

THE MESSAGE.

President McKinley's Annual Communication to Congress.

CURRENCY REFORM IS URGED.

Advices Against the Recognition of Cuba as a Belligerent.

The Financial Question Discussed at Great Length—Thinks the Secretary of the Treasury Should Be Empowered to Issue Bonds at a Lower Interest, and That Treasury Notes Redeemed in Gold Should Be Released Only on Payment of Gold—Says Spain Should Have More Time in Which to Pay Cuba—Arguments For Hawaiian Annexation—Japan's Fears Alleviated—The Bimetallic Mission Abroad—The Metallic Sale, the Nicaragua Canal, Relief For Alaska Gold Hunters, the Indian Question, Arbitration and Civil Service Reform—Economy Urged.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special).—The message of President McKinley was received by the Fifty-fifth Congress shortly after the first regular session opened at noon, Monday.

It is one of the longest messages sent to Congress and deals at length with the currency problem, our relations to Spain and Cuba; the annexation of Hawaii, and many other topics of government and policy.

Briefly, it points out the crying necessity of currency reform, indorses Secretary Gage's plan, maintains that United States notes redeemed in gold should not be paid again except for gold, and that the Treasury reserve danger should be stopped.

No intervention in Cuba is the stand taken by the President until Spain has had a chance to try Sagasta's policy.

Hawaii should be annexed as soon as possible, and Congress should study out details of administration of the islands.

Our relations with Japan are friendly, and bimetallic negotiations with European States are progressing.

The Government may become a railroad owner by bidding in the Kansas Pacific.

The message is, in part, as follows: To the Senate and House of Representatives: It gives me pleasure to extend greeting to the Fifty-fifth Congress, assembled in regular session at the Capitol building, with many of whose Senators and Representatives I have been associated in the legislative service of my country.

The extra session of this Congress, which closed during July last, enacted important legislation, and while its session has not yet been realized, what it has already accomplished assures us of its timeliness and wisdom.

With the great resources of the Government and with the honorable example of the past before us, we ought not to hesitate to enter upon a currency revision which will make our monetary system more generous to the Government and relieve our financial laws from ambiguity and doubt.

The law which requires the Government, after having redeemed its United States notes to pay them out again as current money, demands a constant replenishment of the gold reserve. This is especially true in times of business panic and when the revenues are insufficient to meet the ex-

penditures of the Government. At such times the Government has no other way to support than the increase of its bonded debt, and during the administration of my predecessor, \$262,315,400 of 4 1/2 per cent. bonds were issued and sold and the proceeds used to pay the expenses of the Government.

It would be no deficit requiring the sale of bonds below \$100,000,000, how gold reserve replenished except by selling more bonds? existing law.

The serious question then is, shall we continue the policy that has been pursued reaches the point where the gold reserve is exhausted and the needed gold—other means of providing for the gold reserve? If we further legislate in this manner, the interest than is now authorized by law.

The Endless Chain. I earnestly recommend, as soon as the Treasury authority to issue bonds at a lower interest, that when any of the United States notes are presented for redemption in gold, such notes should be redeemed in gold, and only paid out in exchange for gold.

If the holder of the United States note prefers the gold, and gets it from the Government, he should not receive back the same amount of United States notes without paying interest on the gold. In my view it is of the utmost importance that the Government should be relieved of the responsibility of providing all the gold required for exchange and redemption.

The most important problem with which this Government is now called upon to deal pertaining to its foreign relations concerns the Cuban question.

The Secretary of the Treasury has outlined a plan in great detail for the purpose of removing the threatened recurrence of a depleted gold reserve.

The prospect from time to time, the weakness of Spain's hold upon the island and the political vicissitudes and embarrasments of the Cuban Government.

The offer made by my predecessor in the Hawaiian Islands, the friendly offices of the Government, and the submission of the Hawaiian Islands to the United States.

The instrument given to our new Minister to Spain before his departure for his post directed him to impress upon that Government the friendly offices of the United States.

The reply to our note was received on the 23d day of October. It is in the direction of a friendly understanding and appreciation of the friendly purposes of this Government.

Discussion of the question of the international duties and responsibilities of the United States, as Spain's position in the matter is not the apparent disposition to charge us with failure in this regard.

Of the United States, there remain only recognition of the insurgents as belligerents, and the recognition of Cuba, neutral intervention to end the war by imposing a rational compromise between the contestants and intervention in favor of one or the other party.

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NEGROES AND THEIR RIGHTS

"The Old Time Religion, It is Good Enough for Me."

MORE WORK; LESS POLITICS.

A Noble Move Among the Race—Never Speak Evil of Another—Other Race Sayings and Doings.

In some parts of the South the Negroes certainly appear to have their rights. In Halifax county, N. C., five of the largest towns have Negro postmasters. One of the three county commissioners is a Negro.

The efforts which had been made during the two previous years by my predecessor in the North Pacific Ocean and the sea were renewed at an early date by this administration, and have been pursued with increased vigor.

International arbitration cannot be considered an entirely new thing, heretofore our consideration. Events have only served to strengthen the general views on this question expressed in my inaugural address.

The Territory of Alaska requires the protection of the United States. The conditions now existing demand material changes in the laws regarding the Territory. The great influx of population in the Territory has increased.

We are anxious to see the day when the male population will crowd on Sundays to the churches as they did in the days of our fathers.

We would walk five miles rather than ride in a street car in which we are crowded to take a back seat.

By special message dated March 3, 1897, the President was authorized to appoint three commissioners to enter into negotiations with the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek and Seminole nations.

Wherever a Negro lives, if he lives at all, it has to be among Negroes, and when he dies we are sure Negroes have to bury him.

The man who continually speaks evil of another hurts himself more than the one whom he aims to injure.

There are in round numbers in America about 10,000,000 Negroes and of these about 8,000,000 reside in the South.

What the Negro needs is more work and less politics. Give the Negro work, and he will do it.

If Negroes would stop fighting each other and fight the devil more and harder, other races of the world would have more respect for them.

THE FIFTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

Proceedings of Both the Senate and House Day by Day.

THE SENATE.

SECOND DAY.—At noon, on the 6th, the first regular session of the Fifty-fifth Congress was launched upon an untried sea.

THIRD DAY.—Senator Money, of Mississippi, was sworn in. One hundred and eight bills, many of which were private pension measures, were introduced in addition to several joint resolutions and some Senate resolutions.

FOURTH DAY.—In the Senate Senator Gallinger, chairman of the committee on pensions, called attention to the increasing demand for private pension legislation.

FIFTH DAY.—Speaker Reed called the House to order at noon. An unusual incident marked the opening of the House.

SIXTH DAY.—The session of the House closed at 12:30. The roll called showed the presence of 301 members.

SEVENTH DAY.—The session of the House closed at 12:30. The roll called showed the presence of 301 members.

EIGHTH DAY.—The session of the House closed at 12:30. The roll called showed the presence of 301 members.

NINTH DAY.—The session of the House closed at 12:30. The roll called showed the presence of 301 members.

TENTH DAY.—The session of the House closed at 12:30. The roll called showed the presence of 301 members.

ELEVENTH DAY.—The session of the House closed at 12:30. The roll called showed the presence of 301 members.

Twelfth day. The session of the House closed at 12:30. The roll called showed the presence of 301 members.

Thirteenth day. The session of the House closed at 12:30. The roll called showed the presence of 301 members.

Fourteenth day. The session of the House closed at 12:30. The roll called showed the presence of 301 members.

FIFTY DOLLARS FOR A POEM.

Dealers in Commercial Fertilizers Must Pay the "Purchase Tax."

COWLES TO BE BANK EXAMINER

The Re-Interment of the Remains of Gen. Clingman—Strange Story From Davie—Other N. C. Happenings.

The Charlotte Observer says: "Undoubtedly the greatest day that Charlotte ever saw, not excepting the day of the centennial celebration in 1876, will be the 20th of May, 1898, when the monument to the signers of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence will be unveiled."

Dealers in commercial fertilizers must pay what is known as the "merchants' purchase tax" thereon.

The Commissioner of Agriculture did not give an opinion, but referred the whole matter to Treasurer Worth, but sent the latter section 2305 of the Code, which says that whenever any manufacturer of fertilizers or fertilizer materials shall have paid the tonnage tax on fertilizers his goods shall not be liable to taxes by any city, town or county.

The Salisbury correspondent of the Charlotte Observer says: "A strange but true story is told of a certain Davie county postmaster. Recently a lady was expecting a letter informing her of the condition of a relative who was very ill.

The Elkin Journal says there have been more than thirty murders in Surry county since the war and not one legal execution. There has been one lynching.

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction is arguing, in a county supervisors to attend the convention in Raleigh, December 30th. He is assigning topics to several of them.

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