upon the frontier of the country with three hundred muskets and rallied a number of adherents to his standard; but the movement was speedily crushed.

The Government continues to make great efforts to develop the resources of the Amazon Valley. On October 1, 1869, it gave to Mr. A. D. Piper, a citizen of California, a concession of a vast tract of land. Mr. Piper, who represents a California company, contracted, on the other hand, to introduce 1,000 families for each five years during twenty-five years.

A great impulse to Bolivian commerce is also expected from the new railroads which the Argentine Republic, Brazil, and Peru, expect to build to the Bolivian frontier.

BOTTS, JOHN Minor, a Virginian politician and statesman, born in Dumfries, Prince William County, Va., September 16, 1803; died at his residence in Culpepper, Va., January 7, 1869. Soon after his birth his parents removed to Fredericksburg, and from thence to Richmond, where they resided in the great theatre fire in 1811. Young Botts received a good school education notwithstanding the loss of his parents during his youth, and so thorough a preparation for the law, which was the profession of his choice, that he was admitted to the bar at the age of eighteen. After he had practised law for about six years, he retired to a farm in Henrico County, and established himself as a Virginia country gentleman. His parents remained in quiet, however, for, in 1838, he was elected to represent his county in the Legislature of the State. He at once took a prominent position among the leading members of this body, and soon became one of the most active politicians in Virginia, working with the Whig party. He was several times relected to the Legislature. In 1858 he was elected to Congress, and there stood earnestly and ably by Henry Clay, zealously advocating most of the points of the great leader's programme—a national bank, a protective tariff, and the distribution among the States of the proceeds of the public lands. After serving two terms he was defeated by Mr. Seddon, but, in 1847, succeeded in gaining a re-election. In 1889 he was a delegate to the National Whig Convention, which nominated Harrison and Tyler. He had been a warm personal friend of John Tyler, elected Vice-President in November, 1840, and who, by the death of General Harrison, in April, 1841, became President of the United States; but, soon after Mr. Tyler's accession to office, Mr. Botts, in a conversation with him, learned his intention of seceding from the party which had elected him, and he at once denounced him, and pro-
said State," and inserting "voters of said State registered at the date of said submission."

Mr. Stockton, of New Jersey, said: "Under what principle, I ask, can you deprive a sovereign State of representation when you admit that it is sovereign? You have defended yourselves heretofore by saying that these States were not in the Union, that they needed reconstruction; but now, remember, you reconstruct them first, and then you do not say that they are not reconstructed; you do not say that they are not legal States; you do not say in your amendment that they are not a part of the Union, that their State governments cannot work regularly, but simply that they shall not be entitled to representation. How are they to be entitled to representation? Has General Longstreet entitled himself to office and to have his disabilities removed? Are they to bathe in Jordan? Is that the only way? Abana and Pharpar are rivers of Damascus; but they are not the river Jordan. They must bathe in the pool of your party politics before they can be cleansed. They are to join with you in assisting to strike out the word 'white' from the constitutions of the Northern States. They are to be forced to do this under the amending clause of the Constitution which requires a ratification by sovereign States. Do you suppose that your fifteenth amendment will ever become a part of the Constitution of this country under this bill? Never. The ratification thus forced is unconstitutional. The means of altering the compact made by sovereign States is provided in the instrument itself, and that is a ratification; and that ratification requires that every State shall have a free choice and a free vote; and when you say to your slaves, when you say to the Southern States, 'We have conquered you; you are conquered provinces; we have entered upon and possessed your land; you are slaves of our sword and our spear; you can only be admitted to the position of freemen again by ratifying this constitutional amendment,' do you allow them a free vote? No, sir; they are powerless. They cannot ratify it. Can they assist you in striking the word 'white' out of the constitution of my State without a free choice at all, without being States themselves even on your own theory? No, Mr. President."

Mr. Bayard, of Delaware, said: "The fifteenth amendment to the Constitution is plainly, to my mind, the most dangerous claim of power, the most destructive to the system of our Government, that ever was or could be devised. If I knowught of the Government under which we live, it is the elective franchise, it is the process of carrying on Government by the elective system that marks it from its first organization to its last act. It is a power that must be, in the very nature of things, the controlling power, because the election is your test of power, of law in every shape, and at every stage of your country's Government. That power you propose to take from the States and deposit with the Federal Government, to consolidate the power of all powers, that which underlies and creates all other powers; and that you propose to place in the hands of Congress! There never was a graver question, there never was an act which will affect the whole structure and genius of our Government to the extent that this must, should it succeed in obtaining the consent of the people of this country."

"It has been demonstrated before this Senate, in a manner that could not be and has not been replied to, by my honorable friend, the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Thurman), that by the amendment of the honorable Senator from Indiana (Mr. Morton) you do coerce the choice not only of the Southern States, which is a bare-faced act of simple power, but you coerce the sentiment of every Northern State under your pretended power of governing the Southern States. Talk of the free choice of Indiana or Ohio or New York! What is it when Congress can by law insist that the votes of certain States shall be cast in opposition to it? All freedom is gone. Sir, when Congress adopts such a measure as this, it is doing nothing less than playing with cogged dice. It is the intention, therefore, by a measure like this to destroy, first, all abowment of freedom in the exercise of their opinions by the people of these three States, and next, having destroyed that, to make their votes the instrument whereby you crush out the sentiment of the Northern States. Per fas aut nefas seems to me to be the rule by which this amendment is to be forced upon the American people; and the question will yet come up—it cannot be long kept down—how any law, how any amendment obtained by means like this, can be held binding upon the conscience of a people who have neither the sense nor the manhood to remain free."

The bill, as amended, was passed by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Abbott, Boreman, Brownlow, Buckingham, Carpenter, Cattell, Chandler, Cole, Conkling, Corbett, Craigin, Drake, Fenton, Ferry, Pennsylvania, Hamlin, Harris, Howard, Howe, McDonald, Morrill, Morton, Nye, Patterson, Pomeroy, Pratt, Ramsey, Rice, Robertson, Ross, Sawyer, Schurz, Scott, Sherman, Spence, Stewart, Sumner, Thayer, Tipton, Trumbull, Warner, Willey, Williams, and Wilson—44.


The House concurred in the amendments of the Senate.

In the House, on April 9th, Mr. Banks, of Massachusetts, offered the following resolution:

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the people of the United States sympathize with the people of Cuba in their patriotic efforts to secure their independence and establish a republican form of gov-
government, guarantee the personal liberty and the equal political rights of all the people; and the House of Representatives will give such constitutional support to the President of the United States whenever, in his opinion, a republican government shall have been in fact established, and he may deem it expedient to recognize the independence and sovereignty of such republican government.

The rules were suspended by the following vote:


The resolution was then agreed to.

In the Senate, on the withdrawal of the Vice-President, Mr. Anthony, of Rhode Island, was chosen President pro tem.

This session of Congress closed on April 10th.

CONNECTICUT. The public affairs of this State during the year have pursued their regular course, with a marked tendency to improvement in several departments.

The condition of the finances appears to be satisfactory. The State funded debt was, last year, reduced by $349,544.61, the whole amount of her liabilities over the assets on April 1, 1868, being $6,974,992.10. The value of the able property for 1869 had also increased by nearly eight millions over that assessed for 1868.

The entire receipts of the State during the last year were $3,280,790.42; of which $757,286.10 came from the two and one-half mill tax, $483,199.84 from savings-banks, $238,308.94 from railroad corporations, $128,400.81 from mutual insurance companies, $237,000 from sale of bank stocks, $294,368.28 from bank dividends, and the balance from miscellaneous sources.

The total expenditures for the year were $3,936,045.81. Of this $799,900 were for the redemption of bonds, $492,828 were for interest on the public debt, $291,250 for public buildings and institutions, and $117,154.65 for the maintenance of soldiers' children.

Claims of the State against the General Government, amounting to more than $200,000, have been so far disbursed. Under the new views held in the Treasury Department, however, it is anticipated that, if properly presented, they will be recognized and paid.

The number of men available for military duty in the State is 88,185; but its actually organized military force is composed of 8,991 men, commanded by 169 officers. The cost of this military establishment, last year, was $116,097; but the actual expenditure of the State for that account was only $89,464.94, the remaining $60,634 of that sum having been made up and paid from commutation taxes.

Public schools are well provided for in Connecticut. Their condition and cost to the State are shown by the detailed report of the Secretary of the Board of Education for 1868, which states that "there are 1,073 districts, a decrease of 18 from last year. There are 1,640 public schools, a decrease of five. The number of children in 1868 was 128,650, and in 1869, 124,068, an increase of 483. Average number in each district between the ages of 4 and 16 years of age, January, 1869, 79. Whole number of scholars registered in winter, 92,140; in summer, 75,177. Number of teachers in summer, 2,307; in winter, 2,285, of whom 651 never taught before. Average wages of male teachers $45.64 per month; $59.76 per female teacher, including board; $30.56 per children attending, and $45.76 per female teacher, including board; $30.56 per children attending.

The number of children in 1869 was 128,015; in 1868, 128,015; in 1867, 128,015.

The year 1869 was a dividend of $1.10 per child; last year, $1.00. Capital of town deposit fund, $783,861.59; revenue from same, $45,956.75. Amount raised for school by town tax, $160,847.35; increase for the year, $10,683.36. Amount raised by district tax, $467,804.77; increase, $872.87. Total amount received for public schools from all sources, $1,049,968.71; increase, $59,390.81.

"The better to provide the common schools with competent teachers, purposely trained to the performance of their duties, the Governor, in his message to the General Assembly, warmly recommended the establishment of the State Normal School, which had been for some years discontinued; representing such a measu-
In 1867-'68 the maximum price was 42 cents at New York, and 15½ pence at Liverpool; the minimum 25 cents at New York, and 10½ pence at Liverpool.

The growth of cotton in other countries has been somewhat less than during the preceding year. In India the season was unfavorable, and the product did not exceed 1,500,000 bales of 840 pounds each. About 280,000 bales were produced in Egypt; 12,500 in Turkey, the Levant, etc.; and 707,500 in Brazil, Peru, and the West Indies. The entire production of cotton in the world in the year 1869 has been estimated at 5,000,000 bales, while the consumption amounted to about 6,000,000, leaving an apparent deficit in the supply for the coming year of 1,000,000 bales.

CUBA. The most important island of the Western Hemisphere. It has always from the time of its discovery been a dependency of Spain. Several attempts have been made to establish its independence, but failed. The most important movement of this kind is the revolution which broke out in 1868, and which, at the close of the year 1869, was not entirely subdued. The area of the island is 48,489 square miles, it being nearly equal to the area of Belgium, Holland, Denmark, and Switzerland, taken together. The population is increasing with great rapidity; it had, according to official returns, 170,370 inhabitants in 1775; 551,998 in 1817; 704,487 in 1827 (811,061 white, 166,494 free colored, 864,943 slaves); in 1846, 893,702 (425,767 white, 148,228 free colored, 323,759 slaves); in 1862, 1,259,288 (894,754 white, 225,988 free colored, 668,550 slaves). The island is divided into three provinces. The government is vested in a Captain-General, who is the military commander of the whole island, and the civil governor of one of the three provinces. The chief towns of Cuba are Havana, Santiago, Matanzas, Santa Clara, Santa Maria, and Trinidad. According to the new Spanish Constitution, Cuba is to be represented hereafter in the Spanish Cortes, but no representatives were elected in the course of the year 1869.

The commencement of the insurrection of 1868 was the issue of a document by the "Junta of the Laborers," which, after enumerating the wrongs and insults inflicted upon the Cubans by Spain, thus states the principles on which their revolution is based:

The laborers, animated by the love for their native

See the article SPAIN in the AMERICAN ANNUAL CYCLOPEDIA for 1869.
land, aspire to the hope of seeing Cuba happy and prosperous by virtue of its own power, and demand that the letters of the individuals, their homes, families, and the fruits of their labor, which it will have guaranteed by the liberty of concordance, of speech, of the press, by peaceful meetings; in fact, the respect of the Constitution, which is a public law of the country, free from an army of parasites and soldiers that only serves to consume it and oppress it. And as that kind can be obtained from Spain, they intend to fight it with all available means and drive and uproot its dominion on the face of Cuba. Respecting above all and before all the dignity of men, the association declares that it will not accept slavery as a forced inheritance of the past; however, instead of abolishing it as an arm by which to sink the island into barbarity, as threatened by the government of Spain, they view abolition as a means of improving the moral and material condition of the working-man, and thereby to place property and wealth in a more just and safe position.

Some of their times, baptized in the vivid stream of civilization, and therefore, above preoccupation of nationality, the laborers will respect the neutrality of Spaniards, but among Cubans will distinguish only friends and foes, those that are with them or against them. To the former they offer peace, fraternity, and concord; to the latter, hostility and war—war that will be more irresistible than the traitors to Cuba, where they first saw the day, who turn their arms against them, or offer any asylum or refuge to their tyranny. We, the laborers, ignore the value of nationality, but at the present moment consider it of secondary moment. Before nationality stands liberty, the indisputable condition of existence. We must be a people before becoming a nation. When the Cubans constitute two people they will receive the nationality that becomes them. Now they have none.

In January, 1869, a proclamation was issued by the Spanish Captain-General, to appease the Cubans. He said:

I will brave every danger, accept every responsibility for your welfare. The revolution has swept away the Bourbon dynasty, tearing up the roots, a plant so poisonous that it putrefied the air we breathe. To the citizen shall be returned his rights, to man his dignity. You are possessed of all the forces which you require. Cubans and Spaniards are all brothers. From this day Cuba will be considered as a province of Spain. Freedom of the press, the right of meeting and association, of the three fundamental principles of true liberty, are granted you.

Cubans and Spaniards! Speaking in the name of our mother, Spain, I adjure you to forget the past, hope for the future, and establish union and fraternity.

The proclamation remained without any effect upon the leaders, of whom at this time the Marquis of Santa Lucia and General Castillo were in the neighborhood of Puerto Principe, while other forces were besieging Gibara, and 2,000 men were holding Colonel Lono in check at Tuna, and General Cepeodes, the Provisional President, was near St. Jago de Cuba.

The first reinforcement, in 1869, from Spain, consisted of about 1,500 troops. The Spanish General Vallsmaeza succeeded in joining Colonel Lono at Tuna, and marched on Bayamo. Meanwhile the Cuban forces, 6,000 strong, under General Quiros, as near as possible on Puerto Principe, which was defended by Colonel Mena with a garrison of 3,000 men.

Another reinforcement of 1,000 men arrived on February 15th. A decree was issued abolishing the freedom of the press and establishing trials by military commissions. The citizens of Havana were called upon to raise twenty-five millions for the Government. The volunteers continued to create disturbances. This body, originally organized by Lorsundi, while energetic in support of the revolution which relieved Spain from Isabella, showed themselves as ready to support the Spanish rule in Cuba. Their seven battalions numbered at this time about 5,000 men. Their demeanor was insolent and overbearing.

In February, 5,000 insurgents, divided into three bodies, between Villa Clara and Cienfuegos, were destroying the railway and cutting the telegraph lines. An engagement took place at San Cristoval, twenty-two leagues west from Havana, with a body of insurgents under Prieto, in which the troops were defeated and obliged to retreat. Another action took place at Guanajay, eleven leagues from Havana, on the north coast, in which twenty Spaniards were wounded. The arrival of reinforcements from Count Valmaseda prevented the Cubans from taking Santiago. The insurgents still held Tuna. Havana was practically in a state of siege, and General Dulce was urged to declare it officially, but was not inclined to do so, and even released Cubans producing American naturalization papers. The Cubans destroyed the telegraph and stopped the mails at Trinidad. Banditti pillaged the plantations in the vicinity of Nuevitas. A body of troops, sent on February 7th to San Miguel, burned the town, but the insurgents held their ground in the vicinity. They also continued to surround Puerto Principe, the inhabitants of which city were suffering for want of provisions. A force of Spanish troops under Quiros advanced to Jiguani, near Bayamo, from Santiago de Cuba, fighting severely all along the route with the insurgents under General Cespedes, in order to join Count Valmaseda, who was at Tuna, and to bring up the whole of his forces. The insurgent chiefs were constantly moving from one point to another, thus baffling pursuit and wearing their enemies by long and profitless marches. To deprive the Spaniards of the power of moving, they also continued burning estates and railroad bridges, and destroying roads. On the 14th of February, Colonel Lono's column of Spanish troops arrived at Manzanilla from Bayamo, with about 1,000 refugees. This column was harassed by the insurgents all the way. The latter captured the port of La Guanaja, a small town a few leagues west of Nuevitas, and fortified it with brass guns, manned by Americans. In the middle of February, 1,000 chasseurs arrived from Spain, and went, under General Puello, to Cienfuegos. The amnesty proclamation was officially declared, but was expected to have expedient effect. Captain-General proclaimed the benefit of pardon to all insurgents that would surrender themselves, with or without arms, excluding the chiefs of the insurrection, assassins, incen-
strong, attacked the enemy's fortifications with the bayonets. Both sides fought with determination. General Lesca reports his loss at thirty-one killed and eighty wounded; other accounts say the Spaniards lost about two hundred men. The loss of the rebels was estimated by the Spaniards at 1,000 killed and wounded.

About this time—March, 1869—the entire available strength of the rebel forces under Quesada was 7,000 men. It was somewhat strengthened by the landing of an expedition under the command of Cienfuegos on the north side of Cuba, near Mayarí, where General Cespedes was waiting for war material by a steamer. This vessel brought about 100 Cubans, all well armed with rifles, revolvers, and swords, several pieces of field artillery, and a number of expert artillerists. In addition to these there were landed 8,000,000 of ball-cartrigdes and a large assortment of other war material.

General Cespedes was at Mayarí with a large force ill supplied with munitions, but very enthusiastic and confident in the success of the cause—free Cuba. He continued the Fabian policy in his war with the Spanish troops until his forces should become better armed, and the disparity in this respect between the two armies should be reduced. Meanwhile irregular bands of insurgents were burning plantations and scattering general destruction in the vicinity of Manzanillo and Santa Cruz.

The insurgent Assembly of Representatives for the Central Department decreed, in March, the absolute abolition of slavery. The patriots were to be indemnified for the loss of their slaves, and the freedmen to become soldiers or to remain cultivators of the soil.

In order to strengthen their cause, the leaders of the Cuban insurrection turned their eyes to the United States, where much sympathy and some help in men and arms had already encouraged them. On the occasion of General Grant's accession to the presidency, the following address was sent to him:

To His Excellency the President of the United States:

Sr: The people of Cuba, by their Grand Supreme Civil Junta and through their General-in-Chief, Before Cespedes, desire to submit to your Excellency the following, among other reasons, why your Excellency, as President of the United States, should accord to them belligerent rights and a recognition of their independence:

Because from the hearts of nineteen-twentieths of the inhabitants of the island of Cuba go up prayers for the success of the armies of the republic; and from the sole and only want of arms and ammunition these patient people are kept under the tyrannical yoke of Spain. The unanimity of the masses of the people for the republic is ominous.

Because the republic has armies numbering over 40,000 men actually in the field and doing duty. These armies, organized and geographically based on the principles of civilized warfare. The prisoners whom they take—and so far they have taken three times as many as their enemies have from them—are treated in every respect as the prisoners of war are used and treated by the most civilized nations of the earth. In the hope of recognition by the United States, they
have never yet in a single instance retaliated death for death, even in cases of the most provoking nature.

Because the Spanish authorities have almost invariably brutally murdered the soldiers of the armies of the republic who have surrendered to them, and have recently issued an official order requiring their military forces hereafter instantly to kill and murder every prisoner of the republic who surrenders. This is done, the order cheerfully tells us, "to save trouble and vexation to the Spanish civil authorities." This is an outrage upon civilized nations of the earth ought not to allow.

Because the United States is the nearest civilized nation to Cuba, whose political institutions strike a responsive chord in the hearts of all Cubans, Cuba earnestly appeals for the unquestionable right of recognition.

Because the arms and authority of the Republic of Cuba now extend over two-thirds of the entire geographical area of the island, embracing a very great majority of the population in every part of the island.

Because she has a navy in course of construction which will excel in point of numbers and efficiency that hereafter be maintained by the Spanish authorities in these waters.

Because these facts plainly show to the world that this is not a movement of a few discontented, but the general and sudden uprising of a people thirsting for liberty, and determined with this last effort to secure to themselves and their posterity those unquestioned rights—liberty of conscience and freedom of the individual.

Finally, because she is following in the footsteps of Spain herself in endeavoring to banish tyrannical rulers, and in their stead place rulers of her own choice, the people of Cuba have a tenfold more absolute and potent right than Spain had, because Cuba's rulers are sent without her voice or consent by a foreign country, a successor, with the end in view of compelling her to submit to a foreign government.

Meanwhile the insurgents carried out their plan of burning and devastating plantations everywhere. They brought off the slaves and made them soldiers. An engagement took place near Alvarez, on March 15th; the insurgents were routed and divided, one force fleeing toward Macagua and the other toward Jucuri Grande. In another engagement, at Guara­cabuya, 183 insurgents were killed (according to official accounts). The number of insurgents in the Bagua and Remedios districts, at this time, was estimated at from 7,000 to 9,000 men, mainly engaged in burning plantations and destroying railroads and telegraphs.

On March 20th a fleet of transports, with about 800 state prisoners on board, sailed for Fernando Po, convoyed by the Spanish frigate Loyalist. An artillery column, under Morales de los Rios, with a squadron of cavalry, came up with 2,000 rebels of Villa Clara, at Potrerillo, under Generals Morales, Villamil, and others, and completely routed them, killing 206, wounding 800, and capturing twenty-one prisoners, some horses, arms, etc. Thirty Spanish were also retaken. The troops lost one lieutenant and one man. According to official accounts, General Letona arrived at Villa Clara on March 14th, after a number of encounters with the rebels, in all of which he is said to have punished them severely. The Government directed the concentration of all its forces in the Villa Clara district, including those under Le­tona, Pelay, and Puello, with the artillery col­umn of Colonel Morales de los Rios and a considerable force of cavalry, estimated to number in all 10,000 men. The insurgents, in despite of their inefficiency and the disadvantage of want of organization, arms, and artillery, were fighting with great bravery and desperation.

As yet no regular civil government existed in the districts held by the insurgents, and no formal attempt was made to organize one. In the Central Department General Quesada's authority was respected, while in the East General Cespedes was looked upon as the

In the middle of March, Captain-General Dulce issued a proclamation making important changes in taxation. The direct taxes on plantations, cattle, and country real estate, and the war-tax recently imposed on merchants and tradesmen, were reduced fifty per cent., and no government contribution payable within the last quarter of the fiscal year of 1868–69 was to be collected. To compensate the Treas­ury for the loss of revenue incurred by these reductions, the following new duties were im­posed: On muscovado sugar shipped under the Spanish flag, sixteen cents, and, under a foreign flag, twenty cents per 100 pounds; on every box of sugar under the Spanish flag, seventy-five cents; under foreign flag, eighty-seven cents; on every hoghead of sugar under Spanish flag, one dollar; under foreign flag, one dollar and seventy-five cents; on molasses, fifty cents per hoghead; on rum, one dollar per hoghead.
CUBA.

leader. There was little communication be-
tween the several departments, and no concert
of action. The only aim seemed to be war
with the Spaniard. The insurgents in the
Villa Clara district held their organization
distinct from those of Céspedes and Quesada.

On April 30th an engagement took place
between 900 troops, some mobilized sharp-
shooters and other volunteers, and 8,000 rebels,
intrenched at Placetas, provided with cannon
and a large number of cavalry. An advanced
force of 300 rebels was met at Nagarero and
driven into their camp. As the troops ap-
proached, the rebels opened a heavy fire, which
lasted three hours, including artillery, not
badly directed. The troops replied with am-
munition, and finally charged with the bayonet,
dislodging the enemy and capturing their three
mountain-pieces. The enemy had 186 killed
and many wounded. The troops captured an
immense quantity of arms, horses, flags, etc.
They lost but one wounded.

In April, representatives from all parts of
the island met at Guaimaro, a small town of
the Central Department, about twenty leagues
east of Puerto Príncipe. On April 10th Gen-
eral Céspedes resigned his provisional authority
as General-in-Chief and Chief of the Govern-
ment by an address, in which he says:

Now that the House of Representatives, gathered
from all parts of the island, has been happily in-
augurated at Guaimaro, it becomes from the moment
of its organization the supreme and only authority
for all Cubans, because it constitutes the depository
of the people’s will, sovereign of the present and
controller of the future. All temporary power and
authority ceases to have a rightful voice in Cuba
from the very moment in which the wise democratic
system, laying its solid foundations beneath the
gigantic shadow of the tree of liberty, has come to
endow us—after suffering the most iniquitous rule—
with the most beautiful and magnificent of human
institutions—a republican government.

Unfeigned gratitude I owe to the destiny which
afforded me the glory of being the first in Yara to
raise the standard of independence, and the still
greater one of having less merited satisfaction, to see
crowded around me my fellow-citizens in demand
of liberty, thus sustaining my weak arm and stimulat-
ing my poor efforts by their confidence. But another
pride was reserved for me, far more grateful to my
sentiments and democratic convictions—that of also
being the first to render homage to the popular
sovereignty.

This duty fulfilled, having given an account to
the fatherland in its most genuine representation, of
the work which, with the assistance of its own heroic
sons, I had the good fortune to have commenced, it
still behooves me, fellow-citizens, to fulfill another,
not less imperious to my heart, of addressing my
gratitude to—you, without whom my humble,
isolated efforts would not have produced other fruit
than that of adding one patriot more to the number
of preceding martyrs for independence—to you who,
regulating the principle rather than the means,
came to stimulate me by your recognition of myself
as chief of the provisional government and the lib-
erating army.

Efforts of the Eastern Department: Your
efforts as initiators of the struggle against tyranny,
your constancy, your sufferings, your heroic sacri-
fices of all descriptions, your privations, the combat
with which you have sustained and continue to sustain against an enemy far superior in
armament and discipline, and who displays, for want
of the valor which a good cause inspires, all the
fear of the Spaniards, in the attribute of arms, have
been witnessed by myself, and so will remain eternally
present to my heart. Ye are the vanguard of the sol-
diers of our liberties. I commend you to the admira-
tion and the gratitude of the Cubans. Continue
your abnegation of self, your discipline, your valor,
and your enthusiasm, which well entitle you to that
gratitude and that admiration.

Fellow-Citizens of the Western Department: If it
has not been your good fortune to be the first in
grasping arms, neither were you among the last in
listening to the voice of the fatherland that cried for
revolution. Your moral aid and assistance responded
from the very onset to the call of your brethren of the
Eastern and Central Departments. Many of you
render more difficult the current of the revolution,
that same Government trembles before your deter-
mised attitude, from the Cinco Villas to Havana, and
from Havana to the western boundary, and your first
decision was to place the presage to desires the
worthy sons of the Eastern and Central Depart-
ments of new and decisive triumphs.

Fellow-Citizens: The blood of the patriots who have fallen during the first onset of
the struggle has consecrated our aspirations with a
glorious baptism. At this moment, when destiny
has been pleased to close the miseries of the
very first, swear with him by that generous
blood, that in order to render fruitful that great
sacrifice you will shield your own, to the very last
drop, in furtherance of the consummation of our
independence, proclaimed in Yara. Swear with me
to give up our lives a thousand times over in sus-
taining the republic proclaimed in Guaimaro.

Fellow-Cubans: Long live our independence!
Long live the popular sovereignty! Long live the
Cuban republic! Patria and liberty.

CARLOS MANUEL DE CÉSPEDES.

GUAIMARO, April 10, 1899.

The Congress with great unanimity pro-
claimed “the Republic of Cuba,” elected Carlos
M. de Céspedes President of the Republic, and
General M. Quesada Commander-in-Chief of the
Forces. General Céspedes, on assuming the
presidency, issued the following proclamation:

To the People of Cuba:

Compatriots: The establishment of a free govern-
ment in Cuba, on the basis of democratic principles,
was the event that we have been awaiting for a
long time. The realization of this wish was, therefore, enough
to satisfy my aspirations and amply repay the services
which, united with you, I may have been able to de-
vote to the cause of Cuban independence. But the
will of my compatriotes has gone far beyond this, by
investing me with the most honored of all duties—the
supreme magistracy of the republic.

I am not blind to the great labors required in the
exercise of the high functions which you have placed
in my charge in these critical moments, notwithstanding
the aid that may be derived from other
powers of the state. I am not ignorant of the grave
responsibility which I assume in accepting the presi-
dency of our new-born republic. I know that my
weak powers would be far from being equal to the
demand if left to themselves alone.

But this will not occur, and that conviction fills me
with the hope of the future.

In the act of beginning the struggle with the op-
pressors, Cuba has assumed the solemn duty to con-
summate her independence or perish in the attempt;
and in giving herself a democratic government she
obligates herself to become republican.
This double obligation, contracted in the presence of free America, before the liberal world, and, what is more, before our own conscience, signifies our devotion to the cause of the Cuban freedom. I will not repeat it,

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the Conquest, and of Spanish domination in America. In birth and in death they live and succeed the Torquemadas, the Pizarros, the Boves, the Mortillos, the Tacons, the Vizcainas, and the Valmases. We have to combat with the assassins of the old women and of children, with the mutilators of the dead, with the idolaters of gold!

Cubans! if you would save your honor and that of your families; if you would conquer forever your liberty—be soldiers. War leads you to peace and to happiness. Inertia precipitates you to misfortunes and to dishonor.

Viva Cuba! Viva the President of the Republic! Viva the Liberating Army! Patris and liberty!

M. DE CESPEDES.

GULMAMO, April 11, 1869.

Two days afterward appeared the following proclamation of General Quesada:

Citizens, Officers, and Soldiers of the Liberating Army of Cuba: When I returned to my country to_pace my sword at its service, fulfilling the most sacred of duties, realizing the most intense aspiration of my life, the vove of the Camagueyans, to my surprise, honored me by conferring on me the command of their army. Notwithstanding my poor merits and capacity, I accepted the post, because I expected to find, and did find, in the Camagueyans civic virtues well established, and this has rendered supportable the charge of that responsibility which I assumed.

Now the legislative power of the republic has filled me with greater surprise, promoting me to the command-in-chief of the liberating army of Cuba. The want of confidence in my own resources naturally moves me anew upon stronger grounds, although it also strengthens the conviction that the patriotism of my brethren will supply the insufficiency of my capacity.

Camagueyans! You have given me undoubted proofs of your virtues. You are models of subordination and enthusiasm. Preserve and extend your discipline.

Soldiers of the East! Initiators of our sacred revolution! Veterans of Cuba! I salute you with sincere affection, counting on your gallant chiefs, in order that they may aid me in realizing the eminent work which we have undertaken, and I hope that union will ensure our success.

Soldiers of the villas! You have already struggled with the deepspot. I felicitate you for the efforts made, and invite you to continue them. You are patriots.

Soldiers of the West! I know your hero exploits, and venerate them. I am well aware of the disadvantage of the situation in which you find yourself, as well as that of our oppressors, and it is our purpose to remedy this.

Accept the homage of my admiration and the succor of my arms.

Citizen chiefs, officers, and soldiers of the Cuban army! Union, discipline, and perseverance.

The rapid increase which the glorious revolution of Cuba has taken frightens our oppressors, who now are suffering the pangs of desperation, and carrying on a war of vengeance, not of principles.

The tyrant Valmaseda rambles with the incendiary's torch and the homicidal knife over the fields of Cuba. He has never done otherwise, but now he adds to his crime the still greater one of publishing it by a proclamation, in which he can only describe by pronouncing it to be a proclamation worthy of the Spanish Government. Thereby our property is menaced by fire and pillage. This is nothing. It threatens us with death; but this is nothing, our fathers, our mothers, wives, daughters, and sisters, are menaced with resort to violence. * * *

Fidelity is the value of cowards. I implore those who know, to recollect at all hours the proclamation of Valmaseda. That document will shorten the time necessary for the triumph of our cause. That document is a terrible proof of the treachery of the enemy. These beings appear deprived of those gifts which Nature has conceded to the irrationals—the instinct of foresight and of warning. We have to struggle with virileans, always such—the very same ones of the Inquisition, of
were much disgusted with the constant in-
subordination displayed by the volunteers.

The mobilized negroes in Nuevitas also re-
fused to serve, as the advanced guard, in
attacks upon the insurgents. The area of
the rebellion extended to the Western Depart-
ment. On the 17th of April, 1,800 troops, commanded
by Generals Letona and Escalante, arrived at
Nuevitas from Villa Clara; they were joined
the next day by General Lesca, with 1,200
men, from Puerto Principe. An engagement
took place between the Spanish troops, under
the command of General Lesca, and the Cuban
insurgents, at Altagracia. The report says the
rebels offered a more determined resistance
than in any previous battle, and acknowledges
that the Spaniards lost a colonel and captain
and six privates killed and thirty wounded.

According to later accounts the Cuban loss
was 200, and the Spanish 180 in killed and
wounded.

It was the first serious battle in the Cuban
revolution, but nothing definite resulted from
it. On the 8d of May another battle was
fought at Las Minas. According to rebel
sources, the Spaniards numbered 1,200 men,
under the command of General Lesca. The
revolutionary force was commanded by Gen-
eral Quesada. One report says, before the fight-
ning commenced, Quesada posted the native
Cubans in front, protected by intrenchments,
and placed a force of 400 Dominican and
American volunteers in their rear, with orders
to fire upon them if they ran. Thus placed
between two fires, the Cubans fought with
desperation. The Spaniards attacked the in-
trenchments three times with the bayonet.
The first two assaults were repulsed by the
Cubans; the third was very determined
and severe, and the Cubans began to waver,
when Quesada ordered the rear-guard to the
front. They advanced, driving the Cubans
into the front ranks of the enemy. A hand-to-
hand combat ensued, in which the butchery
was horrible. The Spaniards finally gave way
and retreated, but in good order. Their loss
is estimated at 130 killed and 300 wounded;
that of the Cubans at 200 killed and a propor-
tionate number wounded. The forces of Que-
sada after the fight marched to San Miguel and
burned the town in sight of the retreating
Spaniards.

The proportions of this fight seem, however,
to have been exaggerated. With the advance
of the hot season both the Spanish and rebel
troops suffered from fever. The rebels burned
the town of Manicaragua.

An expedition, fitted out in the United States
under General Thomas Jordan, landed at
Mayari, in May. It brought about 4,000 long-
range rifles, 800 Remington rifles, 500 six-
barrelled revolvers, twelve splendid pieces of
artillery, twelve twenty-four and thirty-two
pounders, and a number of cartridges. More-
over, he brought 1,000 lances, 1,000 pairs of
shoes, an equal quantity of clothing, two print-
ing presses complete, medicine-chests, plenty
of rice, biscuits, salt meat, salt, and flour—in
fact, full stores for fitting out 6,000 men.
The expedition numbered 800 men. On marching
into the interior they were attacked by the
Spaniards and an obstinate engagement ensued,
during which it is reported that the forces of
the Government captured two pieces of artillery.
The Spanish loss is stated at 83, and that of
the insurgents at 80 men killed and wounded.

Severe fighting took place around Trinidad
and Cienfuegos, with heavy losses to both
sides. Small bands of both parties raided over
the country and robbed the inhabitants.

On the 16th of May a severe engagement
took place four miles from Puerto Padre, a
small seaport town on the north coast of Cuba
in the Eastern Department. The insurgents at-
tacked a force of 1,000 Spaniards conveying
provisions to Tunas. The battle took place
along the margin of the river, and lasted for
several hours, and every attempt of the Spani-
iards to cross was repulsed with severe loss.
They were shot down in the river, dying the
water with their blood. Finally the Spaniards
were driven back with great loss, and com-
pelled to abandon the design of provisioning
Tunas. They acknowledged a loss of 84 killed
and 100 wounded, but the insurgents claimed
that their loss was much heavier.

The Captain-General of Cuba, General Dulce,
both on account of ill health and the dis-
couraging state of affairs, in Cuba and in
Spain, which rendered him daily more power-
less, determined to leave Cuba, but, before he
could carry out his design, a mob of volunteers
virtually deposed him (June 4th), and installed
Espinay in his place. Some of the leaders of
the volunteers were supposed to meditate the
organization of a Colonial Government; their
action, however, was limited to instituting a
court of inquiry into the conduct of General
Dulce.

The brigade of Brigadier Ferrer, which left
Nuevitas on the 25th of May to reinforce the
troops at Puerto Padre, had returned in a pitu-
able condition, the cholera having broken out
among them. They secured their object, the
convoying of a train from Puerto Padre to Las
Tunas, in the interior. They were harassed
and finally attacked at La Bracosa. The rebels
were repulsed with a loss of 80 men. The
Spanish loss was 76 in killed and wounded.
The insurgents received credit for bravery and
for retiring in good order.

The Home Government, to the great delight
of the volunteers, appointed, as successor of
General Dulce, General Caballero de Rodas,
who, by his dealings with the republican in-
surgents in Cadiz, had received from the
Spanish republicans the surname of “the
butcher of Cadiz.” The new Captain-General
entered vigorously upon the task intrusted to
him. In order to prevent further assistance
from other countries, he published, on July 7th,
the following decree:
The custody and guardianship of the coasts of this island, of the keys adjacent, and the waters appertaining to them of the greatest importance, in order to suppress the insurgent bands that have hitherto maintained themselves by outside assistance, the Government has deemed it necessary to follow the course of the decree promulgated on September 9, 1868, February 18th and 26th, and March 24th last, and to decide to apprehend and unite the subsidies and Replace the same for the following, to the end that the authority vested in me by the nation, I decree:

Art. 1. All ports situated between Cayo Santa Maria and Poinciana, on the north side, with the exception of Sagua la Grande, Campanario, Nuevitas, Girona, Baracoa, Guantanamo, Santiago de Cuba, Manzanillo, Santa Cruz, Zaza, Trinidad, and Cienfuegos, where there are custom-houses, will continue closed to the import and export trade both by foreign and coasting vessels. Those who may attempt the entry of any closed ports, or to open communication with their coasts, will be pursued, and, if captured, are to be tried as violators of the law.

Art. 2. Vessels carrying gunpowder, arms, and warlike stores, will likewise be judged in accordance with this decree.

Art. 3. The transportation of individuals in the service of the insurrection is by far more serious than that of contraband of war, and will be deemed an act of decided hostility, and the vessel and crew regarded as enemies to the state.

Art. 4. Should the individuals referred to in the foregoing article come armed, this will be regarded de facto as proof of their intentions, and they will be regarded as pirates, as will also be the case with the crew of the vessel.

Art. 5. In accordance with the law, vessels captured under an unknown flag, whether armed or unarmed, will also be regarded as pirates.

Art. 6. In case there are no citizens of this island the crew of any vessel, armed as already mentioned, or those who render themselves suspicious, to the rights given in the treaties between Spain and the United States in 1795, Great Britain in 1824, and with other nations subsequently; and if, in the exercise of these rights, they should encounter any vessels recognized as enemies of the integrity of the territory, they will be allowed to proceed to port for legal investigation and judgment accordingly.

CABALLERO DE RODAS.

He announced a vigorous policy by the following decree, which proves that he would not concede that the Cuban forces were made up of thousands of well-armed men, under bold and experienced leaders:

SUPERIOR POLITICAL GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF CUBA.

HAVANA, July 6, 1868.

The insurrection, in its impetuosity, being reduced to detached bands, perverted to the watchword of desolation, and daily perpetrating crimes that have no precedents in civilized countries, personal security and the rights of justice, the foremost guarantee of person and property, imperiously demand that said insurrection be hastened to its end, and without consideration toward those who have placed themselves beyond the pale of the law. The culprit will not be deprived of the guarantee of just impartiality in the evidence of his crimes, but without the delay admissible in normal periods, which would procrastinate or paralyze the verdict of the law and its inexorable fulfillment.

As the guardian of the national integrity, the protector of the upright and pacific citizens, fulfilling the duties of my office, and in virtue of the authority con-

ceeding to me by the Government of the nation, I hereby decree:

Art. 1. The decree promulgated by this superior political government, under date of 18th and 18th February last, shall be carried out with vigor.

Art. 2. The crimes of premeditated incendiariism, assassination, and robbery, by armed force and contraband, shall be tried by a council of war.

Art. 3. The courts of justice will continue in the exercise of their jurisdiction, without prejudice, however, of being submitted to me such cases as special circumstances may require.

CABALLERO DE RODAS.

A proclamation followed, addressed to the "Inhabitants of the Island of Cuba," the volunteers, soldiers, and mariners.

In July, General Puello, at the head of 300 Spanish marines, was attacked by a force of patriots near Bagá, a small town situated on the same bay as Nuevitas, and not far from that city. The marines were forced to fall back upon Nuevitas, with a loss of 80.

During July the Spanish troops in the insurrectionary districts were reinforced by all the disposable forces of the island. In the Cienfuegos district there were several contests, in which small parties were engaged. It is reported that in these engagements the Spanish loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners, amounted to nearly 400. These reinforcements were sent principally to the district commanded by General Jordan, but, on account of the setting in of the rainy season, both parties were compelled to suspend operations. The Cubans continued to be reinforced by volunteers from the United States. Two hundred and twenty-five, recruited in Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky, succeeded in landing on the 28th of July, and joining General Quesada's forces. They carried with them arms and ammunition, and a large supply of camp-equipment.

In October the volunteers continued to control the affairs of the island, and the Captain-General seemed powerless to prevent them. A general feeling of insecurity and alarm prevailed, and no foreigner or native felt safe.

The decree of the Constituent Cortes, establishing unrestricted liberty of religion in the colonies of Cuba and Porto Rico, was, on October 25th, promulgated in Cuba, and has gone into effect as the law of the land. The document declares that Spain cannot remain removed from the general movement of Europe and the world, and adds that this consideration is the more powerful for the Antilles, because they lie near a continent where liberty of religion is recognized by law. One clause of the decree provides that no person shall be prevented from holding office under the Government by reason of his religious belief. The decree was received with general satisfaction by the populace.

During the prevalence of cholera in October, which carried off great numbers of Valmaseda's forces, Quesada's 8,000 well-armed and thoroughly-organized men spent their time in going through target-drill. There were, in October (according to Cuban accounts), about
15,000 insurgents in the Cinco Villas district, in addition to about 8,000 under General Raloff, a Pole. Much depression was felt on account of the failure of most of the expeditions from the United States, as more arms were greatly needed. The most important expedition that reached Cuba was that organized by General Goloaria. The steamship Lillian, which had been lying at New Orleans, went to Cedar Keys, off the Florida coast, where about 600 men and several cannon and a large number of rifles with appropriate ammunition were embarked. The expedition safely arrived, about the 20th of October. Returning, the Lillian put into the harbor of Nassau, where she was seized by the British authorities, but was released after a short detention.

In November the burning of sugar-plantations became quite general. There were over one hundred and sixty large sugar-plantations belonging to Cubans who had fled, which were confiscated by the Spaniards, with the view of getting money out of the crops. To prevent this, the Cubans set fire to the cane on all these plantations. On November 20th the Spanish arms suffered a reverse at Mogotes, where an attack upon a fortified position of the insurgents was repulsed with loss. The troops were commanded by Colonel Camara, and the attack commenced by throwing a shell, which was followed by a bayonet-charge. The Cubans stood firm, and after a desperate fight the Spaniards were repulsed. No details of the losses are known, but they were heavy on both sides.

In November, the Cuban Junta in New York City was reorganized. It consisted thereof of six members, besides the newly-elected President, Señor Miguel Aldama, of whom three had previously been prominent members of the Havana bar. The others had gained equal distinction in eminent business positions.

The American general, Jordan, who, in the meanwhile, had been appointed Adjutant-General of the Army of Cuba, stated in a letter that the Cuban army numbered 26,800 men, supplied with arms; that it was followed by 40,000 liberated slaves, armed with machetes, and that if the Cubans had 75,000 stands of arms, the war could be ended in 90 days.

In the beginning of the month of December, General Cepedes issued a proclamation calling on all faithful Cubans to destroy their sugar and tobacco crops, in order to deprive the Spaniards of this source of revenue. The operations of the Cubans during the month accordingly were chiefly directed to the burning of crops.

The insurrection, at the end of 1869, had not yet died out; and a report, published in December by the Havana papers, that the Cuban Junta in New York had requested the leaders of the insurgent forces to lay down their arms, was indignantly denied.

From the beginning of their uprising, the Cuban insurgents met with the most cordial sympathy in South America. The Governments of Chili and Peru formally recognized the insurgents. The note of the President of Peru, dated May 13th, to General Cepedes, "Captain-General of the Liberating Army of Cuba," contains the following paragraph: "The President of Peru sympathizes deeply with the noble cause of which your Excellency constitutes himself the worthy champion, and he will do his utmost to mark the interest which that talent, so worthy of taking its place with the civilized nations of the world, inspires him with. The Peruvian Government recognizes as belligerents the party which is fighting for the independence of Cuba, and will strive its utmost to secure their recognition as such by other nations; and likewise that the war should be properly regulated in conformity with international usages and laws." The sympathies in all the other republics was equally outspoken, and the Cubans, at the close of the year, were expecting a speedy recognition by all of them.

In the United States, the sympathy of public opinion was at least equally strong, and showed itself in a large number of mass meetings, in resolutions of Congress, and in the fitting out of a number of expeditions. This sympathy was also openly expressed in the message of President Grant, in December, 1869; on the other hand, however, the message took the ground that "the contest had at no time assumed the conditions which amount to a war in the sense of international law, or which would show the existence of a de facto political organization of the insurgents sufficient to justify a recognition of belligerency." The President further remarked that the United States had no disposition to interfere with the existing relations between Spain and her colonial possessions on this continent, believing that in due time Spain and other European powers would find their interest in terminating those relations. (On the negotiations between the Governments of the United States and Spain, arising out of the Cuban war, see Spain.)
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DERBY, EDWARD G. S.

Lord George Bentinck and Mr. Disraeli discharging a similar duty in the House of Commons. In 1851, on the death of his father, he succeeded to the earldom, and in 1852, on the resignation of Lord John Russell as Premier, he was called upon by the Queen, for the first time, to form a government, which he did. But he held the reins of power for only ten months, having found it impossible, with a Cabinet so intensely Conservative and Protectionist as that he had constructed, to command a majority in the House of Commons. During this short term of office, however, he was instrumental in carrying those measures of chancery reform which have proved of such signal benefit to the English people, and in forming that alliance between England and France from which such important results to both countries have already flowed. On the fall of the coalition ministry in January, 1852, Lord Derby retired from the new duties of Government, on the ground that the only ministry he could have formed would have been dependent for existence on the forbearance of foes. In 1858, upon the resignation of the Palmerston ministry, he again became First Lord of the Treasury; but his Government having been beaten in the House of Commons on a measure of parliamentary reform brought forward by them, he dissolved Parliament, and appealed to the country, only to find the new House more opposed to him than the old one, leaving him no alternative but resignation. As his overthrow in the first instance was brought about principally through his avowed determination to restore the Corn Laws, so this time it was hastened by his apparent sympathy with Austria on the Italian question. Again, however, he signalized his administration by achievements which will live in English history, foremost of which was, this time, the pacification of India after the mutiny, and the reorganization of the government of that vast dependency. After another seven years' exclusion from office, Lord Derby, for the third time, became Prime Minister in June, 1866, after the fall of the Russell-Gladstone Ministry, retaining office till the new Parliament, elected on the issue of the Irish Church Disestablishment question by a decisive majority, sealed the fate of his Government at the commencement of the late session. His third and last term of office will, like the two preceding ones, be memorable for the accomplishment of a great work, destined to exercise a powerful influence on the national fortunes. This time his Government carried a measure establishing household suffrage; not, however, from any sincere desire to see the area of popular rights extended, but in order to prevent a revolution that would have given a rude shock to the English throne. As an orator and debater, Lord Derby stood in the first rank. Lord Macaulay remarked that his knowledge of the science of parliamentary debate, at the very outset of his career, resembled an instinct, and that it would be difficult to name any other debater who had not made himself a master of his art at the expense of his audience. He was of commanding presence and an ardent nature, rapid in speech when excited, impetuous in attack, and with a voice which, when elevated, rang out like the tones of a trumpet. His remarkable classical attainments, which won him such high honors in his university course, were never suffered to become rusty. Many of his most eloquent speeches were garnished with appropriate and beautiful classical allusions, and the great literary labor of his later years was a translation of the "Iliad" in blank verse, published in 1865, and which is admitted by critics generally to be the finest English version of the great epic. In 1863 he was elected Chancellor of the University of Oxford, and devoted much time and thought to the interests of that ancient seat of learning. TheEarl was genial upon occasion, witty and sarcastic, and, though mindful of his aristocratic birth and lineage, considerate and thoughtful in his intercourse with those in inferior station, a good and just landlord in general, though sometimes inclined to be stubborn where he deemed his rights concerned. He was often imperious, sometimes high-handed in his measures, but never mean. He was, indeed, the soul of honor in all the relations of private life.

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENCE AND FOREIGN RELATIONS. The correspondence between the Department of State and our representatives at foreign posts during the year developed but little of general interest. The rejection by the Senate of the text of the treaty on the subject of the Alabama claims, negotiated by Lord Clarendon and Mr. Johnson (see American Annual Cyclopaedia for 1868, p. 216) led to further correspondence between the representatives of the United States and Great Britain without eliciting any new points, or resulting in any definite arrangement for the settlement of the questions in dispute.

The U. S. Government was frequently approached by agents or alleged ministers acting in behalf of the Cubans, desiring the recognition of belligerent rights; in other words, that they be placed on the same national footing as Spain. The Government was also asked to follow the example of Mexico and Peru, and other South American Republics, and officially encourage the Cubans in their struggle against Spain. The reasons for not acquiescing in such appeals were stated to be based upon the law of nations, the condition of the island not justifying, in the opinion of the Administration, the recognition of the Cuban flag; and no satisfactory evidence being produced to show that there was a de facto government of the Cubans possessing the powers essential to its maintenance and character. The sympathy of the Government was al-
was with the Cubans; but this, under the peculiar existing circumstances attending the question, could not be distinctly manifested by official acts in connection with movements in the field. It is said, however, that the Government sought to induce Spain to consent to the independence of the island, and thus avoid further bloodshed.

There was not, as has been frequently stated, any offer of "mediation" by Minister Sickles, as the use of that word would imply or suggest the existence of war between equally recognized powers, and was therefore avoided in the correspondence and interviews with the Spanish Government. The "good offices" of the United States were tendered, as they can always be employed between parties, one of whom is not acknowledged by the other, without the implication of any recognition of nationality, or even of belligerency. This offer was refused by Spain in a note stating that, while it was deemed impolitic to entertain the proposition for partitioning the Island of Cuba on the terms suggested, the Regent nevertheless expressed his thanks to the United States for the tender of their friendly offices. The tender having been declined, the note was withdrawn, in conformity with diplomatic usage.

Two American citizens, Charles Speakman and Albert Wyeth, having unintentionally become identified with an expeditionary force sailing from the United States to Cuba, in the schooner Grapefruit, they being under the impression that the destination of the vessel was Jamaica, and having embarked for that island, were brutally murdered by the Spanish authorities after having given themselves up. The United States Government demanded of the Spanish Government reparation for the families of Speakman and Wyeth, as far as pecuniary compensation could make reparation for such unjustifiable action, and which reparation was promptly promised.

DOMINION OF CANADA. It will be remembered that, when we last wrote respecting this Confederation, it had not yet reached the extent proposed by its projectors, the Government of Great Britain and Ireland. The Union then consisted of the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. The same limits still exist, the efforts made during the past year to extend them not having been at all successful. The Legislature of Newfoundland agreed to certain terms of admission proposed by the Dominion Government, but upon the question being referred to the inhabitants of the island, as a general election in November last, an overwhelming majority decided in the negative. Neither has the Northwest Territory been secured. Negotiations between the Hudson's Bay Company and the Dominion have, with the aid of the Imperial Government, so far succeeded that the former agreed to surrender all its rights, real and assumed, for the sum of $1,200,000; and it was arranged that this amount should be paid, and a legal transfer of the territory made on the 1st day of December, 1858. For reasons that, no doubt, to them seemed good, the authorities of the Dominion resolved that the Lieutenant-Governor of the new territory should be at the seat of his future government in advance of that date, and accordingly the Hon. William McDougall, C. B., the gentleman so appointed, took his departure from the capital of the Dominion early in November last, accompanied by certain officials selected because of their services in Ontario and Quebec, and who, like their chief, would enter the Northwest country utter strangers to its people. It is now generally known that Mr. McDougall was prevented from entering upon the duties assigned to him; that he was almost immediately met by a body of armed men who took possession of a fort which he had entered, and obliged him to fall back upon United States territory; that these insurgents, so called, next seized upon Fort Garry, and finally established a provisional government, which is still in power.

Immediately upon the news of this state of affairs reaching the Dominion Government, the proper authorities in England were commanded by telegram not to pay the stipulated sum to the Hudson's Bay Company—a proceeding which clashed rather awkwardly with the subsequent act of Mr. McDougall in issuing a proclamation in the name of her Majesty the Queen, making it known: "That we have seen fit by our royal letters patent, bearing date the 26th September, year of our Lord 1869, to appoint the Hon. William McDougall, of the city of Ottawa, in the Province of Ontario, in our Dominion of Canada, and a member of our Privy Council for Canada, and Companion of the most noble order of the Bath, on, from, and after a day to be named by us for the admission of Rupert's Land and one Northwestern Territory aforesaid into the Union of the Dominion of Canada, to wit: on, from, and after the first day of December, in the year of our Lord 1859, to be, during our pleasure, Lieu­tenant-Governor of the Northwestern Territory."

It has not transpired what measures are in contemplation at Ottawa—whether Mr. Mc­Dougall returned after a few weeks—consequent upon this disaster; but so serious is the affair regarded in England, that the London Times, in concluding an elaborate article upon it, observes that "the statesmen of the Dominion will have need of all their skill and caution, as well as courage, if they wish to unite the whole of British North America into a single state." With regard to the outlying colonies of British Columbia in the West, and Prince Edward's Island in the East, it is also uncertain how far they are willing to be incorporated.

In the case of the latter colony, a special effort toward conciliation has just been made. On the 14th December, 1868, a report of the Privy Council at Ottawa was approved by his
tained a popularity among the Cubans never before won by any of his predecessors, with a single exception. But, while he thus endeared himself to the natives, he incurred the enmity of the Spaniards, whose hatred of the Cubans and advocacy of absolutism caused them to regard with disfavor the tendency of the Captain-General to establish, even in a modified form, an era of constitutional rule. Many of the obnoxious decrees promulgated by former rulers were revoked, the Cubans were admitted to official positions of responsibility and their liberties generally enlarged. The marriage of Dulce to a native Cuban lady of wealth added no little to the esteem in which he was held by the people. But in course of time the inevitable change in the administration of affairs in the Peninsula was wrought. The Liberal Government resigned in 1864, and Narvaez became the ruler. It was not long after this event that General Dulce was recalled, and General Lersundi appointed to succeed him. He returned to Spain, and was for some time quartered at Madrid. While there the cross of San Hermenegildo, bearing a pension of 600 escudos, was conferred upon him. A few months later he was arrested on suspicion of being engaged with Serrano, Zabal, Cordova, and others in a conspiracy to depose the Queen and place her sister, the Duchess of Montpensier, on the throne, but was long not held in durance. The revolution of 1868 restored him to influence and power. One of the first acts of Serrano, on becoming Regent, was to appoint Dulce again Captain-General of Cuba. His commission bore date in December, 1868. When he reached Havana the insurrection on the island was already organized, and there was no probability of a compromise being accepted by the insurgent leaders. Nevertheless, General Dulce at once made efforts to bring about a restoration of tranquillity. On the occasion of his recall, some years previous, he had, in his farewell proclamation, assured the people that, wherever fate called him, he would remain over a Cuban. Remembering the assurance that he had then given, he endeavored to stay further affusion of blood, which Lersundi could have prevented had he not been hopelessly deaf to every dictate of sound policy. Commissioners were appointed to confer with Cepedes and other leaders, who rejected every compromise short of the independence of Cuba. Finding no other alternative left him, Dulce prosecuted the war, but, because of his desire to deal mercifully with the insurgents taken prisoners, the volunteers of Havana demanded his resignation, and enforced the demand with the most violent threats. His health was thoroughly undermined, and, sick at heart at his ill success, he bade adieu to Cuba forever, in June, 1869, and reached Madrid almost in a dying condition. He lingered for about four months, but without hope, and perhaps without the desire of recovery.
charged his executive duties, has not only com-
menced, but heartily approved the Democracy of New
York, but secured the confidence and respect of a large class of our political opponents who hold the
honor of the Empire State dearer than partisan
success. Our citizens owe it to themselves, as well as to Governor Hoffman, to elect a Legislature that
will aid rather than thwart him in carrying into effect measures of administrative and legislative re-
form.

Resolved, That the State officers this day renomi-
nated command the confidence of the Democratic
masses as cordially and as unanimously as they have
that of this convention, and that to them and their
colleagues on the ticket we pledge a united and
enthusiastic and triumphant support.

The Republican Convention met at Syracuse
on the 29th of September, and made its nomi-
nations as follows: Secretary of State, George
William Curtis, of Richmond; Comptroller,
Thomas Hillhouse, Albany; Engineer and
Surveyor, General John C. Robinson, Broome;
Canal Commissioner, Stephen T. Hayt, Steu-
ben; Treasurer, Thomas I. Chattfield, Tioga;
Attorney-General, Martin I. Townsend, Rens-
elsaer; State Prison Inspector, Daniel D. Con-
over, New York. For the Court of Appeals, Judges Woodruff and Mason were renomi-
nated.

Subsequently Mr. Curtis and Mr. Hillhouse
decided to stand as candidates for the offices
to which they had been nominated, and the
Central Committee placed the name of General
Franz Sigel on the ticket for Secretary of
State, and that of Horace Greeley for Comptroller.
The platform of the party was embodied in the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the public debt, by principal and Interest,
shall be paid in coin as the same matur-
e and that repudiation of any part thereof, either di-
rectly or indirectly, or by any device or subterfuge,
would bring dishonor upon the nation and demoral-
ization.

Resolved, That this taxation ought to be equal and
simple, and rendered as little burdensome to the
citizens as the nature of the case will possibly allow.

Resolved, That the restriction upon the right of negroes to
vote of the State law outside New
York City requires the petition of twenty-five hold-
ers as a condition of license—whenever a
majority of legal voters of any town shall remon-
tiate against such sale, no license ought to be
granted until a similar majority petition therefor,
and that this is in harmony with the great doctrine
of the right of the majority to rule.

This was laid on the table by a vote of 223
to 163.

One of the issues involved in the State
election in November was the adoption of the
new constitution, framed by the Convention of
1867. The Legislature had provided for its
submission to the suffrages of the people, a
separate vote being taken on the provision rela-
ting to suffrages, taxation, and the judiciary.

The principal change proposed on the sub-
ject of the elective franchise was a removal of the
restriction upon the right of negroes to
vote, which is contained in the old constitution.
The section respecting taxation, which was to be separately voted on, was in these words:

"Real and personal property shall be subject to
a uniform rule of assessment and taxation."

The amended judiciary article introduced some
important changes in the organization of the
Court of Appeals, and provided for submitting
to a vote of the people the question of having the
by the slow motion of the pen. Dr. Perkins early commenced reducing the modern Syriac to a written form, and translating into it portions of the Scriptures. In 1841 Dr. P. visited this country, accompanied by Mar Yohannan, the Nestorian bishop. In August of 1869, wearied and worn by his labors, he came home to die.

PERU, a republic in South America. President, elected in 1868, Colonel José Balta. Minister of the United States, General Alvin P. Hovey (appointed in May, 1866). Area, 510,107 square miles; population, estimated in 1859 at 2,500,000. In 1868 the Ministers of Government, Justice, and Foreign Affairs presented to Congress the following budget for the next year: Government, $9,088,772.10; Justice, $4,414,121.70; Foreign Affairs, $1,186,107.23. The national debt, on December 31, 1868, amounted to $50,149,682. The army, in 1866, consisted of 10,508 men; the navy consisted of 11 vessels, with 108 guns. The merchant navy, in 1861, consisted of 110 sea-going vessels, together of 24,384 tons.

In the beginning of 1869, bills were passed by the Peruvian Congress authorizing the Government to issue bonds to the amount of 60,000,000 soles (one sole equal to $1.28), which were to be applied to the construction of railways connecting the most important points throughout the republic.

In May, the republic recognized the insurgents of Cuba as a belligerent power, by the following decree of her President:

LIMA, May 13, 1869.

José Balta, Constitutional President of Peru:

Whereas the insurrection in Cuba has for its object the independence of the island, and that the bonds being broken that bound Cuba to the Government of Spain, there are two parties that carry on the war with a political object and should be regarded by other nations in a spirit consonant with international right:

That the Government and the people of Peru sympathize with the noble cause prosecuted by the Cubans; that the commander of the revolutionary forces of Cuba has asked the recognition of his party as belligerents;

That Peru should recognize the political status of the insurgents, not considering them as subjects of a government actually at war with Peru, and without prejudice to the manifestations that Peru may hereafter make in their behalf, I decree:

1. That the Government of Peru recognizes as belligerents the political party that is now struggling for Cuban independence.

2. That the citizens, ships, and other appurtenances of Cuba serving the cause of independence, shall be considered as friends by Peru.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs is charged with the execution and circulation of this decree.

J. A. BARRENCOECHA.

The Government took an important step toward colonizing the Amazon region, by the following liberal decree:

The Government will concede a free passage to native of this country or to foreigners who may desire to settle in the Amazon region. The local authorities will distribute the public lands to the settlers, in accordance with the laws of Peru. The Government will furnish to the immigrants, before commencing their voyage, all the agricultural and other necessary implements gratis, the local authorities supplying them with seeds, etc.

The pensions of the state who may desire to emigrate to the Amazon will, in addition to the above-mentioned privileges, receive their pay in the place of their settlement. The payments will be made by the department treasurers, according to the established custom. The government conceda a monthly payment of eight soles for six months to the foreign or Peruvian settlers, a sufficient time in which to gather the first harvest.

The prefects of departments will open a careful register of the number and nationality of the settlers, together with all important circumstances that may occur.

The emigrants oblige themselves to remain at least four years in the Amazonian regions. Those who receive money for their passage to the country of the Amazon must commence their voyage within three months from said receipt; those who fail to do so must return the passage-money and pay the expenses they may have occasioned the Government.

The opening up of the headlands of the Amazon within the Peruvian territory is of great prospective importance; the most valuable drug and dyestuffs are found there; timber of great importance abounds; there are open valleys, well watered, having a virgin soil; any climate, from the coldest to the torrid, can be reached; and the country abounds in game, while the numerous rivers are alive with fish.

The principal danger—the spread of disease—is now obviated by the decree, since the Government will land the immigrants at the place designated, and, besides, take care of them until the time for gathering the first crop has passed by. Add to these benefits the fact that Brazil has declared the free navigation of her Amazonian waters, and Peru followed her example, and that a railway is being projected by the most influential and wealthiest men of the republic, to connect Lima with the Peruvian head-waters of the King of Rivers, thus offering two outlets for the products of the settlers. Protected by the Government forces, the other danger, of attacks from the Indians, who are hostile and warlike, is diminished.

The agreements made December, 1868, between the United States minister, General Hovey, and Antonio Barrencocch, Minister of Foreign Relations, for the settlement of all outstanding claims of the citizens of both countries, were ratified and exchanged in June.

In the month of September, the fears of great earthquakes (predicted by the German savant, Falb) were increased by the alarming accounts of earthquakes continually occurring in the south, the extraordinary tidal phenomena noticed along the coast, the sea rising higher than for many years past, and the proximity of the earth to those planets known to exercise a most unpleasant influence upon it.

Many families left the capital, and even the merchants took their most valuable effects from the bonded warehouses of the custom-house; fully 20,000 people left the two cities of Lima and Callao. The earthquake period
PUBLIC DOCUMENTS. Message of President GRANT to the two Houses of Congress at the commencement of the second session of the Forty-first Congress, December 6, 1869.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In coming before you for the first time as Chief Magistrate of the great Republic, it is with gratitude to the Giver of all good for the many benefits we enjoy. We are blessed with peace at home, and we are without entangling alliances abroad to verdure trouble; with a territory unsurpassed in fertility, of an area equal to the abundant support of five hundred millions of people, and abounding in every variety of useful mineral in quantity sufficient to supply the world's generations; with abundant crops; with a variety of climate adapted to the production of every species of the earth's riches, and suited to the habits, tastes, and requirements of every existing nation; with a population of forty millions of free people, all speaking one language; with facilities for every mortal to acquire an education; with institutions closing to none the avenues of fame or any blessing of fortune that may be coveted; with freedom of the pulpit, the press, and the school; with a revenue flowing into the treasury beyond the requirements of the Government. Happily, harmony is rapidly being restored within our own borders. Manufacturers, hitherto unknown in our country, are springing up in all sections, and the degree of national independence is unequalled by that of any other power. These blessings, and countless others, are intrusted to your care and mine for safe keeping for the brief period of our tenure of office. In a short time we must each of us return to the ranks of the people who have conferred upon us our honors, and account to them for our stewardship. I earnestly desire that neither you nor I may be condemned by a free and enlightened constitution, nor by our own consciences. Emerging from a rebellion of gigantic magnitude, aided as it was by the sympathy and assistance of nations with which we were at peace, eleven States of the Union were, four years ago, left without a legal State government. A national debt had been contracted; American commerce was almost ruined from the sea; the industry of one-half of the country had been taken from the control of the capitalist and placed where all labor rightly belongs, in the keeping of the laborer. The work of restoring State governments loyal to the Union, of protecting and fostering free labor, and providing means for paying the national debt and repaying our national debt, the premium on gold at the date of purchase, and would bring bankruptcy and ruin to thousands. Fluctuation, however, in the paper value of the measure of value, gold, is detrimental to the interests of trade. It makes the man of business an involuntary gambler, for, in all sales, where future payment is to be made, both parties speculate as to what will be the value of the currency to be paid and received. I earnestly recommend to you, then, such legislation as will assure a gradual return to specie payments, and put an immediate stop to fluctuations in the value of currency. The methods to secure the former of those results are as numerous as are the speculations on political economy. To secure the latter, I see but one that is, to authorize the Treasury to redeem its own paper at a fixed price whenever presented, and to withhold from circulation all currency so redeemed until sold again for gold. Grant that this plan be so developed and undeveloped, ought to make our credit the best on earth, with a less burden of taxation than the people are accustomed to have. It is the duty of all to see that the entire public debt is paid and the interest due it is the duty of the people to see that the entire public debt is paid and the interest due it.

Dow suggest some rules and regulations which would bring bankruptcy and ruin to thousands. Fluctuation, however, in the paper value of the measure of value, gold, is detrimental to the interests of trade. It makes the man of business an involuntary gambler, for, in all sales, where future payment is to be made, both parties speculate as to what will be the value of the currency to be paid and received. I earnestly recommend to you, then, such legislation as will assure a gradual return to specie payments, and put an immediate stop to fluctuations in the value of currency. The methods to secure the former of those results are as numerous as are the speculations on political economy. To secure the latter, I see but one that is, to authorize the Treasury to redeem its own paper at a fixed price whenever presented, and to withhold from circulation all currency so redeemed until sold again for gold. Grant that this plan be so developed and undeveloped, ought to make our credit the best on earth, with a less burden of taxation than the people are accustomed to have. It is the duty of all to see that the entire public debt is paid and the interest due it is the duty of the people to see that the entire public debt is paid and the interest due it.
done without a violation of contract. The public debt is represented, in great part, by bonds having from five to twenty and from ten to forty years to run, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent. and five per cent. respectively. It is provided by the Government to pay these bonds at any period after the expiration of the least time mentioned upon their face. The time has already expired when a great part of them may be taking on sufficiently approaching when all may be. It is believed that all which are now due may be replaced by bonds bearing a rate of interest not exceeding four and one-half per cent., and, as rapidly as the remainder become due, that they may be replaced in the same way. To accomplish this, it may be necessary to authorize the interest to be paid at either of three or four of the money centres of Europe, or by any Assistant Treasurer of the United States, at the option of the holders of the bonds. I suggest this subject for the consideration of Congress; also, simultaneously with this, the propriety of redeeming our currency, as before suggested, at its market value, at the time the law goes into effect, increasing the rate at which currency will be bought and sold from day to day, or week to week, at the same rate of interest as the Government pays upon its bonds.

The subject of internal taxation will necessarily receive your attention. The revenues of the country are greater than the requirements, and may with safety be reduced; but, as the funding of the debt will depend to a great extent on loans, would the annual current expenses largely, thus, after funding, justifying a greater reduction of taxation than would be now expedient, I suggest a postponement of this question until the next meeting of Congress. It may be advisable to modify the taxation and tariff in instances where unjust or burdensome discriminations are made by the present laws; but, for the moment, I am anxious to deal with the greater principle of the debt. I, therefore, recommend that the whole be placed on a basis of a sinking fund, as proposed by law. To lock up the surplus in the Treasury and withhold it from circulation would lead to such a contraction of the currency as to cripple trade and seriously affect the prosperity of the country. Under these circumstances the Secretary of the Treasury and myself heartily concurred in the propriety of using all the surplus currency in the Treasury for the purpose of redeeming the bonds thus reducing the interest-bearing indebtedness of the country, and of submitting to Congress the question of the disposition to be made of the bonds so purchased. The surplus would probably amount to about $75,000,000, including those belonging to the Sinking Fund. I recommend that the whole be placed to the credit of the Sinking Fund. Your attention is referred to the cabinet papers of the Secretary of the Treasury for the creation of the office of Commissioner of Customs Revenue, for the increase of salary to certain classes of officers, and the substitution of increased national bank circulation to replace the outstanding three per cent. certificates, and most especially to his recommendation for the repeal of laws allowing shares of fines, penalties, forfeitures, etc., to officers of the Government and to informants. It is the mind of the administration that the public revenue be raised by the people in the hands of officers whose duties are such as will naturally lead them to make the largest loss. The office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue is one of the most arduous and responsible under the Government. It falls but little, if any, short of a Cabinet position in its importance. I would ask for it, therefore, such legislation as in your judgment will place the office upon a footing of dignity commensurate with its importance and with the character and qualifications of the class of men required to fill it properly.

As the United States is the freest of all nations, so, too, its people are more and more themselves from for liberty and self-government. But, while so sympathizing, it is due to our honor that we should abstain from enforcing our views upon unwilling nations, and from taking an interested part, without invitation, in the quarrels between different nations, or between governments and their subjects. Our course should always be in conformity with strict justice and law, international and local. Such has been the policy of the administration in dealing with these questions. For more than a year a valuable purchase of Spain, and a near neighbor in whom all our people cannot but feel a deep interest, has been struggling for independence and freedom. The people and Government of the United States have no right to entertain the same warm feeling in sympathy with the people of Cuba in their pending struggle that they manifested throughout the previous struggles between Spain and her former colonies, in behalf of the latter; but the contest has never assumed a condition which amounts to a war in the sense of international law, or which would show the existence of a de facto political organization of the insurgents sufficient to justify a recognition of a new government. The principle is maintained, however, that this nation is its own judge when to accord the rights of belligerency, either to a people struggling to free themselves from a government they believe to be oppressive, or to independent nations at war with each other. The United States have no disposition to interfere with the existing relations of Spain to her colonial possessions on this continent. They believe that in due time Spain and the European powers will find their interest in terminating these relations, and establishing their present dependencies as independent powers, members of the family of nations. These dependencies are no longer regarded as subject to transfer from one to another. In the present relations of the colonies cease, they are to become independent powers, exercising the right of choice and of self-control in the determination of their future condition and relations with other powers. The United States, in order to put a stop to bloodshed in Cuba and in the interest of a neighboring people, proposed their good offices to bring the existing contest to a termination. The offer not being accepted by Spain, on a basis which we believed could be received by Cuba, was withdrawn. It is hoped that the good offices of the United States may yet prove advantageous for the settlement of this unhappy strife. Meanwhile, a number of illegal expeditions against Cuba have been broken up. It has been the endeavor of a few warm friends of liberty and neutrality laws in good faith, no matter how unpleasant the task, made so by the sufferings we have endured from lack of like good faith toward us by other nations.

On the 26th of March last, the United States schooner Lizzie Major was arrested on the high seas by a Spanish frigate and two gunboats, and ten passengers from Cuba prisoners to us. Representations of these facts were made to the Spanish Government as soon as official information of them reached Washington. The two passengers were set at liberty, and the Spanish Government assured
the United States that the captain of the frigate in making the capture had acted without law; that he had been reprimanded for the irregularity of his conduct, and that the Spanish authorities in Cuba would not sanction any act that could violate the rights or treat with disrespect the sovereignty of this nation. The case then came before the court of Mary F. Lowell, at one of the Bahamas Islands by the Spanish authorities, is now the subject of correspondence between the States of Peru and Great Britain. The Captain-General of Cuba, about May last, issued a proclamation, authorizing search to be made of vessels on the high-seas. Immediate reprisals were made against this, whereupon the captain-general issued a new proclamation, limiting the right of search to vessels of the United States, so far as authorized under the treaty of 1795. This proclamation, however, was immediately withdrawn.

I have always felt that the most intimate relations should be cultivated between the Republic of the United States and all independent nations on this continent. It may be well worth considering whether new treaties between the United States and them may not be profitably entered into to secure more intimate relations — friendly, commercial, or otherwise.

The subject of an interoceanic canal, to connect the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, through the Isthmus of Panama, is one in which commerce is greatly interested. Instructions have been given to our minister to the Republic of the United States of Colombia, to endeavor to obtain authority for a survey of this Government, in order to determine the practicability of such an undertaking, and a charter for the right of way to build, by private enterprise, such a work, if the survey proves it to be practicable.

In order to comply with the agreement of the United States as to a mixed commission at Lima for the settlement of these claims, it is necessary to send a commissioner and secretary to Lima in August last. No appropriation having been made by Congress for this purpose, it is now asked that one be made, covering the past and future expenses of the commission.

The good offices of the United States to bring about a peace between Spain and the South American republics, with which she is at war, having been accepted by Spain, Peru, and Chili, a congress has been invited to be held in Washington during the present winter. A grant has been given to Europeans of an exclusive right of transit over the territory of Nicaragua, to which Costa Rica has given its assent, which, it is alleged, conflicts with the vested rights of citizens of the United States. The Department of State has now this subject under consideration. The minister of Peru having made representations that there was a state of war between Peru and Spain, and that Spain was constructing, in and near New York, thirty gunboats which might be used by Spain in such a way as to relieve the naval force in Cuba, and also to operate against Peru, orders were given to prevent their departure. No further steps having been taken by the representative of the Peruvian Government to prevent the departure of these vessels, and I, not feeling authorized to detain the property of a nation with which we were at peace on a mere Executive order, the matter has been referred to the courts to decide.

The conduct of the war between the allies and the Republic of Paraguay has made the intercourse with that country so difficult that it has been deemed advisable to despatch a special chancery officer. Toward the close of the last Administration a convention was signed at London for the settlement of all outstanding claims between Great Britain and the United States, which failed to receive the advice and consent of the Senate to its ratification. The time and the circumstances attending the negotiations of that treaty were unfavorable to its acceptance by the people of the United States, and its provisions were wholly inadequate for the settlement of all the claims which had been sustained by this Government, as well as by its citizens. The injuries resulting to the United States by reason of the course adopted by Great Britain during our late civil war, in the diminution of imports and exports, in the diminution of exports and imports, and other obstructions to domestic industry and production; in the restriction upon the foreign commerce of continued in the decrease and transfer to Great Britain of our commercial marine; in the prolongation of the war, and in the increased cost, both in treasure and in lives, the subscription could not be adjusted and satisfied as ordinary commercial claims which continually arise between commercial nations; and yet the convention treated these simply as such ordinary claims, from which they differ more widely in their gravity of their character than in the magnitude of their amount. Great even as is that difference, not a word was found in the treaty, and not an interference could be drawn from it, to remove the sense of the unfriendliness of the course of Great Britain in our struggle for existence, which had so deeply and universally impressed itself upon the people of this country. Believing that a convention thus misconceived in its scope and inadequate in its provisions would not have produced the hearty, cordial settlement which the relations with which I desire to have established between the United States and Great Britain, I regarded the action of the Senate in rejecting the treaty to have been wisely taken, in the interest of peace, and as a necessary step in the direction of a perfect and cordial friendship between the two countries. The people, conscious of the danger, are more at ease under a great wrong wholly unenacted than under the restraint of a settlement which satisfies neither their ideas of justice nor their grave sense of the injury they have suffered. This wise and just treaty was followed by a state of public feeling on both sides, which I thought not favorable to an immediate attempt at renewed negotiations. I accordingly instructed the minister of the United States to Great Britain, and found that my views in this regard were shared by her Majesty’s minister. I hope that the time may soon arrive when the two Governments can approach the solution of this momentous question with an appreciation of what is due to the rights, dignity, and honor of each, and with the determination to avoid all that is not in the interest of peace and friendship. This is now the only grave question which the United States have with any foreign nation.

The question of renewing a treaty for reciprocal trade between the United States and the British provinces on this continent has not been favorably considered by the Administration. The advantages of such a treaty would be wholly in favor of the British provinces, except possibly a few engaged in the trade between the two sections. No claim of the United States would be benefited by reciprocity. One of the most important sources of taxation would prove a protection to the British producer almost equal to the protection which our manufacturers now receive from the tariff. Some arrangement, however, for the reciprocal intercourse between the United States and the Dominion of Canada may be desirable.

The commission for adjusting the claims of the heirs and representatives in the United States Company upon the United States has terminated its labors. The award of $650,000 has been made, and all the rights and titles of the company on the Territory of the United States, which failed to receive the benefit, have been placed in the property of the company. An appropriation by Congress to meet this sum is asked.
The commissioners for determining the northwestern land-boundary between the United States and the British possessions, under the treaty of 1868, have completed their labor, and the commission has been dissolved.

In conformity with the recommendation of Congress, a proposition was early made to the British Government to abolish the mixed courts created under the treaty of March 12, 1868, and to return there to the tribunals of the slave-trade. The subject is still under negotiation.

It is now come to my knowledge that a corporate company, organized under the British law, proposed to land upon the shores of the United States, and to operate there, a submarine cable, under a concession from him Majesty the Emperor of the French, of an exclusive right for twenty years, of communication between the shores of France and the United States, with the very objectionable feature of subjecting all messages conveyed thereby to the control of the French Government, I caused the French and British legations at Washington to be made acquainted with the probable policy of Congress on the subject, as foreshadowed by the resolution passed by the Senate in March last. This drew from the representatives of the company an agreement to accept as the basis of their negotiations, that either or of such other enactment on the subject as might be passed during the approaching session of Congress; also, to use their influence to secure from the French Government the modification of their concession so as to permit the landing upon French soil of any cable belonging to any company incorporated by the authorities of the United States, or of any State in the Union, and on the part of the French Government to subscribe the establishment of any such cable. In consideration of this agreement, I directed the withdrawal of all opposition to the treaty as modified, and the dispatch of the cable, and to the working of it until the meeting of Congress. I regret to say that there has been no modification made in the company's concession, nor, so far as I have learned, have they attempted to change one. Their concession excludes the capital and the citizens of the United States from competition upon the shores of France. I recommend legislation to protect the rights of citizens of the United States, as well as the dignity and sovereignty of the nation against such an assumption. I shall also endeavor to secure by negotiation an abandonment of the part of the treaty which permits the establishment of the cable. Copies of this correspondence are hereewith furnished.

The unsettled political condition of other countries leaves us no room, as yet, to entitle us to receive our corresponding rights and privileges their citizens to come to the United States for the sole purpose of becoming naturalized. Having secured this, they return to their native country and reside, without disclosing their change of allegiance. They accept official positions of trust or honor which can only be held by citizens of their native land. They journey under passports describing them as such citizens, and it is only when civil discord, after, perhaps, years of quiet, threatens their persons or their property, or when their native state drafts them into its military service, that the fact of their change of allegiance is made known. They reside permanently away from the United States, and they contribute nothing to its revenues; they avoid the duties of all loyal and patriotic duties, as known by a claim of protection. I have directed the diplomatic and consular officers of the United States to scrutinize carefully all such claims of protection. The citizen of the United States, native or adopted, who discharges his duty to his country, is entitled to its complete protection. While I have a voice in the direction of affairs I shall always endeavor to see to it that the right of conferring it upon licentious or fraudulent claimants.

On the accession of the present Administration it was found that the minister for France had made propositions for the negotiation of a convention for the protection of immigrant passengers, to which no response had been given. It was concluded that to be effectual all the maritime powers engaged in the trade should join in such a measure. Invitations have been extended by the Cabinets of London, Paris, Florence, Berlin, Brussels, the Hague, Copenhagen, and Stockholm, to empower their representatives at Washington to simultaneously enter into negotiations, and to conclude with the United States conventions identical in form, making uniform regulations as to the construction of the parts of vessels to be devoted to the use of immigrant passengers, as to the quantity of food, as to the medical treatment of the sick, and as to the rules to be observed during the voyage, in order to secure ventilation, to provide health, to prevent imposition, and to protect the families, and providing for the establishment of tribunals in the several countries for enforcing such regulations by summary process.

And your attention is respectfully called to the law regulating the tariff on Russian hemp, and to the question whether to fix the charge on Russian hemp higher than they are fixed upon manillas is not a violation of our treaty with Russia, placing her products upon the same footing with those of the most favored nations.

Our manufactures are increasing with wonderful rapidity under the encouragement which they now receive. With the improvement in machinery already effected, and that which is in the course of being extended, it is the plan of the Administration to take the place of skilled labor to a large extent, our imports of many articles must fall off largely within a very few years. Fortunately, manufactures are not confined to a few localities as formerly, and it is to be hoped will become more and more diffused, making the interest in them equal to the interest in the land and the raising of crops. We may extend the area of our farms and the uses to which the land is devoted, and be the means which otherwise would be shipped abroad.

The extension of commerce as in Europe and the East is bringing into competition with our agricultural products like products of other countries. Self-interest, if not self-preservation, therefore, dictates caution against disturbing any industrial interest of the country. It teaches us also the necessity of looking to other markets for the sale of our surplus. Our neighbors south of us, and China and Japan, should receive our special attention. It will be the endeavor of the Administration to cultivate such relations with all these nations as to entitle us to receive the products of their country and to enable us to export the products of ours. Our manufactures are of much more interest as well as ours to establish better commercial relations.

Through the agency of a more enlightened policy than that heretofore pursued, causing machinery to be made abroad, and the encouragement of manufacturing, the world is about to commence largely-increased relations with that populous and hitherto exclusive nation. As the United States have been the initiators in this new policy, so they should be the most earnest in showing their good faith in making it a success. In this connection, I would advertise such legislation as will forever preclude the enslavement of the Chinese upon our soil under the name of coolies, and also prevent American vessels from engaging in the traffic, and thus enable the country tolerating the system. I also recommend that the mission to China be raised to one of the first classes.

On my assuming the responsible duties of Chief Magistrate of the United States, it was with the conviction that three things were essential to its peace, prosperity, and best interests.

1. Among these is strict integrity in fulfilling all our obligations.

2. To secure protection to the person and property of the citizen of the United States in each and every portion of our common country, wherever he may
choose to move, without reference to original nationality, religion, color, or politics, demanding of him only obedience to the laws and proper respect for the rights of others.

In the several States, with equal rights, indestructible by any constitutional means.

To secure the first of these, Congress has taken two essential steps: first, in declaring by joint resolution that there should be paid to the President and interest, in coin; and second, by providing the means for paying. Providing the means, however, could not secure the object desired without a proper administration; proper laws for the collection of the revenues, and an economical disbursement of them. To this subject the Administration has most earnestly addressed itself, with results, I hope, satisfactory to the country. There has not been a need of special legislation in changing officials in order to secure efficient execution of the laws—sometimes, too, where in a mere party view undeserved political results were likely to follow—not any hesitation in sustaining efficient officials against remonstrances wholly political. It may be well to mention here the embarrassments possible to arise from leaving on the statute-books the so-called tenure-of-office acts, and to earnestly recommend their total repeal. It could not have been the intention of the framers of the Constitution, when providing for remonstrances made by the President, that he should receive the consent of the Senate, that the latter should have the power to retain in office persons placed there by Federal appointment against the will of the President. The law is inconsistent with a faithful and efficient administration of the Government.

What faith can the Executive put in officials forced upon him, and those, too, whom he has suspended for reasons? How will such officials be likely to serve an Administration which they do not trust? For the second requisite to our government, I must earnestly urge, but humanely, the administration of existing laws, amended from time to time as they may prove ineffective, or prove harsh and unnecessary, are probably all that are required. The third cannot be attained by special legislation, but must be regarded as fixed by the Constitution itself, and gradually acquired in by force of public opinion.

From the foundation of the Government to the present time the management of the original inhabitants of this continent, the Indians, has been a subject of considerable expense, and it has been a constant cause of trouble. They are subject to the laws of their own total repeal. It could not have been the intention of Congress to secure the title of the troops. The commissions therein contained have been well known as having succeeded in living in peace with the Indians in the early settlement of Pennsylvania, while their white neighbors of other sects in other sections were contantly embroiled. They were also known for their opposition to all strife, violence, and war, and are generally noted for their strict integrity and fair dealing. It is impossible to estimate the management of a few reservations of Indians to them, and to throw the burden of the selection of agents upon the Society itself. The result has proved most satisfactory.

It will be found more fully set forth in the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. For Superintendents and Indian Agents not in the reservations, officers of the army are employed. The number of these is numerous: Where Indian agents are sent, there, or near there, troops must be sent also. The agent and the commander of the troops are independent of each other, and are subject to orders from different departments of the Government. The army officer holds a position for life; the agent at the will of the President. The former is personally interested in maintaining the Government, while the latter is interested in establishing a permanent peace, to the end that some portion of his life may be spent within the limits of civilized society; the latter has no such personal interests. If the President is not disposed to see another, the hold which the Government has upon a life-officer to secure a faithful discharge of his duties in carrying out a given policy. The building of railroads, and the access the river given to all the agency, Indian, in cultural and mineral regions of the country, are rapidly bringing civilized settlements into contact with all the tribes of Indians. No matter what our relations with such settlements are, the exigencies, the fact is, that they do not harmonize well, and one or the other has to give way in the end. A system which looks to the extinction of a race is too horrible for a nation to adopt without entailing upon itself the wrath of all Christendom, and engendering in the citizen a disregard for human life and the rights of those dangerous to society. I see no substitute for such a system except in placing all the Indians on large reservations as rapidly as it can be done, and giving them absolute protection there. As soon as that is done, I believe they will be induced to stake their lands in severity and to set up territorial governments for their own protection. For full details on this subject I call attention to the report of the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

The report of the Secretary of War shows the expenditures of the War Department for the year ending the 30th of June, 1869, to be $30,644,042, of which $23,392,310 was disbursed in the payment of debts contracted during the war, and is not chargeable to the present revenue. $6,489,030 have been expended for the expenses of the army. If, however, the condition of the next fiscal year is as low as it is believed can be relied on.

The estimates of bureau officers have been carefully scrutinized and reduced whenever it has been practicable. If, however, the condition of the country should be such, by the beginning of the next fiscal year, as to admit of a greater concentration of troops, the appropriation asked for will not be expended.

The appropriations estimated for river and harbor improvements and fortifications are submitted separately. A more liberal appropriation for the purposes of the Executive will be required. In addition to what I have already recommended, the recommendation of the General of the Army, that appropriations be made for the forts at Boston, Portland, New York, St. Louis, St. Petersburg, and San Francisco, if for no others, is concurred in. I also ask your special attention to his recommendation of the general commanding the military division of the Pacific, for the sale of the Seal Islands, of St. George's Island, and San Diego, and St. Paul, Alaska Territory, and suggest that it either be complied with, or that legislation be had for the protection of the seal fisheries, from which a revenue should be derived.

The report of the Secretary of War contains a synopsis of the reports of the head of bureaus of the commanders of military divisions, and of the districts of Virginia, Mississippi, and Texas, and the report of the General of the Army in full. The recommendation therein contained have been well considered, and are such as I am induced to give my especial attention to the recommendation of the Chief of Ordnance for the sales of arsenals and lands no longer of use to the Government; also, to the recommendation of the Secretary of War, that the resolve of March 8, 1869, prohibiting promotions and appointments to the staff corps of the army be repealed.

The extent of country to be garrisoned, and the number of the forces required for the reasons for the reasons for the reduction of troops to the present number of the army, with a reduced army as with a large one, and a large number of staff officers required is more dependent upon the latter than the former condition.
The report of the Secretary of the Navy, accompanying this, shows the condition of the navy when this Administration came into office, and the changes made since. Strenuous efforts have been made to place as many vessels in commission or render them fit for service, if required, as possible, and to substitute the sail for steam while cruising, thus making the navy a regular part of the armed forces, and adding greatly to its efficiency. Looking to our future, I recommend a liberal though not extravagant appropriation for the navy.

The report of the Postmaster-General furnishes a clear and comprehensive exhibit of the operations of the postal service, and of the financial condition of the Post-Office Department. The annual postal revenues for the year ending the 30th of June, 1869, amounted to $15,844,510, and the expenditures to $15,909,181, showing an excess of expenditures over receipts, $588,690. The excess of expenditures over receipts for the previous year amounted to $6,437,199. The increase of revenues for 1869 over those of 1868 was $2,501,909, and the increase of expenditures was $967,585. The increased revenue in 1869 exceeded the increased revenue in 1868 by $936,886, and the increased expenditure in 1869 was $2,573,570 less than that in 1868. Also, by this comparison, this gratifying feature of improvement, that, while the increase of expenditures over the increase of receipts in 1868 was $3,483,585, the increase of receipts over the increase of expenditures in 1869 was $1,054,871.

Your attention is called to the recommendations made by the Postmaster-General for authority to change the rule of compensation to the main trunk railroad lines for their services in carrying the mails, for having post-route maps executed, for reorganizing the efficiency of the special agency service, for the increase of the mail service on the Pacific, and for establishing mail service under the flag of the Union on the Atlantic; and most especially do I call your attention to the recommendations of the fractional privileges. This is an abuse from which no one receives a commensurate advantage. It reduces the receipts for postal service from twenty-five to thirty percent, and largely increases the service to be performed.

The method by which postage should be paid upon public matter is set forth fully in the report of the Postmaster-General.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior shows that the quantity of public lands disposed of during the year ending 30th of June, 1869, was 7,066,000 acres, exceeding that of the previous year, 5,106,409. Of this amount, 2,899,544 acres were sold for cash, and 2,787,565 acres entered under the homestead law. The payment was granted to aid in the construction of works of internal improvement, apportioned to these States as swamp lands, and located with warrants and scrip. The cash receipts from all sources were $4,474,896, exceeding those of the preceding year $2,860,140.

During the last fiscal year, 23,196 names were added to the pension-rolls, and 4,875 dropped therefrom, leaving at its close 107,963. The amount paid to pensioners, including the compensation of disburser agents, was $5,422,954, an increase of $4,411,903 on that of the previous year.

The annual report of the Secretary of the Interior has been conspicuously manifest in its legislation for the soldiers and sailors who suffered in the recent struggle to maintain the supremacy of the government, for the usage of our vessels, and protecting one people. The additions to the pension-rolls of each successive year since the conclusion of the hostilities result in a great degree from the repeated amendments of the homestead law which extended its provisions to cases not falling within its original scope.

The large outlay which it thus occasioned is further increased by the more liberal allowances bestowed since that date upon those who, in the line of duty, were wholly or permanently disabled. Public opinion has given an emphatic sanction to these measures of Congress, and it will be conceded that no part of our public burden is more cheerfully borne than that which is imposed by this branch of the service. It necessitates further, next fiscal year, in addition to the amount justly chargeable to the naval pension fund, an appropriation of $3,500,000. During the year ending the 30th of September, 1869, the Patent-Office issued 12,732 patents, and its receipts were $665,399—being $218,926 more than the expenditures.

I would respectfully call your attention to the recommendation of the Secretary of the Interior, for doubling the due de temps for the mails, with the determinate, that it twice the present rate of the service. I think it is desirable by the public to make the mail service of the people.

The admiralty, in the report of the Agricultural Bureau for liberal appropriations in a country so diversified in climate and soil as ours, and with a population so largely dependent upon agriculture. The benefits that can be conferred by properly fostering this Bureau are incalculable.

I desire respectfully to call the attention of Congress to the large expenditures of a number of the most important officers of the Government. In this message I will not enumerate them, but will specify only the Justices of the Supreme Court. No change has been made in their salaries for fifteen years, and within that time the labors of the court have largely increased, and the expenses of living have at least doubled. During the past year I found it necessary to increase largely the compensation of its members, and the duty which it owes to another department of the Government deserves, and will undoubtedly receive, its due consideration.

There are many subjects not alluded to in this message which might with propriety be introduced, but I abstain, believing that your patriotism and statesmanship will suggest the topics and the legislation most conducive to the interests of the people. On my part I promise a rigid adherence to the laws, and their strict enforcement. U. S. GRANT.

Inaugural Address of President Grant, delivered March 4, 1869.

Citizens of the United States: Your suffrages having elected me to the office of President of the United States, I have, in conformity with the Constitution of our country, taken the oath of office prescribed therein. I have taken this oath without mental reservation, and with the determination to do the best of my ability all that it requires of me. The responsibilities of the position I feel, but accept them without fear. The office has come to me unsought. I commence its duties untrammelled. I bring to it a conscientious desire and determination to fill it to the best of my ability to the satisfaction of the people.

On all leading questions agitating the public mind, I shall, on all subjects, have a policy to recommend, but none to enforce against the will of the people. Laws are to govern all alike, those opposed, as well as those who favor them. I know no method to se-
cure the repeal of bad or obnoxious laws so effective as their stringent execution.

The country having just emerged from a great re- 
building war, it will become of more importance in the next four years, which preceding Administra-
tions have never had to deal with. In meeting the time in which they should be approached calmly, 
without prejudice, hate, sectional pride, re-
membering that the greatest good to the greatest 
number is the object to be attained.

The property of person, pecuniary, and for 
religious and political opinion, in every part of our 
common country, without regard to local prejudices.

All laws to secure these ends will receive my best 
efforts for their enforcement.

A great debt has been contracted in securing to us 
and our posterity the Union: the payment of this, 
principal and interest, as well as the return to a specie 
base, as soon as it can be accomplished without ma-
terial detriment to the debtor class or to the country 
at large, must be provided for. To protect the 
national honor, every dollar of Government indeb-
edness should be paid in gold unless otherwise 
expressly stipulated in the contract. Let it be under-
stood that no repudiation of one farthing of our 
public debt will be trusted in public place, and it will 
go far toward strengthening a credit which ought 
to be the best in the world, and will ultimately enable 
us to replace the debt with bonds bearing less interest 
than the old debt.

This should be added to a faithful 
collection of the revenues, a strict accountability to 
the Treasury for every dollar collected, and the great-
east expenditure in expenditure in every 
department of Government.

When we compare the paying capacity of the 
country now with the ten States in poverty from the 
evolution of any, but soon to emerge, I trust into 
greater prosperity than ever before, with its paying 
capacity twenty-five years ago, and calculate what it 
probably will be twenty-five years hence, who can 
deny the feasibility of paying every dollar then with 
more ease than we now pay for useless luxuries? 
Why, it looks as though Providence had bestowed 
upon us a strong box in the precious metals locked up 
in the sterile mountains of the far West, of which 
we are now forging the key to unlock to meet the 
very contingency that is now upon us.

Ultimately it may be necessary to secure the facili-
ties to reach these riches, and it may be necessary 
also that the General Government should give its aid 
to secure access. But that should only be when a 
large part of its members are in pay action or nearly 
the same sort of dollar to use now, and not before.

While the question of specie payments is in abeyance, 
the prudent business man is careful about contracting 
debs payable in the distant future. The nation 
should follow the same rule. A prostrate commerce 
is to be rebuilt and all industries encouraged.

The young men of the country, those who from 
their age must be its rulers twenty-five years hence, 
have a peculiar interest in maintaining the national 
honor. A moment's reflection as to what will be our 
commanding influence among the nations of the earth 
in their day, if they are only true to themselves, should 
inspire them with national pride. All divisions, 
governmental, political, and religious, can join in this 
common sentiment. How the public debt is to be 
paid, or specie payments resumed, is not so important 
as that a plan should be adopted and acquiesced in. 
A scheme which will do it worth more than 
divided counsels upon the method of doing. Legis-
lation upon this subject may not be necessary 
now, nor even advisable, but it will be when the 
city of the State are secured all parts of the 
country, and trade resumes its wonted channels.

It will be my endeavor to execute all laws in good 
fashion and to have all revenues assessed, and to have 
them properly collected for specie, by competent 
bureaus. I will, to the best of my ability, appoint to 
office those only who will carry out this design.

In regard to foreign policy, I would deal with 
nations as equitable law requires individuals to deal 
with each other, and I would protect the law-abiding 
citizen. There were not one million of our people nor 
ever his rights are jeopardized or the flag of our 
country floats. I would respect the rights of all 
nations; and it is the object of all nations to respect 
or foster the rights of others. It others depart from this rule in their dealings with us, 
we may be compelled to follow their precedent.

The proper treatment of the original occupants of 
this land, the Indians, is one deserving of careful 
study. I will favor any course toward them which 
tends to their civilization and ultimate citizen-
ship.

The question of suffrage is one which is likely to 
agitate the public so long as a portion of the citizens 
of the nation are excluded from its privileges in any 
State. It seems to me very desirable that this ques-
tion should be settled now, and I entertain the hope 
and express the desire that it may be by the ratifica-
tion of the fifteenth article of amendment to the 
Constitution.

In conclusion, I ask patient forbearance one 
toward another throughout the land, and a deter-
mined effort on the part of every citizen to do 
his utmost for the public good, and to use the 
prayers of the nation to Almighty God in behalf 
of this consummation.

President Grant's Proclamation for the Elec-
tion in Virginia, May 14, 1869.

In pursuance of the provisions of the act of Con-
gress, approved April 10, 1869, I hereby designate 
the 6th day of July, 1869, as the time for submitting 
the convention to the people of the State of 
Virginia, at the date of such submission, viz., July 6, 1869, for 
ratification or rejection.

And I submit to a separate vote the fourth clause 
of section 1, article III., of said constitution, which 
is in the following words:

Every person who has been a Senator or represen-
tative in Congress, or elector of President or Vice-
President, or who held any office, civil or military, 
under the United States, or under any State, who, 
having previously taken an oath as a member of Con-
gress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a 
member of any State Legislature, or as an executor 
or judge of such State, engaged in 
in the insurrection or rebellion against the same, or 
given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. This 
case shall include the following officers: Governor, Lieu-
tenant-Governor, Secretary of State, auditor of public 
accounts, second auditor, register of the land-office, 
State treasurer, attorney-general, sheriff, sergeant of 
a city or town, commissioner of the revenue, county 
surveyor, constables, overseers of the poor, commis-
sioner of the board of public works, judges of the 
supreme court, judges of the circuit court, judge of 
the court of nuisances, justices of the county courts, 
mayor, recorder, aldermen, councilmen of a city or 
town, coroners, escheators, inspectors of tobacco, 
sugar, etc., and clerks of the supreme, district, circuit, 
and county courts, and of the court of nuisances, and 
attorneys for the Commonwealth; provided that the 
Legislature may, by a vote of three-fifths of both 
houses, disfranchise such person, or disfranchise such 
person from any person included therein, by a separate 
vote in each case.

And I also submit to a separate vote the 7th sec-
tion of article III. of the said constitution, which is 
in the words following:

In addition to the foregoing oath of office, the Gov-
ernor, Lieutenant-Governor, members of the General 
Assembly, judges of the superior courts, and auditors of public 
accounts, State treasurer, attorney-general, and all per-
sons elected to any convention to frame a constitution
in the ordinary sense of the word, arising out of simple contracts, or contracts by specialty, which include judgments and recognizances. Whether the word "debt," as used in the act, includes obligations expressly made payable, or adjudged to be paid in coin, has been argued in another case.

In the case here referred to by the Chief Justice, he said: "It seems to us clear, beyond controversy, that the act must receive the reasonable construction not only warranted, but required, by the comparison of its provisions with the provisions of other acts, and with each other; and that, upon such reasonable construction, it must be held to sustain the proposition that express contracts to pay coined dollars can only be satisfied by the payment of coined dollars. They are not debts which may be satisfied by the tender of United States notes."

An important decision on the operation of the fourteenth amendment to the Federal Constitution was rendered on a case which came up in Virginia. (See Virginia.)

On a visit to the South during the month of May, the Chief Justice, Mr. Chase, was very flatteringly received. While at Charleston, an invitation was extended to him to attend the memorial decoration of the graves of Federal soldiers in Magnolia Cemetery. Pressing engagements prevented his attendance, but he addressed the following letter to the committee on the occasion:

CHARLESTON, S. C., May 29, 1869.

Dear Sir: Your note, inviting me to attend the ceremony of decorating at Magnolia Cemetery the graves of the brave men who fell in defence of the Union during the recent civil war, only reached me this morning. I am very sorry that I cannot be with you on the interesting occasion, but it is now too late to make the necessary arrangements.

The nation cannot too tenderly cherish the memory of her dead heroes, or too watchfully guard the well-being of those who survive. And may we not indicate the hope that ere long we, who adhered to the national cause, will be prompts also to join in commemorating the heroism of our countrymen who fell on the other side, and those who now specially mourn their loss, consecrating to the arbiters of fate, and resuming all their old love for their country and our country, one and indivisible, will join with us in like commemoration of the fallen brave of the army of the Union?

The dead are not dead. They have only gone before, and now see eye to eye. Why may we not all borrow from their sacred graves oblivion of past differences, and henceforth unite in noble and generous endeavor to assure the honor and welfare of our whole country, of all her States, and of all her citizens? Very respectfully yours,

S. P. CHASE.

Captain B. H. Marion.

Still later in the year the following letter appeared:

NARRAGANSETT, R. I., August 14, 1869.

My Dear Mr. Chase: You informed me of the 29th, after a rather long journey, reached me here yesterday. I should be very glad to see you and talk with you on any subject but politics. Dr. Bailey used to say that Bunyan's Pilgrims he represented Christian and I Hopeful. I am still hopeful. When I was younger, and thought that if largely trusted by the people I could do good service to the country, I should have been glad to have been trusted. Now I am older, and not at all satisfied that, if in a higher place, I could do any better than those now exercising executive functions do. I am more than content to let aspiration alone. My hopes have been too high, and if a man would advance his public sentiment, he must be brave of the changes in the world, and be prepared to see his flag lowered.

It appears to me that the wishes of the people, the change of the time, the political economy of the nation, it must be expected that the people will call a convention, and that, upon the question of civil war, there are two sides of the question, one will be in favor of it, and the other will be opposed to it. Whether the latter side is right or wrong, I cannot say. The President ordered me to invite the people to hear of Chase movements here and there. I don't believe there are any such. As far as locality is given to them in Maryland, I know there are none, for I spent two or three days in Frederick this week, and should have heard of them if any existed. I don't believe a bit in them elsewhere. If I can only perform with reasonable satisfaction to my own conscience, and to the opinions of those best qualified to judge, the duties of my present position, I shall find the largest measure of my present ambition. I want nothing whatever of a political character, and desire that my name may be disassociated hereafter in men's minds with all political action. If this is too much to expect, let me hope, at least, that no friend of mine will lend any countenance to such absurd nonsense as that to which I have referred.

Sincerely your friend, S. P. Chase.

JAMES A. BRIGGS, Esq.

A large number of conventions, aspiring to possess somewhat of a national character, assembled during the year. The earliest of these was convened at Washington, on the 18th, and was known as the "Colored National Convention." Its object was to take into consideration the condition of the colored people in the United States. The convention was organized by the election of Frederick Douglass as president, and a series of resolutions was adopted, and addresses issued to the colored people. A National Executive Committee was appointed of one member from each State and Territory.

A motion to admit President Roberts, of Liberia, as an honorary member of the convention, was voted down. Some of the resolutions adopted were as follows:

Resolved, That it is with special satisfaction as colored men, and with a general satisfaction as Americans, that we notice the favorable reception of the proposition to alter the Constitution on the subject of franchise, not only by both branches of Congress, but by a large proportion of the press of the land, but by the colored people; and that we believe that in U. S. Grant and Schuyler Colfax, who, we are confident, represent the progressive spirit so happily ripe in the land, we have two honest persons who will exercise the duties of the office of statesman, and will consistently, to place all American citizens, without regard to their complexion, on an equal political basis.

Resolved, That the original abolitionists—those who were not ashamed or afraid to declare un­promisingly, when they endangered their lives to do so, for the immediate abolition of slavery, and that the colored man should enjoy all the political, educa­tional, and religious rights that any other class of citi­zens might claim—have a large and abiding share of our gratitude for their heroic, self-sacrificing advoca­cy and defense of the right, out of which has grown the present advanced public sentiment.

Resolved, That whatever shortcomings may be laid to the Republican party, it is the party through which the rights legally secured to the colored American in his country were secured; that it has our gratitude and shall receive our support; that no other party need hope to receive it. We are from unpledged, by out­stripping it in consistency and in an honest advocacy of genuine democratic principles.

Resolved, That a Central Executive Committee, composed of seven persons, as was noted at the last convention of the colored people in regard to the Executive Committee, at Washington, be appointed to urge the necessity of lending their immediate influence to secure homes for the homeless of the South, and that said commit­tee be empowered to add to its number and act with
any organization that shall desire the furtherance of the end contemplated; which committee be further empowered to urge before Congress the expressed wishes of this convention.

Whereas, We believe that the pulpit is a mighty power in controlling minds on the question of reform: therefore,

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this committee that in the opinion of the Gospel to urge from the pulpit the reform now going forward in favor of universal liberty and equal rights to all men.

Resolved, That while we must cheerfully acknowledge our gratitude to all who have labored and voted for the removal of the unjust disabilities against our people in regard to voting, we are under special obligations to the radical and honest citizens of the distinguished State of Iowa, and also of Minnesota, for their able advocacy of impartial suffrage, and their great victory at the polls.

Resolved, That we congratulate the nation on the success of the reconstruction policy of Congress in the restoration of so many of the States lately in rebellion to their normal relation with the Federal Union, despite the determination and desperate opposition of Southern rebels and their Northern sympathizers, and we earnestly appeal to Congress to complete the work which has been begun by establishing governments in those States yet unereconstituted, at the very earliest time possible, in consequence with the wishes of the loyal citizens of said States, and in the hands of men loyal to the Government of the United States, who will administer the laws on the broad principles of justice and equality to all.

Resolved, That the liberties of the citizens of this country can never be safe or uniform while the States are acknowledged to be the only power to regulate the suffrage.

Whereas, By the laws of the District of Columbia all persons, without regard to caste or color, are required to aid in bearing the burdens of the Government, all should be admitted to a full enjoyment of its blessings; and whereas, under the existing laws of the said District, our people are excluded from the jury-box; therefore, be it

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the Chair to memorialize Congress in this matter, with a view of securing the rights of our race in this respect and in every other.

Resolved, That it is proper and opportune that we should now reaffirm the sentiments of our fathers with reference to African colonization, as expressed by them in the words of the Constitution, and which are now being urged against it as is justified by its history to the present hour.

Resolved, That while we desire, indeed would aid in the success of our cause, to the extent of our opportunities, any enterprise having for its object the improvement of mankind in any part of the world, we nevertheless here enter our stern protest against the action of any class of men who would compromise our popular status by asserting that our duty to Africa is more binding upon us than upon other citizens of our country.

Another convention, designated as the "Irish National Republican Convention," composed of 221 delegates, assembled in Chicago, on July 4th. Its object was to effect an organization among Irishmen belonging to the Republican party. The views of the convention were expressed in the following resolutions:

Resolved, That it is the duty of the Irish people in this republic, and of all men over the world, to give their unqualified approbation to the principle of the gradual extension of the right of all to perfect liberty, without regard to race, color, creed, or sex.

Resolved, That loyalty to the American Republic is a fixed and unalterable determination to stand by the only free government on earth, and to preserve and defend it against the attacks and machinations of all its enemies is the first political duty which the Irish citizens of this country are called upon to discharge.

Resolved, That we spread the principles of freedom is a duty we owe to ourselves and to the oppressed people of the earth, and one which, by all means consistent with international obligations, we are bound to discharge.

Resolved, That we ask for the oppressed people of our native land, for Cuba, and the down-trodden of all enslaved lands, the sympathy and our cordial support of the people and Government of the United States.

Resolved, That we protest against the presence of the armed despotism of Europe on this continent, and pledge our hearty cooperation to any plan adopted for their removal.

Resolved, That free trade, falsely so called, is a cunning and selfish device of the enslavers of mankind, and saps the very foundation of American prosperity and independence; and that we, in the interests of the entire American people, claim full and adequate legislative protection to American industry, so that those only who maintain the principle of protection, and who will make honest efforts to embody it in a protective tariff, should the votes of Irishmen in America be given.

Resolved, That the tendency which induces so many to neglect the cultivation of the soil and congregate in great cities, we mark as an evil, and one which consigns many of the Irish people of this country to life-long misery; we therefore declare our determination to take measures to afford facilities to our fellow-countrymen to settle down in the free and fertile lands of this great and glorious country.

Resolved, That we rejoice in the triumphant success of the Republican cause at the late presidential election, and pledge to President Grant our warmest and earnest support in preserving and defending the great principles of human liberty at home and abroad.

Resolved, That the existing neutrality laws being instrumental only in aiding the monarchies of the earth in sustaining their oppressive system of government, and having on various occasions placed the American Government in the anomalous position of using their power for the support of said government, and receiving only in return active and open hostility from the British Government, we hereby pledge ourselves to labor for their entire repeal.

The first resolution was passed by a vote of 49 to 41, the words "or sex" being the chief objection to it. The same also appears upon the seventh. A resolution was adopted, after considerable debate, requesting Congress to pass a law making foreigners to be citizens after one year's residence in the country. A resolution was also passed in favor of the formation of immigration societies; also one against any distinction as to race or color in the membership of trades' union associations.

The proceedings of this convention failed to attract any special public attention.

A National Labor Convention, or Congress, assembled in Philadelphia, on August 16th, consisting of delegates from the various labor unions organized throughout the country. The following resolutions, expressing the views of the congress, were adopted:

Resolved, That laborers in all departments of useful industry are suffering from a system of monetary laws which were enacted in 1816, and give such other testimony against it as is justified by its history to the present hour.

Resolved, That while we desire, indeed would aid in the success of our cause, to the extent of our opportunities, any enterprise having for its object the improvement of mankind in any part of the world, we nevertheless here enter our stern protest against the action of any class of men who would compromise our popular status by asserting that our duty to Africa is more binding upon us than upon other citizens of our country.

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Resolved, That loyalty to the American Republic is