THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.  [Sess. I. Res. 46, 47, 48. 1866.

was a freeman at the time of enlistment, when nothing to the contrary appears. 1864, ch. 124, § 4.  
Vol. xiii. p. 129.

What to be sufficient proof of marriage of colored soldier, to secure arrears of pay, &c. due at his death. Issue of such marriage to be lawful heirs.

which he is entitled, and which is now or may hereafter be withheld by reason of such omission, but where nothing appears on the muster-roll or of record to show that a colored soldier was not a freeman at the date aforesaid, under the provision of the fourth section of the "Act making appropriations for the support of the army, for the year ending the thirtieth of June, eighteen hundred and sixty-five," the presumption shall be that the person was free at the time of his enlistment.

Sec. 2. And be it further resolved, That in determining who is or was the wife, widow, or heirs of any colored soldier, evidence that he and the woman claimed to be his wife or widow were joined in marriage by some ceremony deemed by them obligatory, followed by their living together as husband and wife up to the time of enlistment, shall be deemed sufficient proof of such marriage for the purpose of securing any arrears of pay, pension or other allowances due any colored soldier at the time of his death; and the children born of any such marriage shall be held and taken to be the lawful children and heirs of such soldier.

Approved, June 15, 1866.

June 15, 1866.  

[No. 47.] A Resolution making an Appropriation to enable the President to negotiate Treaties with certain Indian Tribes.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That one hundred and twenty-one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five dollars and seventy-seven cents, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be, and the same is hereby, appropriated, to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to enable the President to negotiate treaties with the Indian tribes of the Upper Missouri, and the Upper Platte rivers; said sum to be expended by the commissioner of Indian affairs, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior.

Approved, June 15, 1866.

June 16, 1866.

[No. 48.] Joint Resolution proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, (two thirds of both Houses concurring.) That the following article be proposed to the legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three fourths of said legislatures, shall be valid as part of the Constitution, namely:

**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 apportioned 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 such State.

Sec. 3. No person shall be a senator, or representative in Congress, or elector of President and 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 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 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 this article.

SCHUYLER COLFAX,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

LA FAYETTE S. FOSTER,
President of the Senate pro tempore.

EDW. McPHERSON,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.

J. W. FORNEY,
Secretary of the Senate.

Received at Department of State June 16, 1866.

[No. 49.] Joint Resolution relative to Appointments to the Military Academy of the United States.

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the age for the admission of cadets to the United States Military Academy shall hereafter be between seventeen and twenty-two years; but any person who has served honorably and faithfully not less than one year as an officer or enlisted man in the army of the United States, either as a volunteer or in the regular service, in the late war for the suppression of the rebellion, and who possesses the other qualifications prescribed by law, shall be eligible to appointment up to the age of twenty-four years.

Sec. 2. And be it further resolved, That cadets at the Military Academy shall hereafter be appointed one year in advance of the time of their admission, except in cases where, by reason of death or other cause, a vacancy occurs which cannot be thus provided for by such appointment in advance; but no pay or allowance shall be made to any such appointee until he shall be regularly admitted on examination as now provided by law; nor shall this provision apply to appointments to be made in the present year. And in addition to the requirements necessary for admission as provided by the third section of the "Act making further provisions for the corps of engineers," approved April twenty-nine, eighteen hundred and twelve, candidates shall be required to have a knowledge of the elements of English grammar, of descriptive geography, particularly of our own country, and of the history of the United States.

Sec. 3. And be it further resolved, That, in all appointments of cadets to the military academy after those who enter the present year, the person authorized to nominate shall nominate not less than five candidates for each vacancy, all of whom shall be actual residents of the Con-