

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

"A frequent recurrence of fundamental principles is absolutely necessary to preserve the blessings of liberty." Such is the language of the twenty-ninth section of article I. of the state Constitution.

Perhaps the most important of all fundamental truths of society is this: That all persons owing allegiance to a government are entitled to participate in it, unless incapacitated by natural causes.

The twenty-second section of the declaration of rights enunciates that "political rights and privileges are not dependent upon or modified by property."

No new question respecting the status of our naturalized citizens in Germany have arisen during the year and the causes of complaint, especially in Alsace and Lorraine, have practically ceased through the liberal action of the Imperial government in accepting our often expressed views on the subject.

Our intercourse with Spain has been friendly. An agreement concluded in February last fixes a term for the labors of the Spanish and American Commissions. The Spanish government has been requested to pay the late awards of that commission, and will, it is believed, accede to the request as promptly and courteously as on former occasions.

It is high time this violation of fundamental principle should cease. Whenever there is abuse there should be clamor, because it is better to have our sleep disturbed by the fire bell than to be lulled to sleep by the siren in our beds.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The first message of Chester A. Arthur, President of the United States, is a very able, plain, business-like state paper. We have not room to publish it in full, but clip from our contemporary, the Star, the telegraphic notice of it: To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

An appalling calamity has befallen the American people since their chosen representatives last met in the halls where you are now assembled. We might also recall with unalloyed content the year the nation has been blessed. Its harvests have been plentiful; its varied industries have thrived; the health of its people has been preserved. It has maintained with foreign governments the undisturbed relations of amity and peace.

The feeling of good will between our own government and that of Great Britain was never more marked than at present. In recognition of this pleasing fact I directed on the occasion of the late Centennial celebration at Yorktown, that salute be given to the British flag. Save for the correspondence to which I shall refer hereafter, in relation to the proposed canal across the Isthmus of Panama, little has occurred worthy of mention in the diplomatic relations of the two countries.

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The Senate resolutions of condolence on the assassination of the Czar, Alexander II, were appropriately communicated to the Russian government, which in turn has expressed its sympathy in our late national bereavement.

Treaties of commerce and agreements for the regulation of customs privileges have been concluded with Roumania and Rumania, and their admission into the family of European states.

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growing disposition to subordinate their social interests to those which are common to them by reason of their geographical relations.

The boundary dispute between Guatemala and Mexico has afforded this government an opportunity to exercise its good offices for preventing a rupture between these states and for procuring a peaceable solution of the question.

The Costa Rican government lately framed an engagement with Colombia by setting by arbitration the boundary question between these two countries, providing that the post of arbitrator should be offered successively to the King of the Belgians, the King of Spain, and the President of the Argentine Confederation.

The questions growing out of the proposed inter-oceanic water way across the Isthmus of Panama, are of grave national importance. This government has not been unmindful of the solemn obligations imposed upon it by its comradely nations and the federation dependent and sovereign mistress of the territory crossed by the canal, and has sought to render them effective by fresh engagements with the Colombian republic looking to their practical execution.

The treaty recently negotiated with China has been duly ratified and the exchange made at Peking. Legislation is necessary to carry their provisions into effect. The prompt and friendly spirit with which the Chinese government at the request of the United States, conceded the modification of existing treaties, and the careful regard for the interests and susceptibilities of that government in the enactment of laws relating to Chinese immigration.

The intimacy between our own country and Japan continues to be cordial. I am advised that the Emperor contemplates the establishment of a full constitutional government, and that he has already summoned a parliamentary assembly for the purpose of effecting the change. Such a step taken and taken toward complete assimilation with the western system cannot fail to bring Japan into closer and more beneficial relations with ourselves as the chief Pacific power.

The King of Hawaii, in the course of his homeward journey after a journey around the world, has lately visited this country. While our relations with that kingdom are friendly, this government has viewed with concern the efforts to seek replenishment of the islands from outside sources to a degree which may impair their native sovereignty and independence in which the United States was among the first to testify a lively interest.

Relations of unimpaired amity have been maintained throughout the year with the respective governments of Austria, Hungary, Belgium, Denmark, Italy, Prussia, and Norway.

The execution of the rules and regulations prepared by the Board and approved by my predecessor has done much to assist the progress of epidemic diseases, and has thus rendered substantial service to the nation.

The health of the people is of supreme importance. All measures looking to their protection against the spread of contagious diseases and to the increase of our sanitary knowledge for such purposes deserve the attention of Congress.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury presents in detail a highly satisfactory exhibit of the state of the finances and the condition of the various branches of the public service administered by that Department.

The report of the Postmaster General is a gratifying exhibit of the growth and efficiency of the postal service. The receipts from postage and other sources during the past fiscal year were \$98,855,997.99.

For many years the Executive, in his annual message to Congress, has urged the necessity of the strongest legislation for the suppression of polygamy in the Territory of Utah.

It is perhaps doubtful whether the immediate reduction of the rate of taxation upon liquors and tobacco is advisable, especially in view of the drain upon the Treasury which must attend the payment of arrears of pensions.

There is need of legislation to prevent intrusions upon the lands set apart for the Indians. A large military force, at great expense is now required to patrol the boundary line between Kansas and the Indian Territory.

is also given in that report. The report of the Chief Engineer furnishes a detailed account of the operations for the improvement of rivers and harbors.

I cannot too strongly urge my conviction that every consideration of national safety, economy and honor imperatively demands a thorough rehabilitation of our navy.

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constitutionally afforded by the national government. I would suggest that if any fund be dedicated to this purpose it may be wisely distributed in the different States according to the ratio of illiteracy.

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the hotel, which was soon surrounded by the mob, and only escaped violence through the aid of the gentleman named who, with Major Woodward and some others, remained and protected me for four hours and a half, until the arrival of the troops.

I advise appropriations for such internal improvements as the wisdom of Congress may deem to be of public importance. The necessity of improving the navigation of the Mississippi river justifies special attention to the subject.

In my letter accepting the nomination for the Vice-Presidency I stated that in my judgment no man should be the incumbent of an office the duties of which he is for any cause, unfit to perform, who is lacking in the ability, fidelity or integrity which a proper administration of such office demands.

The intention of the Democrats was to intimidate the Republican voters, and in which for a time the uneducated, almost fifteen hundred being present and compelled to take the rear side of the stand, the red shirt taking possession of the front.

At the personal intervention of Major Woodward and Mr. Ellison, who placed themselves between me and the mob, I would have been instantly killed. They succeeded in driving the mob back, Major Woodward insisting that for my personal safety I mount a horse and ride with him, he promising that if I did so I should be safe.

Arriving at the meeting ground with the assistance of these gentlemen named, I was enabled to dismount, and in company with Major Woodward mounted the stand. Before mounting the horse, I stated to Major Woodward, who is chairman of the Democratic party in this county, that if the purpose was to compel me to ride in the Red Shirt procession, under no circumstances would I accept a horse.

I commenced speaking, but was interrupted with profane and obscene epithets, shouting of hats and revolvers, and other things, until they nearly killed me.