FOREST RESERVATIONS.

They Should Be Vastly Increased to Conserve Resources.

Optimism is a good characteristic but if carried to an excess it become olishness. We are prone to speak of resources of this country as inexhaustible. This is not so. The mineral wealth of the country, the coal, iron, oll, gas and the like, does not reproduce itself and therefore is certain to not gone nearly far enough and was the work can be done better, more is being rufned. It should now be take the exhausted ultimately, and wasteful not begun soon enough. It is a most cheaply and more quickly by the government. The begun soon enough that the cheaply and more quickly by the government than by private contractors. they otherwise would. But there are could be entirely stopped. The waste use of the nation. These lands be-of soil by washing, for instance, which cause they form a national asset are this present enormous loss of fertility reach the ocean. is entirely unnecessary. The preservation or replacement of the forests is one of the most important means of preventing this loss. We have made a beginning in forest preservation, but it Abolition of Tariff on All Forest Prois only a beginning. At present lumbering is the fourth greatest industry in the United States, and yet so rapid has been the rate of exhaustion of timand so rapidly is the remainder being ine which will be felt in every household in the land. There has already been a rise in the price of lumber, but there is certain to be a more rapid and heavier rise in the future. The present annual consumption of lumber is certainly three times as great as the annual outgrowth, and if the consumption and growth continue unchanged practically all our lumber will be exhausted in another generation, while long before the limit to complete exhaustion is reached the growing scarcity will make itself felt in many blighting ways upon our national welfare. About 20 per cent of our forested territory is now reserved in national forests, but these do not include the most valuable timber lands, and in any event the proportion is too small to expect that the reserves can accomplish more than a mitigation of the trouble which is shead for the nation. Far more drastic action is needed. Forests can be lumbered so as to give to the public the full use of their mercantile timber without the slightest detriment to the forest, any more than it is a detriment to a farm to furnish a harvest, so that there is no parallel between forests and mines, which can only be completely used by exhaustion. But forests, if used as all our forests have been used in the past and as most of them are still used, will be either wholly destroyed or so damaged that many decades have to pass before effective use can be made of them

again. All these facts are so obvious that it is extraordinary that it should be necessary to repeat them. Every business man in the land, every writer in the newspapers, every man or woman of an ordinary school education, ought to be able to see that immense quantities of timber are used in the country, that the forests which supply this timber are rapidly being exhausted and that if no change takes place exhaustion will come comparatively soon and that the effects of it will be felt severely in the everyday life of our people. Surely when these facts are so obvious there should be no delay in taking preventive measures. Yet we seem as a nation to be willing to proceed in this matter with happy go lucky indifference even to the immediate future. It is this attitude which permits the self interest of a very few persons to weigh for more than the ultimate interest of all our people. There are persons who find it to their immense pecuniary benefit to destroy the forests by lumbering. They are to be blamed for thus sacrificing the future of the nation as a whole to their own self interest of the moment, but heavier blame attaches to the people at large for permitting such action, whether in the White mountains, in the southern Alleghanies or in the Rockies and Sierras. A big lumbering company, impatient for immediate returns and not caring to look far enough ahead, will often deliberately destroy all the good timber in a region, hoping afterward to move on to some new country. The shiftless man of small means who does not care to become an actual homemaker, but would like immediate profit, will find it to his advantage to take up timber land simply to turn it over to such a big company and leave it valueless for future settlers. A big mine owner, anxious only to develop his mine at the moment, will care only to cut all the timber that he wishes without regard to the future, probably not looking ahead to the condition of the country when the forests are examusted any more than he does to the condition when the mine is worked

I do not blame these men nearly as much as I blame the supine public opinion, the indifferent public opinion, which permits their action to go unchecked. Of course to check the waste of timber means that there must be on the part of the public the acceptance of a temporary restriction in the lavish use of the timber in order to prevent the total loss of this use in the future. There are plenty of men in public and private life who actually advocate the continuance of the present system of unchecked and wasteful extravagance, psing as an argument the fact that to check it will of course mean interference with the ease and comfort of certain people who now get lumber at less cost than they ought to pay at the expense of the future generations. Some of these persons actually demand that the present forest

solutely to rain his farm he could for dam and method of construction will tablished. As early as possible lighttwo or three years avoid spending any be such as to insure against any slip houses and buoys should be entablishmoney on it and yet make a good deal or sloughing off. Similar examinations ed as aids to navigation, especially in made very satisfactory progress. Anof money out of it. But only a savof the foundations of the locks and and about Prince William sound, and tiquated practices and bureaucratic age would in his private affairs show dams on the Pacific side are in prog-such reckless disregard of the future, ress. I believe that the locks should be yet it is precisely this reckless disregard of the future which the opponents of the forestry system are nov endeavoring to get the people of the United States to show. The only trouble with the movement for the preser- all were rejected. It is the unanimous vation of our forests is that it has opinion of the present commission that that our descendants will feel the ex- gan it when we did. We should achaustion a generation or two before quire in the Appalachian and White mountain regions all the forest lands certain other forms of waste which that it is possible to acquire for the is among the most dangerous of all as emphatically national as the rivers wastes now in progress in the United which they feed and which flow States, is easily preventable, so that through so many states before they

REPEAL WOOD PULP DUTY.

ducts Recommended.

There should be no tariff on any forest product grown in this country, and ber in the United States in the past in especial there should be no tariff on wood pulp, due notice of change being exhausted that the country is unques- of course given to those engaged in the tionably on the verge of a timber fam- business so as to enable them to adjust themselves to the new conditions. The repeal of the duty on wood pulp should if possible be accompanied by an agreement with Canada that there shall be no export duty on Canadian pulp wood. Mineral Lands.

In the eastern United States the mineral fuels have already passed into the hands of large private owners, and those of the west are rapidly following. It is obvious that these fuels should be conserved and not wasted, and it would be well to protect the people against unjust and extortionate prices so far as that can still be done. What has been accomplished in the great oil fields of the Indian Territory by the action of the administration offers a striking example of the good results of such a policy. In my judgment, the government should have the right to keep the fee of the coal, oil and gas fields in its own possession and to lease the rights to develop them under proper regulations or else, if the

out the coal.

ner. In March last John F. Stevens, sion was reorganized and constituted as follows: Lieutenant Colonel George the mutual benefit of capital and la-W. Goethals, corps of engineers, Unit- bor. ed States army, chairman and chief engineer: Major D. D. Galllard, corps of engineers, United States army; Major William L. Sibert, corps of engineers, United States army; Civil Engineer H. Extension of This Service Advisable, H. Rousseau, United States navy; J. C. S. Blackburn; Colonel W. C. Gorgas, United States army, and Jackson Smith, commissioners. This change of authority and direction went into effect on April 1 without causing a perceptible check to the progress of the work. In March the total excavation in the Culebra cut, where effort was chiefly concentrated, was 815,270 cubic yards. In April this was increased to 879,527 cubic yards. There was a considerable decrease in the output for May and June owing partly to the advent of the rainy season and partly to temporary trouble with the steam shovel men over the question of wages. This trouble was settled satisfactorily to all parties, and in July the total excavation advanced materially, and in August the grand total from all points in the canal prism by steam shovels and dredges exceeded all, previous United States records, reaching 1,274,-404 cubic yards. In September this ice law. The administration has alrecord was eclipsed, and a total of ready put into effect the policy of re-1,517,412 cubic yards was removed. Of this amount 1,481,307 cubic yards were from the canal prism and 36,105 cubic yards were from accessory works. These results were schleved in the move them from the domain of partirainy season with a rainfail in August san politics. It would be a most deof 11.80 inches and in September of strable thing to put the fourth class 11.65 inches. Finally in October the postmasters in the classified service. record was again eclipsed, the total ex- It is possible that this might be done cavation being 1,868,729 cubic yards, a without congressional action; but, as truly extraordinary record, especially the matter is debatable, I earnestly in view of the heavy minfall, which recommend that the congress enact a was 17.1 inches. In fact, experience law providing that they be included during the last two rainy seasons dem- under the civil service law and put in onstrates that the rains are a less seri- the classified service. ons obstacle to progress than has hith-

erto been supposed. Work on the locks and dams at Gatun, which began actively in March last, has advanced so far that it is her great natural resources. The duty thought that masonry work on the locks can be begun within fifteen the personal and property rights of the months. In order to remove all doubt as to the satisfactory character of the foundations for the locks of the canal the secretary of war requested three eminent civil engineers of special experience in such construction, Alfred Noble, Frederic P. Steams and John R. Freeman, to visit the lathmus and make thorough personal investigations of the sites. These gentlemen went to the isthmus in April and by means of test pits which had been dug for the purpose they inspected the proposed foundations and also examined the borings that had been made. In their report to the secretary of war under

made of a width of 120 feet.

Last winter bids were requested and received for doing the work of canal opinion of the present commission that Fully 80 per cent of the entire plant needed for construction has been purchased or contracted for, Machine shops have been erected and equipped for making all needed repairs to the plant, many thousands of employees have been secured, an effective organization has been perfected, a recruiting system is in operation which is capable of furnishing more labor than can be used advantageously, employees are well sheltered and well fed, salaries paid are satisfactory and the work is not only going forward smoothly, but it is producing results far la advance of the most sanguine anticipations. Under these favorable conditions a change in the method of prosecuting the work would be unwise and unjustifiable, for it would inevitably disorganize existing conditions, check progress and increase the cost and lengthen the time of completing the canal.

The chief engineer and all his professional associates are firmly convinced that the eighty-five feet level lock canal which they are constructing is the best that could be desired. Some of them had doubts on this point when they went to the isthmus. As the passengers between Hawali and the plans have developed under their direction their doubts have been dispelled. While they may decide upon changes in detail as construction advances, they are in hearty accord in mainland then the coastwise shipping approving the general plan. They be laws should be so far relaxed as to lieve that it provides a canal not only prevent Hawaii suffering as it is now adequate to all demands that will be suffering. I again call your attention made upon it, but superior in every to the capital importance from every way to a sea level canal. I concur in this belief.

Postal Affairs.

I commend to the favorable consideration of the congress a postal savings bank system as recommended by the postmaster general. The primary object is to encourage among our people economy and thrift and by the use congress will not adopt this method, of postal savings banks to give them the coal deposits should be sold under an opportunity to husband their relimitations to conserve them as pub- sources, particularly those who have lic utilities, the right to mine coal be- not the facilities at hand for depositing separated from the title to the soil. ing their money in savings banks. tity by the several corporations. The that the advantages of such an institupresent limitations have been absurd, tion are still more far reaching. Timexcessive and serve no useful purpose id depositors have withdrawn their and often render it necessary that savings for the time being from nathere should be either fraud or else tional banks, trust companies and savabandonment of the work of getting ings banks, individuals have hoarded their cash and the workingmen their Work on the Panama canal is pro- earnings, all of which money has been ceeding in a highly satisfactory man- withheld and kept in hiding or in the safe deposit box to the detriment of chairman of the commission and chief prosperity. Through the agency of the engineer, resigned, and the commis- postal savings banks such money would be restored to the channels of trade, to

PARCELS POSTS.

Especially In Rural Delivery.

I further commend to the congress the consideration of the postmaster general's recommendation for an extension of the parcel post, especially on the rural routes. There are now 38,215 rural routes, serving nearly 15,-000,000 people who do not have the advantages of the inhabitants of cities in obtaining their supplies. These recommendations have been drawn up to benefit the farmer and the country storekeeper. Otherwise I should not favor them, for I believe that it is good policy for our government to do everything possible to aid the small town and the country district. It is desirable that the country merchant should not be crushed out.

The fourth class postmasters' convention has passed a very strong resolution in favor of placing the fourth class postmasters under the civil servfusing to remove any fourth class postmasters save for reasons connected with the good of the service, and it is endeavoring so far as possible to re-

Oklahoma has become a state, standing on a full equality with her elder sisters, and her future is assured by of the national government to guard Indians within her borders remains of course unchanged.

Alaeka I relievate my recommendations of last year an regards Alaska. Some form of local self government should be provided, as simple and inexpensive as possible. It is impossible for the congress to devote the necessary time to all the little details of necessary Alaskan legislation. Road building and rallway building should be encouraged. The governor of Alaska should be given an ample appropriation wherewith to organize a force to preserve the

the survey of the coast completed. There is need of liberal appropriations for lighting and buoying the southern coast and improving the alds to navi-gation in southeastern Alaska. One of the great industries of Alaska, as of Puget sound and the Columbia, is salmon fishing. Gradually, by reason of lack of proper laws, this industry

The courage and enterprise of the citizens of the far northwest in their projected Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition to be held in 1900 should receive liberal encouragement. This exposition is not sentimental in its conception, but seeks to exploit the natural resources of Alaska and to promote the commerce, trade and industry of the Pacific states with their neighboring states and with our insular possessions and the neighboring countries of the Pacific. The exposition asks no loan from the congress, but seeks appropriations for national exhibits and exhibits of the western dependencies of the general government. The state of Washington and the city of Seattle have shown the characteristic western enterprise in large donations for the conduct of the exposition, in which other states are lending generous as-

Hawaii. The unfortunate failure of the shipping bill at the last session of the last congress was followed by the taking off of certain Pacific steamships, which has greatly hampered the movement of mair land. Unless the congress is prepared by positive encouragement to secure proper facilities in the way of shipping between Hawaii and the standpoint of making Pearl harbor available for the largest deep water vessels and of suitably fortifying the island.

The secretary of war has gone to the Philippines. On his return I shall submit to you his report on the islands. I again recommend that the rights of citizenship be conferred upon the people of Porto Rico.

Mining. A bureau of mines should be created under the control and direction of the secretary of the interior, the bureau to The regulations should permit coal Viewed, however, from the experience have power to collect statistics and taining to mining, and particularly to the accidents and dangers of the industry. If this cannot now be done at least additional appropriations should be given the interior department to be used for the study of mining conditions, for the prevention of fraudulent mining schemes, for carrying on the work of mapping the mining districts, for studying methods of minimizing the accidents and dangers in the industry-in short, to aid in all proper ways the development of the mining industry.

The Hermitage.

I strongly recommend to the congress to provide funds for keeping up The Hermitage, the home of Andrew Jackson, these funds to be used through the existing Hermitage association for the preservation of a historic building which should ever be dear to Americans.

Vicksburg National Park.

I further recommend that a naval, monument be established in the Vicksburg National park. This national park gives a unique opportunity for commemorating the deeds of those gallant men who fought on water no less than of those who fought on land in the great civil war.

The Thirteenth Census.

Legislation should be enacted at the present session of the congress for the thirteenth census. The establishment of the permanent census bureau af- Its Great Work in Behalf of Our Agrifords the opportunity for a better census than we have ever had, but in order to realize the full advantage of the permanent organization ample time must be given for preparation.

The Public Health.

There is a constantly growing interest in this country in the question of the public health. At last the public mind is awake to the fact that many diseases, notably tuberculosis, are national scourges. The work of the state and city boards of health should be supplemented by a constantly increasing interest on the part of the national government. The congress has already provided a bureau of public health and has provided for a hygienic laboratory. There are other valuable laws relating to the public health connected with the various departments. This whole branch of the government should be strengthened and aided in every way. Governmental Commissions.

I call attention to two government commissions which I have appointed and which have already done excellent work. The first of these has to do with the organization of the scientific work of the government, which has grown up wholly without plan and is in consequence so unwisely distributed among the executive departments that much of its effect is lost for the lack of proper co-ordination. This commission's chief object is to introduce a planned and orderly development and operation in the place of the ill assort-ed and often ineffective grouping and pethods of work which have prevailed. This cannot be done without legislation, nor would it be feasible to deal in detail with so complex an administrative problem by specific provisions of law. I recommend that the

ways have been abolished, and a gen eral renovation of departmental methods has been inaugurated. All that can be done by executive order has already been accomplished or will be put into effect in the near future. The work of the main committee and its several assistant committees has produced a wholesome awakening on the part of the great body of officers and employees engaged in government work. In nearly every department and office there has been a careful self inspection for the purpose of remedying any defects before they could be made the subject of adverse criticism. This has led individuals to a wider study of the work on which they were engaged, and this study has resulted in increasing their efficiency in their respective lines of work. There are recommendations of special importance from the committee on the subject of personnel and the classification of salaries which will require legislative ac tion before they can be put into effect. It is my intention to submit to the congress in the near future a special message on those subjects.

CAMPAIGN EXPENSES

Corporations Should Not Contribute and Gifts Should Be Published.

ing is not merely a right, but a duty, and, moreover, a fundamental and necessary duty if a man is to be a good citizen. It is well to provide that corporations shall not contribute to presidential or national campaigns and furtherapre to provide for the publication of both contributions and expenditures. There is, however, always danger in laws of this kind, which from their very nature are difficult of enforcement, the danger being lest they be obeyed only by the honest and disobey- commerce. ed by the unscrupulous, so as to act only as a penalty upon honest men. Moreover, no such law would hamper an unserupulous man of unlimited means from buying his own way into office. There is a very radical measure which would, I believe, work a substantial improvement in our system of conducting a campaign, although I am well aware that it will take some time for people so to familfarize themselves with such a proposal as to be willing to consider its adoption. The need for collecting large the great work of uniting at the isthcamprign funds would vanish if con-The regulations should permit coal Viewed however, from the experience have power to collect statistics and gress provided an appropriation for lands to be worked in sufficient quantities of the past few weeks it is evident make investigations in all matters per the proper and legitimate expenses of each of the great national parties, an appropriation ample enough to meet ture on the sea worthy of the tradithe necessity for thorough organization and machinery, which requires a large expenditure of money. Then the stipulation should be made that no party receiving campaign funds from the treasury should accept more than a fixed amount from any individual subscriber or donor, and the necessary publicity for receipts and expenditures

> could without difficulty be provided. A National Gallery of Art.

There should be a national gallery of art established in the Capital City of this country. This is important not merely to the artistic, but to the material, welfare of the country, and the people are to be congratulated on the fact that the movement to establish such a gallery is taking definite form under the guidance of the Smithsonian institution. So far from there being a tariff on works of art brought into the country, their importation should be encouraged in every way. There have been no sufficient collections of objects of art by the government, and what collections have been acquired are scattered and are generally placed in unsuitable and imperfectly lighted

BIOLOGICAL SURVEY.

cultural Interests. The biological survey is quietly

working for the good of our agricultural interests and is an excellent example of a government bureau which conducts original scientific research the findings of which are of much practical utility. For more than twenty years it has studied the food habits of birds and mammals that are injurious or beneficial to agriculture, horticulture and forestry, has distributed Illustrated bulletins on the subject and has labored to secure legislative protection for the beneficial species. The cotton boll weevil, which has recently overspread the cotton belt of Texas and is steadily extending its range, is said to cause an annual loss of about \$3,000,000. The biological survey has ascertained and given wide publicity to the fact that at least forty-three kinds of birds prey upon this destructive insect. It has discovered that fifty-seven species of birds feed upon scale insects, drended enemies of the fruit grower. It has shown that woodpeckers as a class by destroying the larvae of wood boring insects are so essential to tree life that it is doubtful if our forests could exist without them. It has shown that euckoos and orioles are the natural enemies of the leaf eating caterpillars that destroy our shade and fruit trees; that our qualls and spayrows consume annually hundreds of tons of seeds of noxious weeds; that hawks and owls as a class (excepting the few that kill poultry and game birds) are markedly beneficid, spanding their lives in catching that prey upon the products of husbandry. It has conducted field experi-

the stock ranges of the west, resulting during the past year in an estimated saving of cattle and speep valued at pward of a million dollars.

It has inaugurated a system of inspection at the principal ports of entry on both Atlantic and Pacific coasts by means of which the introduction of noxious mammals and birds is prevented, thus keeping out the mongoose and certain birds which are as much to be dreaded as the previously introduced English sparrow and the house rats and mice.

In the interest of game protection it has co-operated with local officials in every state in the Union, has striven to promote uniform legislation in the several states, has rendered important service in enforcing the federal law regulating Interstate traffic in game and has shown how game protection may be made to yield a large revenue to the state, a revenue amounting in the case of Illinois to \$125,000 in a single year.

The biological survey has explored the faunas and floras of America with reference to the distribution of animals and plants. It has defined and mapped the natural life areas-areas in which, by reason of prevailing climatic conditions, certain kinds of animals and plants occur-and has pointed out the adaptability of these areas to the cultivation of particular crops, The results of these investigations are not only of high educational value, but are worth each year to the progressive farmers of the country many times the cost of maintaining the survey, which, it may be added, is exceedingly small. I recommend to congress that this bu-Under our form of government votreau, whose usefulness is seriously handicapped by lack of funds, be granted an appropriation in some degree commensurate with the impor-

tance of the work it is doing. I call your especial attention to the unsatisfactory condition of our foreign mail service, which because of the lack of American steamship lines is now largely done through foreign lines and which, particularly so far as South and Central America are concerned, is dope in a manner which constitutes a serious barrier to the extension of our The time has come, in my judgment,

to set to work seriously to make our ocean mail service correspond more closely with our recent commercial and political development. A beginning was made by the ocean mall act of March 3, 1891, but even at that time the act was known to be inadequate in various particulars. Since that time events have moved rapidly in our history. We have acquired Hawaii, the Philippines and lesser islands in the Pacific. We are steadily prosecuting mus the waters of the Atlantic and the Pacific. To a greater extent than seemed probable even a dozen years No Ground For Demagogic Declamation ago we may look to an American futions of our past. As the first step in that direction and the step most feasible at the present time I recommend are invaluable auxiliaries to the sea construction of such steamships in-

the performance of such necessary functions of government is certainly warranted, nor is it necessary to dwell upon the incidental benefits to our foreign commerce, to the shipping industhese argent public duties, though they, too, should have weight.

battleships must be built.

The only serious question is whether at this time we can afford to improve our ocean mail service as it should be improved. All doubt on this subject is removed by the reports of the postoffice department. For the fiscal gear ended June 30, 1907, that department estimates that the postage collected on the articles exchanged with foreign countries other than Canada and Mexico amounted to \$6,579,043.48, or \$3,637,-226.81 more than the net cost of the service exclusive of the cost of transporting the articles between the United States exchange postoffices and the United States postoffices at which they were mailed or defivered. In other words, the government of the United States, having assumed a monopoly of carrying the mails for the people, is rendering a cheap and inefficient service. That profit I believe should be devoted to strengthening our maritime power in those directions where it will best promote our prestige. The country is familiar with the facts of our maritime impotence in the harbors of the great and friendly republics of South America. Following the failure of the shipbuilding bill we lost our only American line of steamers to Australasin, and that less on the Pacific has become a serious embarrassment to the people of Hawaii and has wholly cut off the Samoan Islands from regular communication with the Pacide coast. Paget sound in the year has lost over half (four out of seven of its American steamers trading with

We now pay, under the act of 1891 \$4 a statute mile outward to 20 knot American mail steamships built accord ing to payal plans, systlable as cruis ers and manued by Americans. Steam ships of that speed are confined exto organize a force to preserve the visions of law. I recommend that the ments for the purpose of devising and clusively to transatiant; trade with body of efficient volunteers could public peace. Whisky selling to the president be given authority to concent perfecting simple methods for holding New York. To steamships of 10 knots put in the field, and our regular are

publics of South America, to Asia, Philippines and Australia at a rate not to exceed \$4 a mile for steamships of 10 knots speed or upward, subject to the restrictions and obligations of the act of 1891. The profit of \$3,000,000 which has been mentioned will fully cover the maximum annual expendi-ture involved in this recommendation and, it is believed, will in time establish the lines so urgently needed. The proposition involves no new principle, but permits the efficient discharge of public functions now inadequately per formed or not performed at all.

Not only there is not now, but there never has been, any other nation in the world so wholly free from the evils of militarism as is ours. There never has been any other large nation, not even China, which for so long a period has had relatively to its numbers so small a regular army as has ours. Never at any time in our history has this nation suffered from militarism or been in the remotest danger of suffering from militarism. Never at any time of our history has the regular army been of a size which caused the slightest appreciable tax upon the taxpaving citizens of the nation. Almost always it has been too small in size and underpald. Never in our entire history has the nation suffered in the least particular because too much care has been given to the army, too much promi-

nence given it, too much money spent upon it or because it has been too large. But again and again we have suffered because enough care has not been given to it, because it has been too small, because there has not been sufficient preparation in advance for possible war. Every foreign war in which we have engaged has cost us many times the amount which, if wisely expended during the preceding years of peace on the regular army, would have insured the war ending in but a fraction of the time and but for a fraction of the cost that was actually the case. As a nation we have always been shortsighted in providing for the efficiency of the army in time of seace. It is nobody's especial interest to make such provision, and no one looks ahead to war at any period, no matter how remote, as being a serious possibility, while an improper economy, or, rather, nigga taliness, can be practiced at the expense of the army with the cortainty that those practicing it will not be called to account therefor, but that the price will be paid by the unfortunate persons who happen to be in office when a war does actually come.

THE ARMY.

Against Militarism.

I think it is only lack of foresight

that troubles us, not any hostility to the army. There are, of course, foolthe extension of the ocean mull act of ish people who denounce any care of 1891. That act has stood for some years the army or navy as "militarism," but free from successful criticism of its I do not think that these people are principle and purpose. It was based numerous. This country has to conon theories of the obligations of a tend now and has had to contend in great maritime nation, undisputed in the past with many evils, and there is our own land and followed by other ample score for all who would work nations since the beginning of steam for reform. But there is not one evil navigation. Briefly those theories are that now exists or that ever has existthat it is the duty of a first class pow- ed in this country which is or ever er so far as practicable to carry its has been owing in the smallest part ocean mails under its own flag; that to militarism. Declamation against the fast ocean steamships and their militarism has no more serious place crews, required for such mall service, in an earnest and intelligent movement for righteousness in this country power of a nation. Furthermore, the than declamation against the worship of Baal or Astaroth. It is declamasures the maintenance in an efficient tion against a nonexistent evil, one condition of the shippards in which our which never has existed in this country and which has not the slightest The expenditure of public money for chance of appearing here. We are glad to help in any movement for international peace, but this is because we sincerely believe that it is our duty to help all such movements, provided they are sane and rational, and not betry and shipowning and navigation cause there is any tendency toward which will accompany the discharge of militarism on our part which needs to be cured. The evils we have to fight are those in connection with industrialism, not militarism. Industry is always necessary, just as war is sometimes necessary. Each has its price, and industry in the United States now exacts and has always exacted a far heavier toll of death thun all our wars put together. The statistics of the rauroads of this country for the year ended June 30, 1906, the last contained in the annual statistical report of the interstate commerce commission, show in that one year a total of 108,324 casualties to persons, of which 10,618 represent the number of persons killed. In that wonderful hive of human activity, Pittsburg, the deaths due to industrial accidents in 1996 were 919, all the result of accidents in mills, mines or on railroads. For the entire country, therefore, it is making a profit of over \$3,600,000 by safe to say that the deaths due to industrial accidents aggregate in the neighborhood of 20,000 a year. Such a record makes the death rate in all our foreign wars utterly trivial by comparison. The number of deaths in battle in all the foreign wars put together for the last century and a quarter aggregate considerably less than one year's death record for our industries. A more glance at these figures is sufficient to show the absurdity of the outery against militarism.

> But again and again in the past our little regular army has rendered service literally vital to the country, and it may at any time have to do so in the future. Its standard of efficiency a histraction is higher new than exin the past, but it is too small. Th are not enough officers, and it possible to secure enough enliste We should maintain in peace a fa have to be for months would pass b