

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.

SECTION 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.

SECTION 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.

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

Crandall v. The State of Nevada, 6 Wall. 35. *Paul v. Virginia*, 8 Wall. 168. *Ward v. Maryland*, 12 Wall. 418. *Slaughterhouse Cases*, 16 Wall. 36. *Bradwell v. The State*, 16 Wall. 130. *Bartemeyer v. Iowa*, 18 Wall. 129. *Minor v. Happersett*, 21 Wall. 162. *Walker v. Sauvinet*, 92 U. S. 90. *Kenard v. Louisiana, ex rel. Morgan*, 92 U. S. 480. *United States v. Cruikshank*, 92 U. S. 542. *Munn v. Illinois*, 94 U. S. 113.

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—

*The fifteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States was proposed to the legislatures of the several States by the Fortieth Congress on the 27th of February, 1869, and was declared, in a proclamation of the