THE ADVERTISER.

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OUR FLAG.

Then up with our flag! let it stream on the air!
Though our fathers are cold in their graves,
They had hands that could strike, they had souls that could dare,
And their sons were not born to be slaves!

Up, up with that banner! where'er it may call,
Our millions shall rally around;
A nation of freemen that moment shall fall
When its stars shall be trailed on the ground.

RICHMOND TAKEN

Passengers on the "West Wind," last evening, say that a dispatch was received at St. Joseph, stating that Richmond was in possession of the Federal Troops. No particulars received.

"Bleeding Kansas."

The old contest in Kansas between Slavery and Freedom—one side contending for freesoil with all the resulting blessings; school, churches, railroads, and the highest possible state of civilization, and the greatest material prosperity for all classes of citizens: the other side striving to fasten on its fair soil a withering curse, an institution that degrades a large portion of white men to a level with negroes, and black men to the condition of brutes; that tends to shut out enterprise, education and civilization; that keeps any community where it exists a hundred years behind the age—has engendered feelings of bitter enmity, which will exist, and may yet continue for an age. When the war for the Union commenced, we hoped that all trouble in Kansas would end, but it appears that the old hatred is still as malignant as ever. It is not confined alone to the citizens of Kansas but has extended to the Military Officers. One side is denounced as ultra-radical John Brown Abolitionists; the other side as secessionists or secession sympathisers.

That the pro-slavery party were the agressors in Kansas is a fact in history about which no unprejudiced mind can have a doubt. The fact that all the moderate men, even from the slave States joined the free State party is sufficient evidence that the border ruffians were in the wrong. Jim. Lane went to Kansas a pro-slavery Democrat. He had been the idol of the Democratic party in Indiana, where no office in the gift of the party was too good for him. A short stay in Kansas was sufficient to drive him to the opposite party, becoming as zealous a Republican as he ever had been a Democrat. Reeder was a Democrat, appointed Governor of Kansas by Pierce. He acted with the Slavery party, until after the meeting of the first Legislature, when he became disgusted with the party, left it, and was removed. Geary was appointed Governor. His prejudices were with the slavery party, and for a long time he held fast to their side, but finally came over. Shannon was Governor for a few weeks, but was so imbecile that the President had to remove him. At last, Buchanan, determined to find men who could be depended upon to do the bidding of the advocates of slavery, appointed Walker, of Mississippi, Governor, and Stanton, of Tennessee, Secretary, but even they, after holding out as long as their consciences would allow, were compelled to follow in the footsteps of their predecessors.

"It must needs be that offences come, but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh."

It is not the duty of the patriot to inquire whether or not there are bad men on the side that he is fighting, but merely whether the cause he is fighting for is just. Kansas contains some of the best and some of the worst men that could be found in the United States, and no doubt crimes are sometimes committed by the men belonging to the Free State party out of revenge for what they had suffered. War develops the worst passions of the human heart. There never was any war with any people, for any cause, however just, in which there were not bad men on both sides; and much evil done out of mere revenge. But in all cases the responsibility rests principally with the party that caused the war.—Of course strict discipline should be enforced to prevent wanton outrage on either side.

But for several months past the military powers, that were stationed at Leavenworth, secete men, exhibiting all the black catalogue of crimes committed by the Pro-slavery party in Kansas. They were consequently prejudiced against all Free State men, ready to imprison them on any pretext whatever. There are many who doubt the loyalty of Gen. Sturgis; even the St. Louis *Republican* admits that he made some indiscreet expressions.

Specials to New York papers say that Gen. McDowell is organizing the fugitive blacks into companies, under officers of the same color, for labor, and has established a regular line of promotion among them, paying from 95 cents per day, and one ration, to full day laborers wages. White soldiers henceforth to handle the musket only.

Mr. Furnas's Regiment of loyal Indians has been nearly or quite filled.—They are to be merely a "Home Guard," to defend their own country and home from being seized by the rebels, or from other Indians instigated to hostilities by the rebels.

The "Nebraskian" is informed that Messrs. Furnas, Wattles and others, did not receive their Commissions to raise two regiments of loyal Indians from Gen. Halleck, nor from any other General in "this Department," but directly from the Secretary of War. There was an order issued by Sturgis forbidding the Indians from being mustered into the service, but Gen. Sturgis was shortly afterwards ordered to Washington, we believe for violating the orders of the Secretary of War.

The Nebraskian will be highly gratified to learn that Furnas and Wattles are not the victims of that "chilling *unkindness*, which is too often the only reward of the truly *good*," that "the world's sad want of *appreciation*," has not "doomed" them "to grope amid the dust and cob-web of obscurity." Do not waste your tears, Mr. *Nebraskian* on an imaginary evil.

The Nebraska Contested Case.

The "Congressional Globe" which came in the mail yesterday, contained the debate and the final vote on the contest between Morton and Daily. The case was indefinitely postponed by a vote of two to one. We will publish extracts from the debate next week. We doubt whether another man besides Morton could be found in Nebraska, who would have brass enough, under the present circumstances, to claim a seat in Congress. Mr. Daily says truly that there is not five Democrats in Nebraska, that believe Morton was elected. We have met with none who believed it.

The following portion of the debate contains several jokes too good to be lost:

Mr. Vooriies. Is that the same Judge Conkling that told you that the second certificate [the one given by Gov. Black] was bad?

Mr. Daily. It is the same Judge Conkling. He did not say that the certificate was bad, but he was a man of such independence, and so hated these ballot-box stuffers, that he said I had a good case without it, that these officials were a bad set, and that he would not trust them.

Mr. Vooriies. I would like to ask the reason why the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. Moorhead] does not defend Col. Black from such an assault as that, which is severer than what he felt called upon to notice upon this side of the House?

Mr. Daily. It is said in the Scriptures that—

"while the lamp holds out to burn
The vilest sinner may return."

Mr. Lovejoy. I feel bound to interpose in behalf of the Scripture. [Laughter.]

Mr. Daily. It is a good doctrine, any way. It ought to be there if it is not. I have read Watts and the Bible so much together that I sometimes mistake one for the other. [Laughter.]—Now, I would say further, in regard to Gov. Black; he was an appointee of Mr. Buchanan. The marshal and the secretary (Mr. Morton) were also Buchanan men. They were all of them Breckinridge Democrats, and a large majority of them are now in the rebel army. But Mr. Black, when our national difficulties arose, broke friendship with these old friends, and went back to his native town of Pittsburg, where he raised a fine regiment; and we heard of him the other day as being the first man to enter the enemy's works at Yorktown.

Mr. Morton. I think he would have been there at least the second man in if there was as certain knowledge that there was whisky there as there was that there was no enemy there.

Mr. Daily. That shows, Mr. Speaker, the character of men. I do not reply to it. I do not believe if the gentlemen hunted the Territory from one end of it to the other could find five Democrats, who would not say, on their word of honor, that they knew that I was elected and that Mr. Morton was not. They all know it. They all admit it there.—There is no doubt of it. They all understand the point which changed the election."

Emancipation Society of the State of Missouri.

This society is being formed in St. Louis. It is intended to have branches in every portion of the State. We extract the following from its Constitution:

PREAMBLE.

Believing the institution of slavery to be detrimental to the moral and material interests of Missouri, and a serious impediment to the growth and development of her resources, and that its abolishment by the people of the State would prove fruitful of blessings to ourselves and our posterity, we therefore form and constitute ourselves in society organization to further, by all proper and lawful means, the emancipation of the slaves in the State of Missouri.

PLEDGE.

The pledge or obligation of membership shall be as follows:

I, ... do solemnly pledge my honor that I will support the Constitution of the United States and of the State of Missouri; that I will not take up arms against the government of the United States nor the government of the State of Missouri, nor give aid nor comfort to the enemies of either; and that I will, to the best of my ability, faithfully demean myself as a member of this Society and further the object and interests thereof.

MEMBERSHIP.

All white male persons of the age of eighteen years and upwards may become members of the Society, upon their being proposed for such membership by some member of good standing in the Society, and paying such initiation fee as the By-Laws shall specify, and signing the Constitution and pledge or obligation thereof. And all members of the Society shall be required to pay such monthly dues as the By-Laws may provide to be paid."

Nobody doubts the right of the people of any State to abolish slavery if they wish to do so. We have never conversed with a man upon this subject, who did not think that the interests of Missouri had been retarded by the institution of slavery. The only objection that can be raised against emancipation in Missouri is, that as the State Constitution provides that the Legislature shall pass no act of emancipation without compensation to the owners, it will increase the State debt to an enormous extent.

By an arrival from Ft. Henry, it is stated that not less than 200 of the Nebraska Cavalry were captured yesterday by the rebels, who were under Clay King, instead of Jeff. Thompson as first reported. A strong force has been sent in pursuit of the rebels.

The rumor of the evacuation of Corinth and its occupation by the federal forces, is repeated by every arrival of deserters. The opinion gains ground that there will be no general engagement at or near the present position of the two armies.

A naval engagement took place at Ft. Wright on Saturday, lasting one hour. One rebel boat was sunk and two blown up. Only two of our boats were engaged.

Gen. Wool, with a force of 5000, crossed to Willoughby Point, Friday night, and affected a landing in the morning, and commenced their march on Norfolk, five miles from the landing. The rebel battery was stationed on the opposite side of Lowden's Creek. After a few shots the rebels retreated, after burning the bridge, which compelled the Federal troops to march round five miles further. At 5 o'clock in the afternoon, within a short distance of the city of Norfolk, our forces were met by the citizens, who formally surrendered the city. Our troops marched in, and now hold possession.—Gen. Veile commands as Military Governor.

Neither City or Navy Yard was burned. Gen. Huger, commanding rebel forces, withdrew without a fight.

The Merrimac was blown up at five o'clock on Saturday morning.

The Monitor and Naugatuck gunboats have gone to Norfolk.

Death Rather than Slavery.

Somebody in a letter from our army in Tennessee, narrates a tragedy at a slave auction as follows:

"A week or two since, a large and rather intelligent mulatto was taken from his wife and children, and sold to a Texas planter at James mart. He was greatly depressed, and seemed for a time unconscious of everything passing around him. At last he aroused himself from his introspection, and asked if he had been sold, and to whom? The name of the planter was given, and the location of his plantation.

An expression of agony, succeeded by a cloud of dispair, passed over the man's face; but without speaking, he walked quietly into the middle of the street, and before any one could divine his motive, or anticipate his intention, he drew a pistol, which he had concealed upon his person, and placing the muzzle to his forehead, pulled the trigger.

The upper part of the mulatto's head was fairly blown off; and he fell a mangled corpse in the midst of the crowded thoroughfare.

The boudsman was free. Suicide had saved him from Slavery.

The crowd gathered for a moment about the body. A few asked, "What the devil was the matter with the nigger?" Others observed: "The d—d nigger must have been crazy;" and the Texas planter swore roundly—saying, "D—n the cursed derkey. I could have sold him for a thousand dollars. I'm just so much out of pocket. If he'd come to life again, I'd give him forty lashes."

But the crowd went hurrying on, and the negro, and the great tragedy, deeper and more awful than "Othello," were forgotten; and the heroic martyr was was hauled away like a prison dog."

A Nuisance.

Fort Leavenworth, instead of being an advantage and a means of protection to Kansas, has ever been filled with those who have been her oppressors. When the Democratic party went into oblivion, it was expected that this order of things would be changed, and that the people of Kansas would be made to feel that they had friends in the Fort—especially so, as Kansas was the means of bringing the Republican party into power. But thus far, the country has been disappointed.—Sturgis, Denver and Prince are the rulers at the Fort. They all three hate the free people of Kansas. Denver, although notoriously obnoxious to them, has been twice thrust upon them as military commander. If anything could justify loyal officers in resigning, and retiring from the field, it is such acts as the above.—Sturgis and Prince heartily dispise "Abolitionists", and "Black Republicans," and would any day, prefer that a traitor murderer should go unpunished than that an "Abolitionits" should feel that he is a free man. Under their rule, loyal men are keenly watched and kept tightly under the thumb of the military, while traitors walk abroad, enjoying the fullest protection. Let a loyal man raise a hand against a traitor, and he is arrested as a Jayhawker; but let complaint be made against a traitor, and he pleads that he is a Democrat, which insures his protection from Sturgis, Prince & Co. Under their direction, Government is now actually sustaining in this State one of the vilest secession papers in the whole country.—Men are beginning to boldly avow their secession sentiments; and if these officers remain in command three months longer, it will be dangerous for a man to raise his voice in favor of the Union. It is an outrage, and if continued will damn the present Administration in the eyes of the true men of the West. But we are confident that, owing to the terrible pressure of business upon the President and Cabinet, they are not aware of the existing state of affairs in Kansas. Is it not the duty of some one, whose voice can be heard at head quarters, to take the matter in hand?—*Kansas Chief.*

The Norfolk (Va.) *Day-Book* is astonished, bewildered, amazed at the idea that New Orleans has been captured by the Yankees. Hear it:

"The telegram tells this morning the most deplorable tale ever heard in America, or, we believe, in the whole world. Two contemptible little steamers have come up to the great City of New Orleans—inhabited by a population of 200,000 souls, defended by miles upon miles of columbiads and rifled cannon, possessing six floating batteries of immense power, and containing within her bosom not less than 30,000 disciplined troops—and have commanded the authorities to haul down the Confederate flag! The troops were immediately withdrawn lest they might feel disposed to demur, all the defences on the lake were dismantled, the guns were thrown down without being injured, the steamers, which could have gotten up steam in an hour and been off, were burned, and the defenders were drawn off to a distant point. Never, since the world began, was their such a transaction."

OFFICIAL.

LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES.

Passed at the Second Session of the Thirty-Seventh Congress.

[Public—No. 45.]

AN ACT in regard to the officers and men actually employed in the Western Department of Missouri, their pay, bounty and pension.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be and he is hereby authorized and required to allow and pay to the officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates, who have been heretofore actually employed in the military service of the United States, whether mustered into actual service or not, where their services were accepted and actually employed by the generals who have been in command of the department of the West, or the department of the Missouri, the pay and bounty as in cases of regular enlistment.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians, and privates so employed, who may have been wounded or incapacitated for service, shall be entitled to and receive the pension allowed for such disability: Provided, That the length and character of their enlistment and service be such as to entitle them under existing law to such pension.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the heirs of those killed in battle, or of those who may have died from wounds received while so in service, shall be entitled to receive the bounty and pay to which they would have been entitled had they been regularly mustered into service: Provided, That the bounty and pay referred to in this act shall not be payable unless their term of enlistment and service be of such duration as to entitle them to receive the same, according to existing laws.

Approved, March 25, 1862.

[Public—No. 46.]

AN ACT to facilitate judical proceedings in adjudications upon captured property, and for the better administration of the law of prize.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever any property captured as prize shall be brought into any district of the United States for adjudication, it shall be the duty of the prize commissioners for such district forthwith to receive, seal, and safely keep the same, until process shall be issued out of the court, under which the same shall be placed in the custody of the marshal of such district. It shall be the further duty of said prize commissioners, at the time of taking such possession, and from from time to time, pending the adjudication, to examine into the condition of said property, and report to the court if the same, or any part thereof, be perishing or perishable, or deteriorating in value; and if the same be so found by the court, upon said report or other evidence, the court may thereupon order an interlocutory sale thereof by the United States marshal, and the deposits of the gross proceeds of such sale in the registry of the court to abide the further order of the court, whether a claim to said property has or has not been interposed. It shall be the further duty of the said prize commissioners to receive from the prize master all the papers and documents, and forthwith to proceed to take the testimony of the witnesses prescribed by law, pursuant to the rules and under the interrogatories adopted by the court, and separately from each other and unattended by counsel, and the said papers, documents and testimony, securely to seal with their seals, and as soon as practicable deposit in the registry of the court; and thereafter, promptly and without unnecessary delay, the court shall proceed to hearing and adjudication.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That all reasonable and proper claim and charges for pilotage, towage, wharfage, storage, insurance and other expenses incident to the bringing in and safe custody and sale of the property captured as prize, shall be a charge upon the same, and having been audited and allowed by the court, shall, in event of a decree of condemnation or of restitution on payment of costs, be paid out of the proceeds of any sale of the property, final or interlocutory, in the custody of the court. In case of a decree of restitution upon payment of costs, where no sale has been made, such charges and expenses shall constitute part of said cost to be paid by the claimant.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the prize commissioners, and also the district attorney, acting for the United States, and the counsel for the captors, shall be entitled to receive a just and suitable compensation for their several and respective services in each prize case or proceeding; and the same shall be adjusted and determined by the court upon due consideration of the facts and circumstances of each case and of the services actually rendered therein; and the same, when so adjusted, shall, in case of final condemnation or restitution on payment of costs, be paid out of the proceeds of the prize property in the custody of the court, or when no sale has been made, in whole or in part as the court may direct by the claimant.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That whensoever a final decree of condemnation of property captured as prize shall have been made, unless an interlocutory sale has been made as hereinbefore provided for, the property shall be sold by the United States marshal pursuant to the practice and proceedings in admiralty, and the gross proceeds of such sale shall be forthwith deposited in court; and thereupon the prize commissioners shall proceed, under the direction of the court, to take the requisite evidence and report the same to the court, to the end that a final decree shall be made determining what public ships of the United States are entitled to share in the prize, and whether the price was of superior, equal, or inferior force to the vessel or vessels making the capture, and within thirty days after the entry of the same the clerk of the court shall transmit to the Treasury of the United States the moneys so deposited in court, together with a certified copy of the said decree, after deducting from said moneys the costs of court and the charges and expenses hereinbefore provided for.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That the provisions of this act shall apply as well to cases now pending as to all future cases of maritime captures and to captures and seizures made under the laws for the abolition of the slave trade; and all laws and parts of laws inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved, March 25, 1862.

[Public No. 47.]

AN ACT in additions to an act to refund and remit the duties on arms imported by States, approved July ten, eighteen hundred and sixty-one.

Be it enacted by the senate and House of representatives, of the United states of America in Congress assembled, That the authority given to the Secretary of the Treasury to refund and remit the duties and imposts on all arms imported into the United States by or for the account of any State as provided in the act to which this is an addition, shall extend to arms for which orders or contracts were made prior to the first day of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-two: Provided, That said Secretary shall have satisfactory proofs exhibited to him that the said arms were actually purchased in a foreign country for account of a State, and that the price paid for the same by the State was only the first cost, and the usual and customary charges attending the purchase and importation of the same, exclusive of duty.

Approved, April 2, 1862.

[Public—No. 48]

AN ACT to provide for the equitable settlement of the accounts of the officers and crews of the frigate Congress and other vessels.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United states of America, in Congress assembled, That the proper accounting officers of the Treasury be and they are hereby authorized and directed to settle, upon the principles of justice and equity, the accounts of the officers, sailors, marines, and crews of the United States frigate Congress, the sloop Cumberland, and of any othea vessel or vessels of war, the books of which were lost or destroyed in consequence of the naval engagement at Hampton Roads on the eighth and ninth of March, anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty two.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the Secretary of the Navy be and he is hereby authorized to furnish to the sailors, marines, and crews of any of the vessels engaged in the naval actions in the foregoing section mentioned, whose bedding, clothing or other property was lost or destroyed therein, with amount sufficient to cover their losses, and not exceeding sixty dollars to each man, to be paid in kind or in money, at the direction of the flag officer of the North American Squadron.

Approved, April 2, 1862.

[Public—No. 49.]

AN ACT to prohibit the allowance or payment of pensions to the children of officers and soldiers of the Revolution.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United states of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the passage of this act no claim for a pension, or for an increase of pension, shall be allowed in favor of the children or other descendants of any person who served in the war of the Revolution, or of the widow of such person, when such person or his widow died without having established a claim to a pension.

Approved, April 2, 1862.

[Public Resolution—No 23.]

JOINT RESOLUTION for the appointment of Theodore D. Woolsey, of Connecticut, a Regent of the Smithsonian Institution, in place of Cornelius C. Felton, deceased.

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled: That the vacancy in the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, of the class other than members of Congress, caused by the decease of Cornelius C. Felton, be filled by the appointment of Theodore D. Woolsey, of Connecticut.

Approved April 2, 1862.

[Public Resolution—No. 24.]

A RESOLUTION to authorize the President to assign the command of troops in the same field or department to officers of the same grade without regard to seniority.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That whenever military operations may require the presence of two or more officers of the same grade in the same field or department, the President may assign the command of the forces in such field or department without regard to seniority of rank.

Approved April 4, 1862.

[Public—No. 50.]

AN ACT for the release of certain persons held to service or labor in the District of Columbia.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United states of America in Congress Assembled, That all persons held to service or labor within the District of Columbia by reason of African descent are hereby discharged and freed of and from all claim to such service or labor; and from and after the passage of this act neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except for crime, whereof the party shall be duly convicted, shall hereafter exist in said District.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That all persons loyal to the United States, holding claims to service or labor against persons discharged therefrom by this act, may, within ninety days from the passage thereof, but not thereafter, present to the commissioners hereinafter mentioned their respective statements or petitions in writing, verified by oath or affirmation, setting forth the names, ages, and personal description of such persons, the manner in which said petitioners acquired such claim, and any facts touching the value thereof, and declaring his allegiance to the Government of the United States, and that he has not borne arms against the United States during the present rebellion, nor in any way given aid or comfort thereto: Provided, That the oath of the party to the petition shall not be evidence of the facts therein stated.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the President of the United States, with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint three commissioners, residents of the District of Columbia, any two of whom shall have power to act, who shall receive the petitions above mentioned, and who shall investigate and determine the validity and value of the claims therein presented, as aforesaid, and appraise and apportion, under the proviso hereto annexed, the value in money of the several claims by them found to be valid: Provided, however, That the entire sum so appraised and apportioned shall no exceed in the aggregate an amount equal to three hundred dollars for each person shown to have been so held by lawful claim: And provided, further, That no claim shall be allowed for any slave or slaves brought into said District after the passage of this act, nor for any slave claimed by any person who has borne arms against the Government of the United States in the present rebellion, or in any way given aid or comfort thereto, or which originates in or by virtue of any transfer heretofore made, or which shall hereafter be made by any person who has in any manner aided or sustained the rebellion against the Government of the United States.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That said commissioners shall, within nine months from the passage of this act, make a full and final report of their proceedings, findings, and appraisement, and shall deliver the same to the Secretary of the Treasury, which report shall be deemed and taken to be conclusive in all respects, except as hereinbefore provided; and the Secretary of the Treasury shall, with like exception, cause the amounts so apportioned to said claims to be paid from the Treasury of the United States to the parties found by said report to be entitled thereto as aforesaid, and the same shall be received in full and complete compensation: Provided, That in cases where petitions may be filed presenting conflicting claims or setting up liens, said commissioners shall so specify in their report, and payment shall not be made according to the award of said commissioners until a period of sixty days shall have elapsed, during which time any petitioner claiming an interest in the particular amount may file a bill in equity in the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia, making all other claimants defendants thereto, setting forth the proceedings in such case before said commissioners and their action therein, and praying that the party to whom payment has been awarded may be enjoined from receiving the same; and if said court shall grant such provisional order, a copy thereof may, on motion of said complainant, be served upon the Secretary of the Treasury, who shall thereupon cause the said amount of money to be paid into said court, subject to its orders and final decree, which payment shall be in full and complete compensation, as in other cases.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That said commissioners shall hold their sessions in the city of Washington, at such place and times as the President of the United States may direct, of which they shall give due and public notice. They shall have power to subpoena and compel the attendance of witnesses, and to receive testimony and enforce its production, as in civil cases before courts of justice, without the exclusion of any witness on account of color; and they may summon before them the persons making claim to service or labor, and examine them under oath; and they may also, for purposes of identification and appraisement, call before them the persons so claimed. Said commissioners shall appoint a clerk, who shall keep files and complete record of all proceeding before them, who shall have power to administer oaths and affirmations in said proceedings, and who shall issue all lawful process by them ordered. The Marshall of the District of Columbia shall personally, or by deputy, attend upon the sessions of said commissioners, and shall execute the process issued by said clerk.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, That said commissioners shall receive in compensation for their services the sum of two thousand dollars each, to be paid upon the filing of their report; that said clerk shall receive for his services two hundred dollars per month; that said marshal shall receive such fees as are allowed by law for similar services performed by him in the Circuit Court in the District of Columbia; that the Secretary of the Treasury shall cause all other reasonable expenses of said commission to be allowed, and that said compensation, fees and expenses shall be paid from the treasury of the United States.

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That for the purpose of carrying this act into effect there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, a sum not exceeding one million dollars.

Sec. 8. And be it further enacted, That any person or persons who shall kidnap, or in any manner transport or procure to be taken out of said District, any person or persons discharged and freed by the provisions of this act, or any free person or persons with intent to re-enslave or sell such person or persons into slavery, or shall re enslave any of said freed persons, the person or persons so offending shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and on conviction thereof in any court of competent jurisdiction in said District, shall be imprisoned in the penitentiary not less that five nor more than twenty years.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That within twenty days, or within such further time as the commissioners herein provided for shall limit, after the passage of this act, a statement in writing or schedule shall be filed with the clerk of the Circuit Court for the District of Columbia, by the several owners or claimants to the services of the persons made free or manumitted by this act, setting forth the names, ages, sex and particular description of such persons, severally; and the said clerk shall receive and record, in a book by him to be provided and kept for that purpose the said statements or schedules on receiving fifty cents each therefor, and no claims shall be allowed to any claimant or owner who shall neglect this requirement.

Sec. 10. And be it further enacted, That the said clerk and his successors in office shall, from time to time, on demand, and on receiving twenty-five cents therefor, prepare, sign, and deliver to each person so made free or manumitted by this act, a certificate under the seal of said court, setting out the name, age and description of such person, and stating that such person was duly manumitted and set free by this act.

Sec. 11. And be it further enacted, That the sum of one hundred thousand dollars out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, is hereby appropriated, to be expended under the direction of the President of the United States, to aid in the colonization and settlement of such free persons of African descent now residing in said District, including those to be liberated by this act, as may desire to emigrate to the Republics of Hayti, or Liberia, or such other country beyond the limits of the United States as the President may determine: Provided, That the expenditure for this purpose shall not exceed one hundred dollars for each emigrant.

Sec. 12. And be it further enacted, That all acts of Congress and all laws of the State of Maryland in force in said District, and all ordinances of the cities of Washington and Georgetown, inconsistent with the provisions of this act, are hereby repealed.

Approved, April 16, 1862.

Execution of Timothy Webster on Charge of being a Spy.

On the 2d of April the court-martial convened for the trial of Timothy Webster as an alien enemy. Col. Nat. Taylor being President of the same.

The court, having maturely considered the evidence adduced, and two-thirds concurring therein, they found the prisoner guilty of the charge.

On the announcement of his approaching fate, the prisoner, as we hear, grew defiant, thinking no doubt, that he would not be hung. He also said he could make several parties in the War Department "shake in their jackets" by his revelations, but he made none up to his last hour. Learning on Monday night that there was no show for him, he became completely unnerved. He was carried to the Fair Grounds as early as six o'clock yesterday morning, by Capt. Alexander, but prior to that time received a visit from the Rev. Mr. Woodbridge. He asked the clergyman to read the Psalm of David invoking vengeance on his enemies. He refused, and Webster grew indignant, causing the clergyman to call an early departure. When brought to the gallows, the prisoner was visibly affected by the sight of the preparations observable, and shuddered when he looked at his coffin.

After the rope was adjusted around his neck, prayer was offered up by the Rev. M. D. Hoge. At the conclusion, a cap was drawn over his eyes; he bade previously said farewell to several persons standing by. The signal being given, the trigger that sustained the drop was drawn, and it struck against the upright with a loud sound. Owing to defective cotton-rope, the noose slipped, and Webster fell on his back to the ground. The half-hung and partially-stunned man was speedily raised and assisted up, and a new rope being ready, he was soon swinging in accordance with his sentence. This occurred at 11:25 o'clock. Fifteen minutes later we left the ground, but the body was still suspended. He died in about one minute.

Webster, who had plenty of gold and Confederate State Treasury Notes, gave it all to his wife the night before his execution. He was in the employment of one of the departments here as a letter carrier between this city and Maryland. It is said—how true we know not—that he used to take the letters received here to Washington, where they were copied, and the answers received were returned in the same way, thus being used as evidence against the parties, as many of them have been found to their cost by arrest and incarceration in Northern Forts. Suspicion was first excited against the prisoner by the aside of his evidence against Lewis and Scully, and they let the cat out of the bag off him after his conviction. Mrs. Webster, who was arrested along with her husband as an accomplice, is still at Castle Goodwin, but will not be sent out of the Confederacy.—*Richmond Dispatch.*

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Brownville, N. T.

May 15, 1862. n46-tf