

other events of Johnson's administration require notice. One of these was our intervention in the affairs of Mexico. In 1861 France, England, and Spain, acting together, sent an armed force to Mexico to hold her seaports until certain debts were paid. But England and Spain soon withdrew their troops, leaving France to act alone. The Emperor of France, Napoleon III, desired to establish the French power in Mexico. He accordingly overthrew the Mexican government and made Maximilian, a brother of the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of Mexico. All this, you will observe, was contrary to the Monroe Doctrine (p. 226). Still, at the time, the United States could do nothing but protest, for it had the Civil War on its hands. As soon as the war was over, however, General Sheridan, with a large army, was despatched to the Mexican frontier. France saw what was coming, and the French troops were at once withdrawn (in 1867) from Mexico. Maximilian fell into the hands of the Mexicans and was promptly shot.



Alaska compared with the United States.

If Alaska were placed in the United States, the northern boundary touching Canada, the south-east corner would reach the Atlantic Ocean, and its islands would reach the Pacific.

Another important event of Johnson's administration was the purchase of Alaska, which then belonged to Russia. Just about the time the French troops were leaving Mexico, the Russian min-