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VOL. 18. CHARLESTOWN, VIRGINIA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1866. NO. 26.

THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU BILL, Veto Message of the President—His Objections to the Bill—Its Unconstitutionality Asserted.

President Johnson yesterday sent the following message into the United States Senate: To the Senate of the United States: I have examined with care the bill which originated in the Senate, and has been passed by the two Houses of Congress, to amend an act entitled 'An act to establish a Bureau for the relief of Freedmen and Refugees, and for other purposes.'

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sent there is no part of our country in which the authority of the United States is disputed. Offense, that may be committed by individuals should not work a forfeiture of the rights of whole communities. The country has returned and is returning to a state of peace and industry, and the rebellion is, in fact, at an end.

By passing from general considerations we examine the bill in detail, it is open to weighty objections. In time of war it is eminently proper that we should provide for those who were passing suddenly from a condition of bondage to a state of freedom; but this bill proposes to make the Freedmen's Bureau, established by the act of 1865 as one of many great and extraordinary military measures to suppress a formidable rebellion, a permanent branch of the public administration, with its powers greatly enlarged.

I have no reason to suppose, and I do not understand it to be alleged, that the bill, as passed March, 1865, has proved deficient for the purpose for which it was passed, although at that time, and for a considerable period thereafter, the Government of the United States remained unacknowledged in most of the States whose inhabitants had been involved in the rebellion.

The third section of the bill authorizes a general and unlimited grant of support to the destitute and suffering refugees and freedmen, their wives and children. Succeeding sections make provision for the rent or purchase of lands, for the erection of suitable buildings for asylums and schools, the expenses to be defrayed from the Treasury of the whole people.

It has never been deemed advisable to expend the public money for the rent, purchase or maintenance of such schools for any class of our own people, not even for the orphans of those who have fallen in the defence of the Union, but has left the care of education to the much more competent and efficient control of the States, of communities, of private associations and of individuals.

The trials having their origin under this bill are to take place without any intervention of jury, and without any fixed rules of law or evidence. The rules on which offences are to be heard and determined by the numerous agents are such rules and regulations as the President, through the War Department, shall prescribe.

I cannot reconcile a system of military jurisdiction of this kind, with the words of the Constitution, which declare that 'no person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land and naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service, in the time of war or public danger, and that in all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State or district wherein the crime shall have been committed.'

If it be asked whether the creation of such a tribunal within a State is warranted as a measure of war, the question immediately presents itself whether we are still engaged in war? Let us not unnecessarily disturb the commerce, credit and industry of this country, by declaring to the American people and to the world, that the United States are still in a condition of civil war.

of the United States and of the States. His condition is not so exposed as may at first be imagined. He is in a portion of the country where his labor cannot well be spared. Competition for his services from planters, those who are constructing or repairing railroads, and from capitalists in his vicinity or from other States, will enable him to command almost his own terms.

It is hardly necessary for me to inform Congress that, in my own judgment, most of these States, so far as at least depends upon their own action, have already been fully restored, and are to be deemed as entitled to enjoy their Constitutional rights as members of the Union.

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of the country from representation must be attended by a spirit of distrust and complaint. It is unwise and dangerous to pursue a course of measures which will unite a very large section of the country against another section of the country, however much the latter may preponderate.

A very untoward event is said to have lately occurred at a fashionable watering-place, and one which is likely to create no slight and no very pleasant discussion among the beau monde frequenting it. It seems that a certain nobleman, whose name, somehow or other, is perpetually cropping up before the public, was staying with his youthful family at one of the principal hotels of the place.

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HARD OF HEARING—A LOVE STORY. A young Jonathan once loved the daughter of an old man that lived down East, who professed to be deficient in hearing, but, forsooth, was more capacious than limited in hearing, as the sequel will tend to show.

It was a stormy night in the first of March, if I mistake not, when lightning met lightning, and a loud peal of thunder answered the peal of thunder, and the old man's first-aid, discussing with the old lady, intended mother-in-law, the expediency of asking the old man's permission to marry Sally. Jonathan resolved to pop it to the old man on the next day.

In the meantime, the old man, who was hypocritical, so far as hearing was concerned, feigned total indifference to the conversation between his wife and Jonathan, but contrary to the anticipations of both he distinctly heard every word that passed, and by the dawn of another day, the old man was to be found in his barn looking for his pig. Jonathan also arose early from bed in the morning, and joined the old man feeding his pig, and resolved to ask him for Sally.

Scarcely a minute had elapsed after Jonathan had made his last resolution, ere he hid the old man good morning. Now Jonathan's heart beat—now he scratched his head, and gave birth to a positive yawn. Jonathan declared that he'd as soon take thirty-and-a-half stripes as to ask the old man, 'Baw,' says he, aloud to himself, 'here goes—faint heart never won a fair girl,' and addressed the old man thus: 'I say, old man, I want to marry your daughter.'

Old Man—'You want to borrow my halter. I would lend it to you Jonathan, but my son has taken it off to his mill, and I—Jonathan put his mouth close to the old man's ear, and speaking in a whispering voice said, 'I have got forty-five pounds of money.' The old man stepped back as if greatly alarmed, and exclaimed in a voice of surprise, 'You have got five hundred pounds of money? What in the mischief can I do with so much home money? Why is more than this neighborhood has use for?' Jonathan, who was not yet the victim of despair, put his mouth to the old man's ear, and balled out, 'I have got gold.'

To this the old man replied, 'I have T, Jonathan, and its worst cold I ever had in my life.' So saying, the old man sneezed, washed his face, and then he asked Jonathan, 'By this time the old woman came out and having observed his unfortunate luck, she put her mouth to the old man's ear, and screamed like a wounded Zeno, 'Daddy! I say, daddy, you don't understand him. He wants to marry our daughter.'

Old Man—'I told him our calf-halter was gone.' Old Lady—'Why, daddy, you can't understand; he's got gold, he's rich.' Old Man—'He's got a cold and the itch, eh? What's the rascal doing here with the itch, eh?' So saying, the old man aimed a blow at Jonathan's head with his walking stick, happily for Jonathan he dodged it. No did the rage of his hot step at this, but with an angry countenance, he made after Jonathan, who took to his heels; nor did Jonathan's luck stop here. He had not gone out of the thyrard, nor far from the old man, when he came close rear, ere Jonathan's stubbed his toe, and fell to the ground, and before the old man could take up his halter, Jonathan sprang to his heels, and with a speed of a John Gilpin, he cleared himself. And poor Sally! She died a nun. Never had a husband.

PATES OF THE APOSTLES. Matthew is supposed to have suffered martyrdom, or was slain in the city of Ephesus. Mark was dragged through the streets of Alexandria, in Egypt, till he expired. Luke was hanged to an olive tree in Greece. John was put in a boiling cauldron at Rome, but escaped death. He died a natural death in Ephesus, in a very old age. James the Great, was beheaded in Jerusalem. James the Less was thrown from a pinnacle and taken to death. Philip was beheaded. Bartholomew was skinned alive. Andrew was crucified and pointed white dying. Thomas was run through with a lance. Jude was shot to death with arrows. Simon was crucified. Matthias was stoned. Barnabas, stoned to death. Paul was beheaded by the tyrant Nero.

A SABBATH AGAINST THE CATTLE PLAGUE—Officials report in England show that vaccination has, so far, proved a certain safeguard to cattle against the plague which has raged so fearfully in the British Islands. The disease continues there, vaccination having been practised by only a part of the cattle owners. The danger to cattle in America, therefore continues. Would it not be well for agricultural societies in the different States to urge the immediate vaccination of cattle and sheep? The war actually lessened the number of cattle in the Southern States, and the country cannot afford to lose its stock by a plague, to which vaccination is the best and most certain safeguard. It is to be hoped that the Government will see the necessity of this, and will issue orders to the States to have their cattle vaccinated. The danger to cattle in America, therefore continues. Would it not be well for agricultural societies in the different States to urge the immediate vaccination of cattle and sheep? The war actually lessened the number of cattle in the Southern States, and the country cannot afford to lose its stock by a plague, to which vaccination is the best and most certain safeguard. It is to be hoped that the Government will see the necessity of this, and will issue orders to the States to have their cattle vaccinated.





