

THE FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT.

The Secretary of State issued a proclamation last Monday, conditionally announcing the adoption of the following Amendment to the Constitution :

ARTICLE XIV., SEC. 1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States, and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States, nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

SEC. 2. Representatives shall be appointed among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed; but when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice-President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the executive and judicial officers of a State, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such State (being twenty-one years of age and citizens of the United States), or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in said State.

SEC. 3. No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector, or President, or Vice-President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State Legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof; but Congress may, by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

SEC. 4. The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion shall not be questioned; but neither the United States nor any other State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss of or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims, shall be held illegal and void.

SEC. 5. The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of the article.

Signed, SCHUYLER COLFAX,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

LAFAYETTE S. FOSTER,
President of the Senate, *pro tempore*.

Attest, EDWARD McPHERSON,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.

J. W. FORNEY,
Secretary of the Senate.

The condition is expressed in the following words :

Now, therefore, be it known, That I, William H. Seward, Secretary of State of the United States, by virtue and in pursuance of the second section of the act of Congress, approved the twentieth day of April, eighteen hundred and eighteen, heretofore cited, do hereby certify that if the resolutions of the Legislatures of Ohio and New Jersey, ratifying the aforesaid amendments, are to be deemed as remaining in full force and effect, notwithstanding the subsequent resolutions of the Legislatures of these States, which purport to withdraw the consent of said States from such ratification, then the aforesaid amendment has been ratified in the manner hereinbefore mentioned, and so has become valid to all intents and purposes as a part of the Constitution of the United States.

On Tuesday the Senate passed a concurrent resolution, directing the Secretary to declare the Amendment ratified: