Circular.

Department of State,
Washington, February 27, 1869.

To his Excellency
The Governor of the State of Alabama,
Montgomery, Alabama.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit an attested copy of a Resolution of Congress, proposing to the Legislatures of the several States a Fifteenth Article to the Constitution of the United States. The decisions of the several Legislatures upon the subject are required by law to be communicated to this Department. An acknowledgement of the receipt of this communication is requested by

Your Excellency's
Most obedient Servant,
William H. Seward.

United States of America.

Department of State.

To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

I certify, that annexed is a true copy of a concurrent Resolution of Congress entitled "A Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States;" the original of which resolution, received to day, is on file in this Department.

In testimony whereof, I, William H. Seward, Secretary of State of the United States, have hereto ~~fore~~ subscribed my name and caused the seal of the Department of State to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this twenty seventh day of February, A.D. 1869, and of the Independence of the United States of America the ninety third.

William H. Seward.

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Concurrent Resolution, Received at Department of State February 27, '69.

A Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

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 XV

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of Servitude.

Section 2. The Congress shall have power

to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Schyler Colfax,
Speaker of the House of Representatives

B. F. Wade,
President of the Senate pro tempore.

Attest.
Edwd McPherson,
Clerk of House of Representatives.
Geo. C. Gorham,
Secy of Senate U.S.