

in each bit of country redeemed. This meant putting a military governor over the people.

There were strong objections naturally to this. Many loyal persons in Louisiana, for instance, where such a rule was established early in 1862 resented it and believed it unnecessary. They complained to Lincoln that Union sentiment was being crushed by the methods he was adopting. He did not mince matters in replying. "The people in Louisiana," he said, "know well enough that I never had a wish to touch the foundations of their society or any right of theirs. With perfect knowledge of this they forced a necessity upon me to send armies upon them, and it is their own fault not mine that they are annoyed by the presence of General Phelps (the military governor). They also know the remedy, know how to be cured of General Phelps. Might it not be well for them to consider whether they have not already had time enough to do this? If they can conceive of any thing worse than General Phelps within my power would they not be better looking out for it? They know very well that the one way to avert all this is simply to take their place in the Union upon the old terms."

He was told that he was applying to friends what was due only to enemies. "I distrust the wisdom if not the sincerity of friends who would hold my hands while my enemies stabbed me," retorted Lincoln. "This appeal of professed friends has paralyzed me more in this struggle than any other one thing."