



PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 16, 1867.

GENERAL U. S. GRANT.

We have noticed before now that Gen'l Grant has been misrepresented by telegrams. During the President's late tour, when that august personage was swinging round the circle, numerous reports were circulated, all having a tendency to commit the hero of the late war to 'My Policy.' These representations, for a time, were uncontradicted, and Gen'l Grant, who was and is the idol of a great and brave people, finally felt called upon to publicly deny the calumnious charges so ingeniously uttered against him, and the hearts of millions felt rejoiced to know that he whom they loved was true to the people.

Lately, the same course has been pursued. He has been represented as giving his unqualified approval to the decisions of the Supreme Court on military trials, and the attempt last autumn to commit him to the so-called Conservative party, has been again renewed.

We are pleased to see that the despatches completely contradict this falsifying and misrepresentation of the gallant soldier. He stands to-day, as true to the great principles which his genius vindicated in the field as he did then, and we are of the opinion that political chicanery is at the bottom of these evil reports. That he is likely to be nominated for President, is the hope of a vast majority of the loyal people of the United States, and it seems to us, that these persistent efforts to misrepresent him, are simply an attempt to wean the people from the man they love.

We caution our readers against permitting their minds to be poisoned by untruthful telegrams, born in filthy political quarrels—to ever bear in ten derment, since the hero who successfully put his foot upon the throat of a villainous rebellion and strangled treason.

THE SPEAKER.

We are gratified to learn that our worthy friend, Hon. W. F. Chapin, has been chosen Speaker of the House of Representatives. Mr. Chapin is a man of sound principles and considerable legislative experience. And what makes the conferring of this honor more pleasing to us, is the fact that Mr. Chapin is one of the members upon whose heads were hurled the anathemas of the whole Democracy of Nebraska last summer in connection with the Rock Bluffs affair. He was one of the most active in bringing to light the Democratic mode of carrying on elections in that precinct, and fought the battle through to a successful termination. He is a resident of that precinct; and his election last fall, together with that of Capt. Wiles—one of the board of canvassers—was a complete triumph over all accusations by the Copperhead party, and shows conclusively the estimation in which the "Rock Bluffs Infamy" is held by the people of this country. We are pleased to see him honored on this account, yet we believe it was the best selection that could have been made aside from this. His ready tact, sound judgement, and thorough acquaintance with Parliamentary usages make him eminently qualified for the position, which we believe he will fill with honor to himself and credit to the body over which he presides.

PLATTE BRIDGE.

There is no other thing that has been demanded with the same unanimity that the bridging of the Platte has. The people everywhere throughout Nebraska have expressed themselves in favor of it, yet we find the Nebraska City News in opposition to it. Morton goes upon the same principle in this matter that he does in politics. He says whenever the Democratic party does not serve his individual purposes he will work it an injury; and he means to do the same by the people of Nebraska—if he can. The people have persistently refused to elevate him to any position of power, and now he proposes to work them an injury if he can by opposing a measure in which they are all deeply interested. He endeavors to frighten the Legislature from authorizing the erection of a bridge with the old bugbear of immense cost. He says \$50,000 will not drive the necessary piling. We have it from a far more reliable source than Morton, that \$50,000 will, in all probability, be a sufficient amount to complete the bridge. This estimate was made by an efficient bridge builder as can be

found in the west, and one used to just such streams as the Platte, and one in whose judgement of such matters greater men than Morton place implicit confidence. We refer to the gentleman who has the contract of building the Pacific Railroad bridge across the Platte.

FROM THE CAPITAL.

Organization of the Legislature.

OMAHA, Jan. 10th, 1867.

FRIEND HATHAWAY:—Both Houses of the Legislature met at 2 o'clock p. m. to-day, and completed their organizations as follows:

COUNCIL.

President—E. H. Rogers, of Dodge. Chief Clerk—O. P. Hewett, of Nebraska.

Ass't Clerk—L. L. Holbrook, of Cass.

Enrolling Clerk—J. J. McLean, of Douglas.

Engrossing Clerk—J. C. Ambrose, of Douglas.

Chaplain—Rev. W. B. Slaughter, of Douglas.

Serg't at Arms—E. A. Kirkpatrick, of Cass.

Door Keeper—John Cadman, of Lancaster.

Fireman—K. Nelson, of Douglas.

Pages—Masters Will. Haines and Herbert Thayer, of Douglas.

The Council rules of the 10th session were adopted for the government of this body during the present session.

HOUSE.

Speaker—W. F. Chapin, of Cass.

Chief Clerk—J. S. Bowen, of Washington.

Ass't Clerk—T. C. Brewster, of Douglas.

Enrolling Clerk—A. Dyer, of Douglas.

Engrossing Clerk—H. W. Merrill, of Lancaster.

Chaplain—W. W. Rose, of Douglas.

Serg't at Arms—Chas. Howard, of Douglas.

Fireman—Jacob Bolivar of Douglas.

Doorkeeper—Medey, of Nebraska.

Pages—Masters Emmet Knox and Harry Parmelee, of Douglas.

The organization being perfected, both houses adjourned to meet at 10 o'clock a. m. to-morrow.

Yours, H.

OMAHA, Jan. 11th, 1867.

MR. EDITOR.—The Legislature organized on yesterday. You will perceive that Cass county and the District composed of Cass, Lancaster &c., has been very liberally provided for. Chapin is Speaker of the House, Holbrook Ass't Clerk of the Council, E. A. Kirkpatrick, Serg't-at-Arms of the Council, Cadman, Doorkeeper of the Council, Merrills, of Lancaster, is Enrolling Clerk of the House, and a distinguished citizen of our county was offered the position of Ass't Clerk, but declined the honor. The election of Mr. Chapin to the Speakership of the House, is an event which, under the circumstances, reflects great honor upon him. It was unsolicited on his part, but was given as an evidence of the appreciation in which he is held by the Republican party of the Territory. The committees have been announced in the Council. I am unable to give you a full list, but can state that Mr. Sheldon has been placed upon the Finance, Ways and Means Committee, also on committee of Education, besides some of minor importance. We think here that the President has selected the right man for the place, for the condition of our affairs require a man of good business habits, who will regard the interests of the people, for which Mr. Sheldon is pre-eminently distinguished. Mr. Doon has been assigned the Judiciary and Federal Relations committees, besides being on several committees of minor importance. The Speaker of the House has not yet announced the committees of that body, but I do not doubt that our Representation will be as highly honored in that body, as those in the Council. But Mr. Chapin may be restrained by feelings of delicacy from putting these as prominently forward as they deserve, but I do not hesitate to say that no members of the House will exert a greater influence than Capt. Wiles, Mr. Cole and Col. Fuller.

I am sorry to say that the old question of public printing has been raised by Mr. Paddock. This is the old question, whether the Secretary, or the Legislature shall control the Public Printing. We take the same ground now that was taken by the Republican party in 1860, when J. Sterling Morton attempted to dictate to the Legislature upon the same subject. While we respect Mr. Paddock as a man, we will not permit him to dictate to us, or cause us to abandon a principle.

Yours truly, D.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

After the usual introduction of the Acting Governor says:

I submit, herewith, the very interesting reports of the Auditor and Treasurer. It will be seen, by reference to the report of the Auditor, that the outstanding indebtedness of the Territory, on the 30th day of November, 1866, was \$85,471.44. The Militia Bond debt—\$36,900—is included in this statement; and, as an appropriation has already been made by Congress, to pay this debt, principal and interest, together with other miscellaneous claims for the same service, already paid by the Territory, the aggregate amount of which somewhat exceeds the appropriation by Congress, and as the accounts have been fully rendered, and are now being audited by the U. S. Treasury, with the personal attention of Governor Saunders, that amount is very properly placed among the available assets of the Territory, as an offset to much of the Territorial indebtedness. The assets will therefore appear as follows: Cash in the Treasury, \$23,324.56 Taxes for 1866, due and collectable, 69,973.86 Congressional appropriation, 45,000.00 Delinquent taxes, 26,983.24 Total assets, \$165,281.66

Allowing for possible losses in delinquent taxes, 10,000 For improvable disallowance of Militia acct's by the Auditor of the Treasury, 8,000 —\$18,000

And there remains, of undoubted assets, \$147,281.66 From which deduct the whole indebtedness, \$5,471.44

And there is left an available surplus of \$61,810.22 With which to commence the present year. But, as a large proportion of this indebtedness is in bonds which have several years to run, and as it will be impossible to induce bond holders to surrender them in any considerable amount, there will remain, at the lowest estimate, \$90,000 of available assets, with which to defray the regular and incidental of the territorial government, estimated for the fiscal year, by the Auditor, at \$12,000. This calculation would yet leave a larger amount applicable to the payment of bonds and warrants than was used for that purpose last year. Thus it will be seen that a balance of \$78,000 will remain for internal improvements—

remaining, if deemed advisable, of appropriations for the construction of a bridge over the Platte River, for a geological survey of the Territory, and for immigration agencies, under the auspices of the 'Board of Immigration' already established. Although liberal appropriations may be made for these worthy objects, it will yet be possible to make a very considerable reduction in the rate of taxation for the ensuing year. Taking the increase in the valuation of property from 1865, when the assessments amounted in the aggregate, to \$13,663,025, to 1866 when the aggregate reached \$17,835,851.57, as a basis for an estimate for the fiscal year 1867, and it will be readily seen that although the rate of taxation should be reduced one fourth, it would yet produce about \$70,000. One of the items of territorial indebtedness is for warrants, many of which were issued during the first three years of the territorial government, and in which, although the principal amounts only to \$16,221.44 the interest is estimated at \$10,000. I submit, for your wise consideration, whether it would not be advisable and just towards all parties interested, to compel the surrender of these warrants on or before the first day of July, 1868, providing by law that, if not surrendered at that time, interest shall stop thereupon on all then outstanding.—I also recommend that the Territorial Treasurer be authorized and required to advertise, as soon and as often as practicable, for the surrender of the Militia bonds which bear ten per cent interest, instead of the seven per cent bonds, as at present required, to the end that all obligations bearing this heavy rate of interest may be paid as speedily as possible. The seven per cent bonds may well be permitted to stand until maturity, or, at all events, until others are paid. I further suggest that the rate of interest on warrants hereafter to be issued may be reduced to seven per cent. I fail to see the necessity of paying ten per cent interest on obligations of the Territory, which is not only not in debt, but has a constantly increasing surplus in its treasury, beyond the demands for governmental expenses. I venture the assertion that very few, if any, States or Territories can present so favorable a financial exhibit, yet very few pay so high a rate of interest even as seven per cent. This prosperous state of our finances is indeed a source of pride and satisfaction to the officers of the territorial government, as I am sure it will be to you and all other citizens of the Territory. The bonding of the territorial warrants—a duty devolved upon the Secretary's office by the act of 1860, the rapid increase in the valuation of the taxable property of the Territory, the general system of economy that has characterized the administration of each department of the territorial government, and the wise and careful management of our financial officers—the Auditor and Treasurer, have mainly contributed to this fortunate condition of things.

The late revision of the laws is briefly referred to, and an appropriation recommended for the printing of the journals of the eleventh session.

HOMESTEAD.

Under the liberal operations of the Homestead Law, large sections of our Territory have been settled, during the past year, by a class of earnest, thrifty

pioneers, whose industry has contributed materially to swell the aggregate of our agricultural productions. The wise economy of this beneficent measure has been nowhere more clearly illustrated than in this Territory. Wherever the lands are subject to location, under this law, the newly made cabin of the homestead settler is found; and it is not an extravagant estimate that another year will find one twelfth of the population of the Territory on homestead lands, and fully that proportion of our aggregate production in the granaries of this class of our fellow citizens. Every acre of ground has brought under cultivation, every bushel of wheat or corn thus added to the production of the country, is so much gained to the nation's financial strength and independence. How much wiser, then, the economy which gives to productive industry the possession of the national domain free of cost, than that which disposes of it in large tracts to speculators, in whose hands it remains uncultivated and unimproved, a veritable obstacle in the way of the rapid settlement and development of the country.

In view of these considerations, I should most gladly concur with you in memorializing Congress, requesting the passage of laws: First, prohibiting any further issuing of warrants or land scrip, for any purpose whatever, except for the usual endowments to new States, or for internal improvements in the States and Territories where the lands are located. Second, forbidding the location of land warrants or agricultural college scrip on a greater amount than two sections in each township.—And, third, withdrawing the Government lands from public sale, and reserving all, except those donated as before mentioned, exclusively for location under the homestead and pre-emption laws.

In this connection, permit me to call your attention to the fact that large tracts of the public lands, in different sections of our Territory, have been withdrawn from the market for the benefit of the Burlington and Missouri railroad, which has, as yet, no existence in this Territory, except in its general surveys. It seems, indeed, to be a very great hardship to the enterprising settlers in the beautiful valleys of the Nemahas, the Elkhorn and the Loupe Fork, that the lands surrounding their homesteads should thus be tied up from actual settlement for the benefit of a corporation which contemplates the construction of a railroad through a section of country far removed from their homes. I believe I express the sentiment of every citizen in the Territory when I say that all feel a deep interest in the early construction of the Burlington and Missouri railroad westward through the rich counties south of Platte. Every good citizen, however remote his place of residence from the line of this proposed road, would rejoice in its construction; but I am sure that no one—not even those whose interests are directly involved—will undertake to defend the policy of retiring lands to Burlington, Stanton and Dakota counties to aid in its construction. It would be infinitely better for the Government, and all parties interested, if Congress would make an appropriation, and pay in money the value of the lands it cannot give them on the line of their road, on account of previous location by settlers, than to permit lands in other sections of the Territory to be taken for this purpose out of the hands of the homestead settlers, who are coming by thousands to settle upon them. In making their selections, under these magnificent grants, all companies should be confined to the lands contiguous to their respective lines of road; and no lands should be retired from the market for long periods of time, to await the construction of roads upon which the work has been wholly discontinued.

I do not doubt that if the evil effects of this baleful system of land grants were properly presented by you in memorials to Congress, some remedies for present evils might be applied; or, at all events, some barriers placed against this rapid absorption of the public domain in the future, by railroad monopolists and land speculators. We need every available acre in this Territory, not already given away by the Government for the construction of railroads and agricultural colleges in other States, for our own State endowments, and for the industrious poor, who, from all sections of the Union, and from foreign countries, are coming to secure homesteads among us.

I am firm in the belief that if the Union Pacific Railroad, the rapid construction of which has excited the wonder and admiration of the world, could now be induced to exchange the lands obtained under its grants for the bonds of the Government, at a fair price, that the whole country would be benefited by the transaction; provided that every acre thus regained by the Government should be held exclusively for location under homestead law, which should require every settler to cultivate at least twenty acres of timber on his homestead, the preservation of which for five years should be one of the essential conditions of obtaining the fee-simple of this land.

IMMIGRATION.

A Board of Immigration was duly organized, in accordance with the provisions of the act passed at your last session, for the encouragement of immigration to our Territory. On account of the absence of the Chief Executive, who is ex officio, a member and the presiding officer of the Board, it will be impossible to give you a full history of its transactions. I am able, however, to inform you that commendable progress in this important work has already been made; pamphlets have been published in both the English and German languages, through which much information concerning the healthfulness of our climate, the character of our soil and its productions, the mineral resources of the Territory, as well as

its superior facilities of communication by river navigation, and by railroads already constructed or in process of construction, have been widely disseminated. This Board, under the law regulating its duties, is required to make an annual report of its proceedings to the Legislative Assembly, before the tenth day of its session; that report will furnish you all the information required for an intelligent consideration of this most important subject. In my opinion, however, this law should be so amended as to authorize the appointment of at least four agents, one of whom, at least, should be able to speak fluently the German language, and one the Scandinavian. A liberal appropriation should then be made for the constant employment of these agents during the present year, one of whom should be required to travel through the Western States, another to be permanently located in New York, and the remaining two to visit those foreign countries from which we already have the largest representations in our population. With such a system as this, and with an appropriation such as we could well afford to make, on account of the importance of the service, and the prosperous condition of the territorial finances, a very large immigration would certainly be induced. All that is necessary is to make known to those seeking homes in the West, the rare inducements presented by Nebraska; and, while other States are employing similar agencies, and gaining, thereby, vast accessions to their populations, it is a palpable dereliction of duty for us to neglect the presentation of competing influences in behalf of our own Territory. True, our population has increased unprecedentedly during the past year; but although this has been the case, the want of laborers in the various branches of mechanical industry and in agricultural employments, has so greatly exceeded the supply, that labor has commanded more liberal rewards here than have been realized in any other section of the country. To devise means to meet this constantly increasing demand for muscle to develop the great resources of our Territory, through a liberal system of immigration agencies, is, perhaps, the most important duty of legislation devolving upon you, and I assure you that whatever measures may seem best calculated to promote this most desired object will receive the most hearty concurrence of the Executive.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

Another pressing and most urgent want is a Geological Survey. No argument is now necessary to convince you of the necessity of immediate action on this subject. You will all unite with me in declaring that another year must not be permitted to pass without giving to us the results of a careful and thorough geological examination of this entire Territory. And I now propose to you that Nebraska should take hold of this measure, without another word of prayer to the National Congress for aid from the already depleted Treasury of the Nation, and order a Geological Survey at once, on her own account. This course will best comport with true dignity and independence, and with our duty to our fellow citizens and the country. I have before demonstrated our ability to do this, and not a moment of unnecessary delay in preparing the work should be allowed.

PLATTE RIVER BRIDGE.

The construction of a bridge over the Platte river is a much needed improvement. The crossing of this stream, always difficult, is at certain seasons of the year, an utter impossibility, and communication between two great sections of the Territory is for this reason extremely limited. A journey to the Territorial Capital, from some of the most populous counties south of the Platte, is considered quite as difficult to perform, on account of the dangers and delays in crossing the Platte, as one to St. Louis—five hundred miles distant—and from the north Platte the journey to Chicago, is quite as cheerfully undertaken, as one across the Platte into the rich grain growing districts below it. Such an obstacle to commercial intercourse between the two sections should be immediately removed, if it is in the power of the people to do it. It is not at all strange that with such a barrier in the way of commerce the people of both sections should not only lose their active sympathies for and interest in each other, but that they should be easily led into misunderstandings, into jealousies, rivalries, and strife. The whole Territory would be inconceivably benefited by this improvement. The people have it in their power to accomplish it without an additional dollar of taxation; and, I think, we may during this session, very easily and very properly, fix the day for the celebration of the union of the two sections by a good and substantial free bridge over the Platte. I urge upon you, therefore, the early consideration of this important subject, with the assurance that you will have the hearty concurrence of the Executive in any well considered measure which will result in securing this great improvement to the Territory. In my opinion this bridge should be free to all who may desire to use it. If we were obliged to borrow money for its construction thereby creating a debt upon the Territory with annual payment of interest, the case would be different; but having the money in hand, and knowing, as we do, that the interests of all sections are involved, I think there can be no good reason offered against a free bridge. The revenues from Government toll bridges are not infrequently less than the expense of collection; and a bridge over the Platte, at best, could not be expected to yield any considerable revenue; even if it was sure to do so, it would be more in consonance with the liberal and progressive spirit of our people to make it free to all.

PEACE AND UNION.

Unhappily the nation has not yet experienced the full fruition of perfect peace. True, the armies of the South were long since disbanded, and the Big Game was over; and the glorious ensign of one government of one Union; but fraternal love does not return to the people of the two sections so recently arrayed against each other in civil strife. The kind offices of the peace-maker avail not, and the olive-branch is cast aside, a withered and useless thing. How can our beloved country be re-united in fact as well as in form? How can the Union be securely re-established in the hearts and affections of the people of all sections?—for the patriotic love for the people is the soul of the Union, its preservation is essential to the very life of the Nation itself. I do not think this can be done by indulging the spirit of criminality and recrimination for the errors, the weakness, or the crimes of the past. I do not believe it can be done by depriving eleven States of loyal representation in the National Congress, when representation is the very germ and essence of union. It certainly cannot be done by extreme and irritating demands on the one side which are sure to be followed by increased contumacy on the other. I fear it never will be done by Constitutional Amendments containing what are considered impossible requirements by those most deeply interested. But in whatever way it is to be done, it must be done speedily. Evils, disasters, and ruin wait not for the termination of prolonged contentions in a house divided against itself. The energies, the productive industry of the South are paralyzed by the uncertainty of its political situation. This unsettled condition of affairs not only intensifies the feeling of hatred for the Government and for the Union there, but it seriously affects the commercial prosperity of the whole country. Every motive of patriotism and every consideration of political economy demands an immediate termination of this unhappy condition of things. If the Constitutional Amendment will not only not accomplish this, but, on the contrary, it threatens to perpetuate hatreds, strife, and discord, it should be abandoned at once, whatever sacrifice of cherished political dogmas or partisan prejudices are involved. However wise, just, and necessary the guarantee sought to be obtained by this Amendment may now appear to be, if they can only be secured by the entailment upon the Union of the eternal hostility of eleven States, they will certainly prove a source of sorrow and of trouble to the Nation. Only that which will win back the hearts of the southern people will give stability and enduring peace to the Republic. If the Constitutional Amendment will do this, and do it speedily, I will cheerfully unite with you in giving to it a cordial endorsement.

EDUCATION.

Large and influential conventions, composed of representatives of the friends of education from different sections of the Territory, have recently been held, to consider the best means of conserving this most important interest. The result of their deliberations will be presented to you, and I do not doubt it will aid you in an intelligent performance of your duty in this regard. I shall gladly concur with you in any measure which the friends of education throughout the Territory may consider best calculated to render the present school system more effective. In this connection I ask your attention to the suggestion of the Territorial Treasurer, that some change should be made in the school law which would insure a better system of accounting for school funds from the County Treasurers to the Territorial Treasurer, and a better rule for the distribution thereof than now exists.

STATE GOVERNMENT.

The question of State Government, which was voted upon by the people of the Territory during the past year, is now in the hands of the National Congress. It is impossible to form an intelligent opinion as to what may be the result of Congressional action upon this subject. Whatever may be the fate of the present measure, I do not doubt that the change would be greatly to the advantage of the people, and that a majority of the people entertain the same sentiment. I shall not undertake to review the arguments which have been so fully presented to the people heretofore.

If it shall appear to you at any time during your session, that the present application for admission is to fail, I shall gladly concur with you in a memorial asking for an Enabling Act, under which a Constitution may be framed and submitted to the people of the Territory during the coming season.

IMPARTIAL SUFFRAGE.

I should had with joy a radical change in the rule of suffrage, which would give the franchise to intelligence and patriotism wherever found, regard less of the color of its possessor. He who can read understandingly the Constitution of his country, and he who has fought in its defense, of whatever race or color, should have a voice in the choice of the Nation's rulers. I should therefore cheerfully concur with you in a memorial to Congress, praying for an amendment of our organic law in accordance with this view. No change, however should be made which would take the franchise from any person who now enjoys it under existing laws.

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Pacific Railroad, giving an account of the progress of the work, its benefit to the country, etc.

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EDUCATION.

Large and influential conventions, composed of representatives of the friends of education from different sections of the Territory, have recently been held, to consider the best means of conserving this most important interest. The result of their deliberations will be presented to you, and I do not doubt it will aid you in an intelligent performance of your duty in this regard. I shall gladly concur with you in any measure which the friends of education throughout the Territory may consider best calculated to render the present school system more effective. In this connection I ask your attention to the suggestion of the Territorial Treasurer, that some change should be made in the school law which would insure a better system of accounting for school funds from the County Treasurers to the Territorial Treasurer, and a better rule for the distribution thereof than now exists.

STATE GOVERNMENT.

The question of State Government, which was voted upon by the people of the Territory during the past year, is now in the hands of the National Congress. It is impossible to form an intelligent opinion as to what may be the result of Congressional action upon this subject. Whatever may be the fate of the present measure, I do not doubt that the change would be greatly to the advantage of the people, and that a majority of the people entertain the same sentiment. I shall not undertake to review the arguments which have been so fully presented to the people heretofore.

If it shall appear to you at any time during your session, that the present application for admission is to fail, I shall gladly concur with you in a memorial asking for an Enabling Act, under which a Constitution may be framed and submitted to the people of the Territory during the coming season.

IMPARTIAL SUFFRAGE.

I should had with joy a radical change in the rule of suffrage, which would give the franchise to intelligence and patriotism wherever found, regard less of the color of its possessor. He who can read understandingly the Constitution of his country, and he who has fought in its defense, of whatever race or color, should have a voice in the choice of the Nation's rulers. I should therefore cheerfully concur with you in a memorial to Congress, praying for an amendment of our organic law in accordance with this view. No change, however should be made which would take the franchise from any person who now enjoys it under existing laws.

PEACE AND UNION.

Unhappily the nation has not yet experienced the full fruition of perfect peace. True, the armies of the South were long since disbanded, and the Big Game was over; and the glorious ensign of one government of one Union; but fraternal love does not return to the people of the two sections so recently arrayed against each other in civil strife. The kind offices of the peace-maker avail not, and the olive-branch is cast aside, a withered and useless thing. How can our beloved country be re-united in fact as well as in form? How can the Union be securely re-established in the hearts and affections of the people of all sections?—for the patriotic love for the people is the soul of the Union, its preservation is essential to the very life of the Nation itself. I do not think this can be done by indulging the spirit of criminality and recrimination for the errors, the weakness, or the crimes of the past. I do not believe it can be done by depriving eleven States of loyal representation in the National Congress, when representation is the very germ and essence of union. It certainly cannot be done by extreme and irritating demands on the one side which are sure to be followed by increased contumacy on the other. I fear it never will be done by Constitutional Amendments containing what are considered impossible requirements by those most deeply interested. But in whatever way it is to be done, it must be done speedily. Evils, disasters, and ruin wait not for the termination of prolonged contentions in a house divided against itself. The energies, the productive industry of the South are paralyzed by the uncertainty of its political situation. This unsettled condition of affairs not only intensifies the feeling of hatred for the Government and for the Union there, but it seriously affects the commercial prosperity of the whole country. Every motive of patriotism and every consideration of political economy demands an immediate termination of this unhappy condition of things. If the Constitutional Amendment will not only not accomplish this, but, on the contrary, it threatens to perpetuate hatreds, strife, and discord, it should be abandoned at once, whatever sacrifice of cherished political dogmas or partisan prejudices are involved. However wise, just, and necessary the guarantee sought to be obtained by this Amendment may now appear to be, if they can only be secured by the entailment upon the Union of the eternal hostility of eleven States, they will certainly prove a source of sorrow and of trouble to the Nation. Only that which will win back the hearts of the southern people will give stability and enduring peace to the Republic. If the Constitutional Amendment will do this, and do it speedily, I will cheerfully unite with you in giving to it a cordial endorsement.

promote the general welfare, will receive my most cordial approval.

Permit me to wish you a pleasant sojourn at the Territorial Capital, and after the labors of the session are terminated, a happy return in safety and in health to your families